



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION

Funds: Programming and Implementation
Better Regulation

Brussels, 21 October 2024
EMPL.G.5/MNM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/ Dear Madam,

The European Commission's **Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion** has commissioned the consortium of Ernst and Young Advisory S.p.A and EY Economic and Policy Advisory Services SRL, to carry out a **Preparatory study on the future EU funding in the areas of employment, skills and social inclusion**.

Several funds are key in the areas mentioned and are under the scope of the study. In particular, the **European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)** is one of the key funds making up the cohesion policy funds and is the EU's main instrument for investing in people and supporting the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights. Other important instruments include the **European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF)**, which was set up to provide support to workers displaced as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation; and the **Social Investment and Skills Window** of the **InvestEU** Programme, which mobilises investments and promotes innovation and job creation in EU Member States.

This study will play a key role in collecting and analysing evidence and contributions underpinning the reflection process for the future legislative proposals for the next programming period. The study will provide the Commission with analytical support, thus helping the development and comparison of scenarios for the future. It is expected to be completed in 2025 and contribute to the design of future programmes beyond 2027.

Between now and June 2025, the study team will undertake a series of primary research activities with key stakeholders in order to collect quantitative and qualitative evidence. These research activities will include a wide range of consultation activities, including interviews with relevant stakeholders, an online survey and the organisation of focus groups.

We would kindly ask you to support the consultation process when you are contacted by the research team for the necessary arrangements. Your input is very valuable to gathering a robust evidence base for the study. The information received will be used only for the purposes of the study.

Should you need any further information regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact the following persons:

- Project Manager at E&Y: Laura Todaro (Laura.Todaro@be.ey.com)
- Project Manager at the European Commission: Marina Navarro Montilla (marina.navarro-montilla@ec.europa.eu)

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Federico Lucidi
(e-signed)

Head of Unit (Acting)