



EaSI call for proposals

VP/2017/011

Awareness-raising activities on "Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults"

***DG EMPL Unit E3 "VET, Apprenticeships and adult learning"
Info session (16th May, 14:00 – 16:00)***

Webinar programme

Making "Upskilling Pathways" a reality

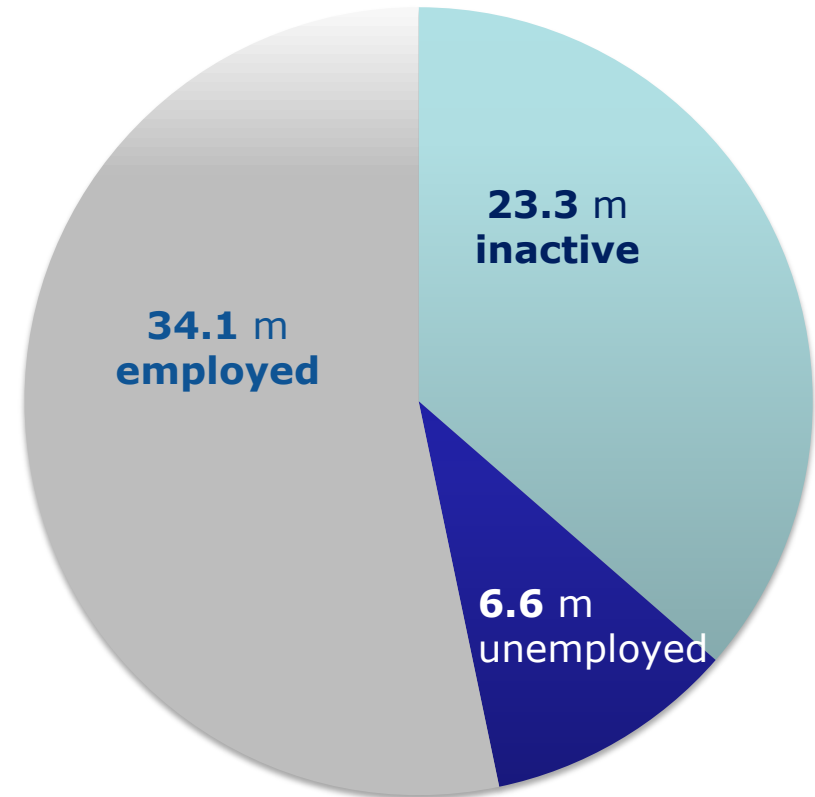
The call for proposals: objectives, expected results, activities

Technical and financial issues

Question and answer session

Challenges

- In 2015, **64 million Europeans** (25-64) **low-qualified**
- **Similar proportions** (16-65):
low level of proficiency in
literacy,
numeracy
problem-solving in technology-rich
environments
in 20 Member States
- Big **variations** between Member
States, regions



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Challenges

- Increasing demand for high qualifications: **skills mismatch**
- **Upskilling/reskilling strategy** crucial for individual/society
- Yet
 - **Limited Adult learning take up**
(various obstacles: too costly, lack of time...)
 - **Limited provision of outreach, tailored support, flexible and accessible offer and guidance**
(even more for low-qualified adults)

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Policy context

Communication “A new Skills Agenda for Europe” (2016)

- A 2017 priority of the Employment and Social Innovation (**EaSI**) **programme** funding the call
- Aim of the Skills Agenda: equip citizens with the right skills, make them more visible and comparable => **10 actions**

Among them: “Upskilling Pathways” Recommendation (2016)

- In line with **European Pillar of Social Rights:**
- principle of quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning

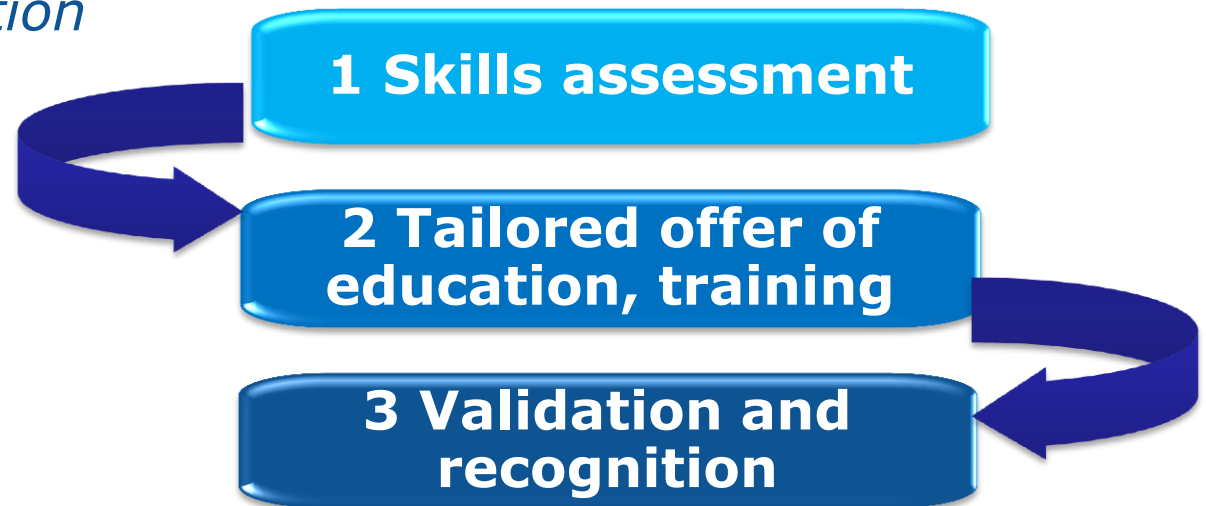
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Upskilling Pathways

Council Recommendation “Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults” (December 2016)

- *offer access to upskilling pathways for adults with a low level of skills, knowledge and competences without upper secondary education*

3 steps



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Upskilling Pathways: implementation by Member States



Set priorities

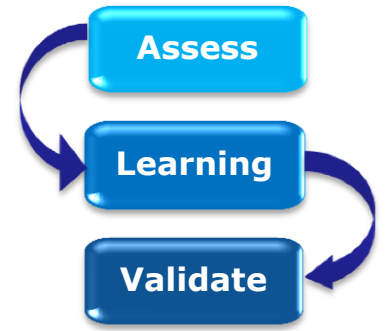


**Identify
beneficiaries
and priority
groups**



**Partnership,
Cooperation,
Coordination**

**Outreach, Guidance,
Support**



**Policy
Evaluation**
(build on existing
provision where
possible)





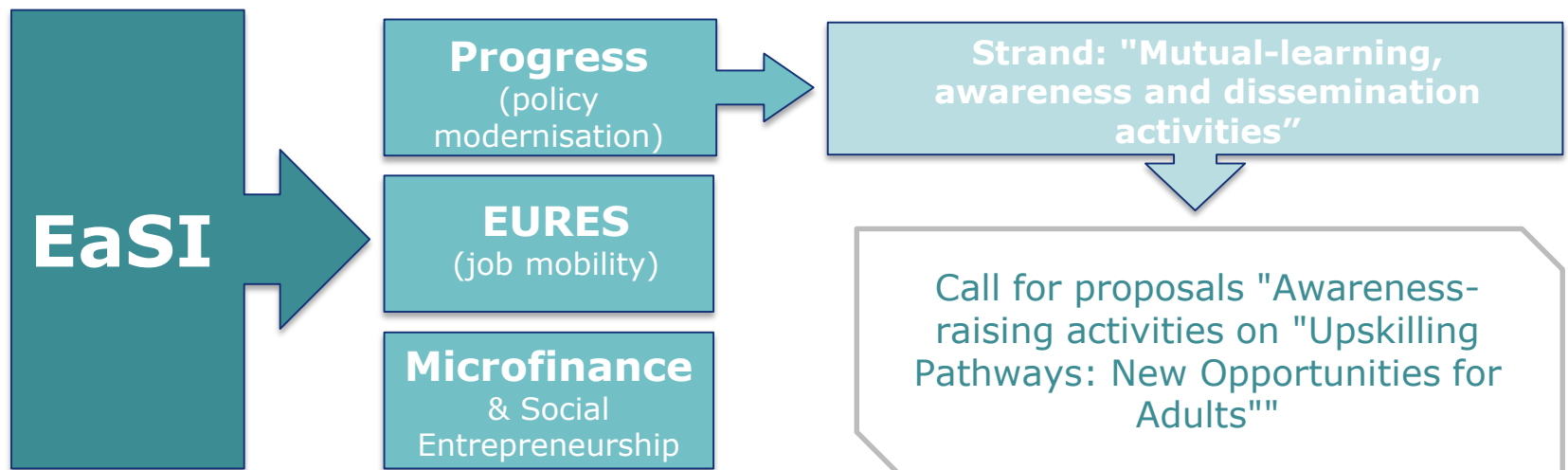
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The EaSI programme

- EU financing instrument 2014-2020 to promote **quality and sustainable employment** and working conditions, social protection and inclusion, combatting poverty (€920m)



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Expected results

- Development of **outreach measures, tailored support, guidance and accessible/flexible learning** for low-skilled and/or low-qualified adults
- Better **identification** of these groups and their needs
- Increased **capacity and impact** of stakeholders' work dealing with those groups
- Better **coordination** and more **partnerships** between them/sectors
- **Clearer picture of country's existing provision** related to Upskilling Pathways elements; increased **coherence** between them
- **Increased awareness** of Upskilling Pathways and benefits of adult learning and upskilling

Call for proposals: objectives

General objective:

support implementation of “Upskilling Pathways”

A) Help a Member State to **prepare the ground** for “Upskilling Pathways” by:

- ***taking stock of existing provision** on which they can be built, **identifying gaps** to be addressed and ways to do so (Specific objective 1)*
- *supporting national authorities in their targeting at **priority groups** (Specific objective 2)*

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Call for proposals: objectives

B) Help a Member State foster sustainable arrangements for “Upskilling Pathways” by:

- *supporting stakeholders to **disseminate information** about, and **stimulate the use** of, upskilling opportunities available*
- ***securing their involvement** in concrete implementation activities*

(Specific objective 3)

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Activities: specific objective 1

Mapping and reviewing tools and practices on...

Skills assessment

Tailored learning packages

Recognition and validation

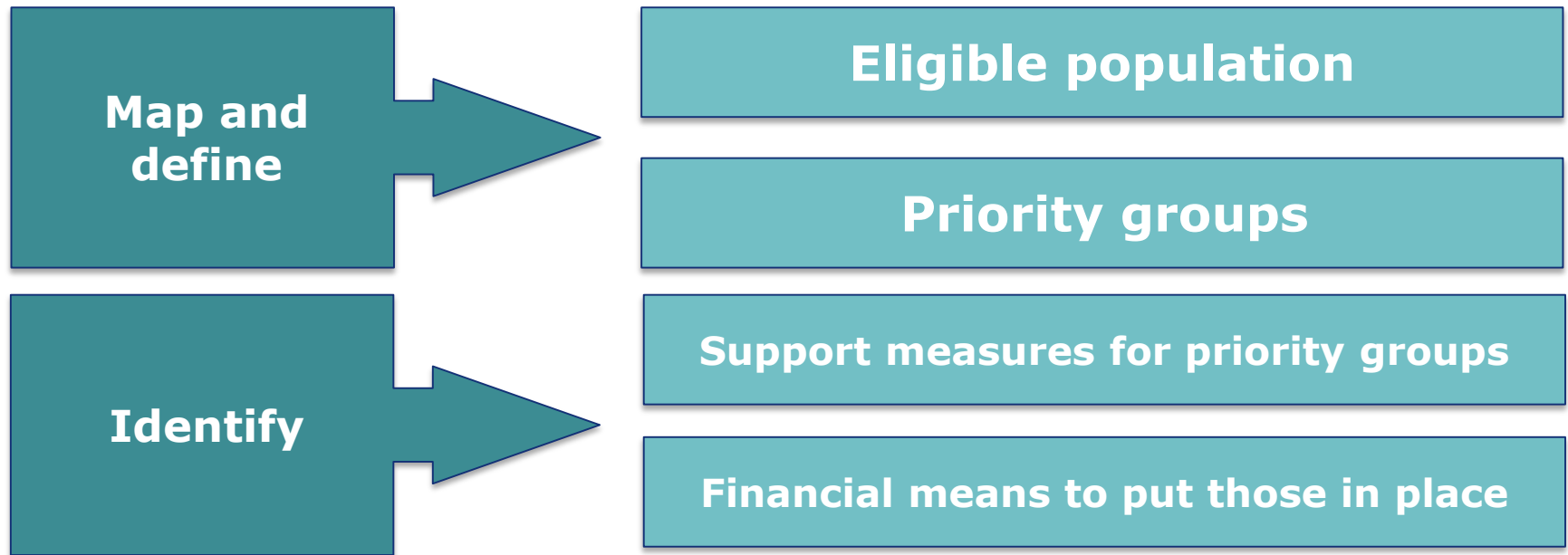
Support and guidance

Investigate ways to increase coherence and coordination

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Activities: specific objective 2

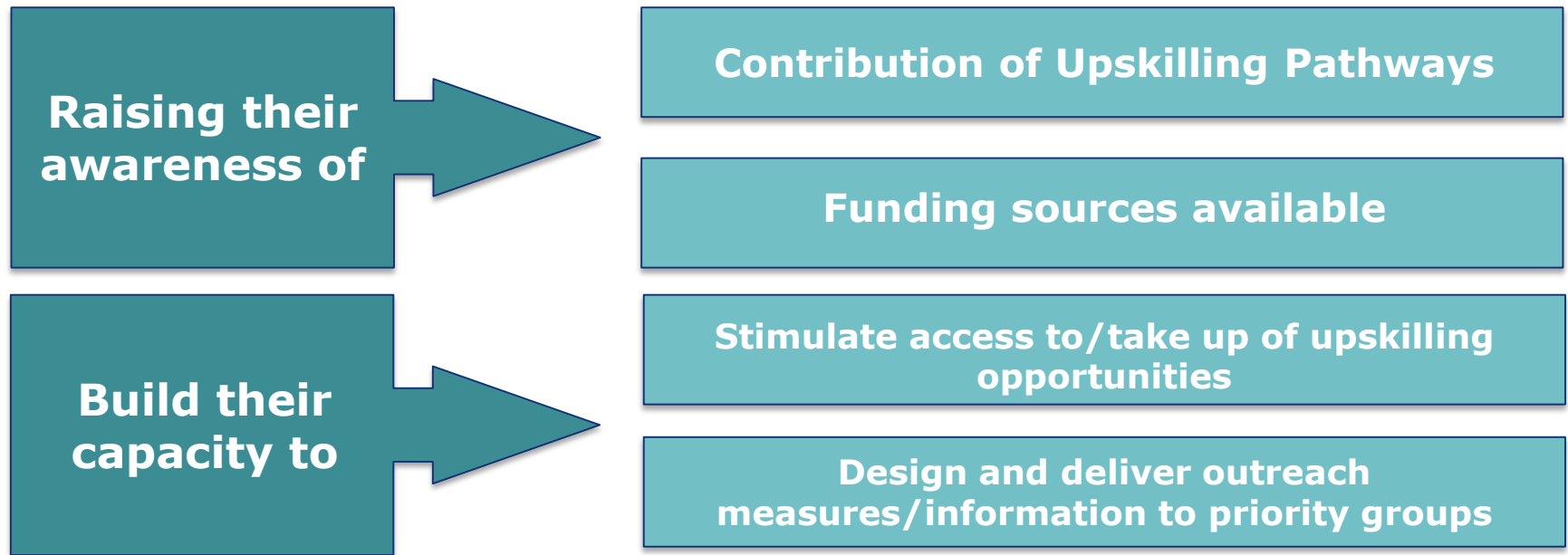
Targeting low-skilled and/or low-qualified cohorts



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Activities: specific objective 3

Addressing adult learning stakeholders



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Budget

Maximum EU co-financing rate: 80% of total eligible costs

- **Applicants shall finance the 20% left** with their own resources or other sources than EU Budget (third party)

Maximum EU grant amount: €1,000,000

- Applicants can request between €250,000 and €1,000,000
- Between 1 and 4 actions will be funded

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How will applications be assessed?

- Admissibility
 - SWIM + mail submitted in time
 - Application form (including budget) and annexes
- Eligibility and exclusion criteria
- Selection criteria (financial and operational capacity)
 - Financial and operational capacity of each applicant assessed (except public bodies)
- Award criteria

NB: For most documents: copies accepted, but keep originals

Eligibility criteria

- **EaSI countries:** (EU28, EFTA/EEA, AL, ME, MK, RS, TR)
- **Applicant/lead applicant: national or regional public entities** in charge of policies/actions for upskilling adults
- **Co-applicants (in case of regional/national/trans-national consortium):** public or private entities (profit or non-profit making) involved in organisation, financing or providing adult learning
 - **The application must make clear what the focus country is**
- **Affiliated entities and associate organisations** allowed

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Award criteria

Criteria	Points
Relevance of proposal to call objectives (geographical scope, target group...)	Max 25 pts
Quality of methodology (innovation, quality plan...)	Max 25 pts
Expected impact and sustainability (dissemination plan, sustainability...)	Max 35 pts
Cost-efficiency (reasonable use of resources)	Max 15 pts

Total score must reach at least **70%** of maximum possible mark.
Applications receiving highest scores within available budget will be recommended for award.

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Read also carefully...

- Financial Guidelines for Applicants (**Call annex 1**)
- Model Grant Agreement for mono and multi-beneficiaries (**Call annex 2**)
- EaSI final technical report (**Call annex 3**)

=> all available on the Call for proposals webpage

And the **checklist** p.18-19 of the Call indicating all documents to provide

- In particular the **Template for the Description of Action and Work Plan**

Financial provisions

- To be eligible, costs must be:
 - incurred during the duration of the action
 - indicated in the estimated overall budget of the action
 - necessary for the implementation of the action
 - identifiable and verifiable = real costs (except daily allowance)
 - reasonable and justified (sound financial management)



We want to apply!

Where to find the call (ref. **VP/2017/011**)

- ec.europa.eu/social (Policies and activities => Funding => Calls for proposals)

When to apply

- Until 30/06/2017 (action should start between 12/2017 and 02/2018)
- The action's duration should indicatively be between 18 and 24 months

How to apply

- Online with the SWIM tool **AND** by mail: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/swim>
- Technical SWIM support: empl-swim-support@ec.europa.eu

Whom to contact

- EMPL-VP-2017-011@ec.europa.eu

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Thank you for your attention!

