

Open public consultation for the mid-term evaluation of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

This public consultation is designed to support the mid-term evaluation of the European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) carried out in accordance with the Article 13(1) of the EaSI Regulation No. 1296/2013 of 11 December 2013. The mid-term evaluation covers the activities undertaken under the three axes of the EaSI programme (PROGRESS, EURES, Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship) during the period 2014-2016.

Information on respondents

* 1. I am responding:

- as an individual
- on behalf of my organisation

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2. What is the nature of the organisation on behalf of which you are responding?

- Local authority
- Regional authority
- National authority/Government body/Ministry
- Public Employment Service
- Other employment agency (private or NGO)
- Workers' organisation/trade union
- Employers' organisation
- Small and medium-sized enterprise (SME)
- Large organisation/company
- NGOs
- Intermediary organisations managing national or EU-public funded programmes or schemes
- Researcher/academic/university
- Think-tank
- Consultancy
- Other

* Is your company/organisation registered in the EU [Transparency Register](#)?

- Yes
- No

* If yes, what is its registration number?

48562122691-12

*

3. In line with the EC guidelines, contributions to open public consultation should be published. For the purposes of reporting, how would you prefer your consultation to be published?

- In full – this means that you consent to the publication of any information in your completed form, including your identity
- Anonymously – this means that you consent to the publication of any information in your completed form, apart from your name / the name of your organisation

About you

*

What is your name and the name of the business/organisation/institution on behalf of which you are responding?

Caroline Costongs, Director EuroHealthNet - the European partnership for Health, Equity and Wellbeing

*** What is your contact email address?**

Please note that this email address will only be used for cases of clarification of the responses and will not be shared with any third parties.

c.costongs@eurohealthnet.eu

Your knowledge of and involvement with EaSI

*

4. How familiar are you with EaSI (EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation)?

- I don't know what the EaSI programme is
- I am familiar with the name of the EaSI Programme (or name of previous programmes PROGRESS, EURES), but do not know the objectives of it
- I have a broad knowledge of EaSI objectives/actions
- I have a detailed knowledge of EaSI objectives (as well as the three axis: PROGRESS, EURES, Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship)
- Other

*

5. Have you been involved in the EaSI programme since January 2014?

Involvement refers to direct involvement (i.e. participating in or delivering activity/project) and indirect involvement (i.e. encouraging or lobbying for participation in the EaSI programme).

- Yes, I've been involved in the EaSI programme (since January 2014)
- Yes, I've been involved in the EaSI programme and in the predecessor programmes (PROGRESS and/or PROGRESS Microfinance and/or EURES until January 2014)
- No, but I've been involved in the predecessor programmes (PROGRESS and/or PROGRESS Microfinance and/or EURES until January 2014)
- No, I've never been directly involved in the EaSI programme or the predecessor programmes

*

In what EaSI axis activities/projects are you/have you been involved in since January 2014?

- PROGRESS
- EURES
- Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship

* If you was involved in EaSI programme since January 2014, for which country(ies) do your answers relate to?

- Albania
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kosovo (in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ)
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Turkey































Relevance

This set of questions aims to assess the extent to which the EaSI programme is relevant in respect to needs, problems and issues affecting its target groups.

6. To what extent do you consider EaSI is relevant to address these challenges?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/Not applicable
Produce concrete innovative actions in the employment, social fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure coordination /collaboration between civil society, policy makers, in the employment, social fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of adequate, accessible and efficient social protection systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Development of adequate, accessible and efficient labour markets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promotion of decent work and working conditions including health and safety at work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitation of policy application, reforms and modernisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promote workers geographical mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increasing availability and accessibility to microfinance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Boost employment opportunities by developing labour markets accessible to all						
Increasing access to finance for social enterprises						
Promoting equality between men and women						
Support of vulnerable groups such as young people						
Combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation						

Promoting high-level of quality and sustainable employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Combating long-term unemployment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fight against poverty and social exclusion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. To what extent do you agree that the EaSI programme should prioritise the following:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/Not applicable
Anti-discrimination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social exclusion of vulnerable groups (e.g. young people, women, disabled)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better coordination between stakeholders when implementing policy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development of new policy experiments /innovations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Opportunities to exchange good practices between Member states/policy makers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employment for young people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Working conditions (e.g. decent work, health and safety at work, a healthier balance between professional and private life, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to information about job opportunities across the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to, and availability of, finance for vulnerable people and micro enterprises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Build institutional capacity of financial intermediaries (e. g. microfinance providers) and entrepreneurship actors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Access to, and availability of, adequate financial instruments for social enterprises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Financial support for social entrepreneurship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please specify:

Evidence shows social determinants (i.e. employment, poverty, inequality, gender equity, ethnicity, education and income) are key factors impacting positively or negatively on health across the life course and social gradients. Less visible but closely related are figures that show a growing divide in life expectancy and in the health status of those in our societies who are less or least well off vis-à-vis those who are most well off. While people across Europe are living longer than ever, differences in health status between people in higher economic groups and those in lower economic groups are not declining. In addition, many of the life years that people are gaining are not being spent in good health, particularly amongst lower socioeconomic groups.

The EaSI funding should prioritise addressing social and health inequalities within and between EU Member States, to improve cohesion and wellbeing by levelling up to the highest standards. For example, evidence clearly shows that young people are much more likely to be NEET if they have poor health than if they have good health. Health status has a huge impact on employability and being in employment and reinforce social inequalities.

EaSI funding should also take forward the measures identified in the EU Social Investment package; support effective integration of governance, funding and practices of public systems and help build appropriate interfaces with private and third sectors; introduce capacity building and innovation measures to empower Member States to level up quality and performance standards based on proportional universalism.

Effectiveness

These questions focus on the extent to which the EaSI programme's objectives have been achieved to date.

8. To what extent do you agree with the following statements concerning the effectiveness of the activities delivered under the PROGRESS axis of EaSI?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/not applicable
Increased employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Increased youth employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Improved social inclusion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved social protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reduced or prevented poverty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved working conditions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Promoted social experimentation of innovative social and employment solutions						
Helped to develop analytical knowledge						
Facilitated mutual learning and dialogue						
Supported financially labour market policy innovations						
Improved other initiatives' effectiveness (e.g. the European Social Fund (ESF) or national funded activities)						
Facilitated policy application, reform and modernisation						

Comments:

It is unfortunately not feasible to determine effectiveness, causal relations or demonstrable impact of EaSI on levels of employment in the EU, nor on many of the other indicators (improved social inclusion, reduction of poverty etc) and we can only give our views based on our experiences.

11. Overall, have you observed positive changes that would not have happened in the absence of EaSI?

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the EaSI programme.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

If yes, can you provide any concrete examples?

From our direct experience of the PROGRESS axis, Members and partners of EuroHealthNet became involved in the EU policy processes in relation with the EU Semester, the consultation on the EU Pillar of Social Rights, the Social OMC and the SIP. They also value sharing their knowledge, skills, perspectives and examples from their practice, for example through technical working groups on wellbeing and equity, mental health and wellbeing, active ageing and integrated health and social systems performance.

Several learning visits done by EuroHealthNet enabled members to learn about projects in other countries and connect with people to develop new partnerships. For example, members of EuroHealthNet participated in study visits in Sweden, Wales, Hungary and Italy to share experiences in applying an integrated approach to address health, social equity and environment issues. Lessons learned included: the need for public bodies to adopt a long-term, joined-up approach in their policies, work in cooperation with people, communities and each other, and focus on prevention; enhance collaborations and exchange between regions in Europe to monitor progress and identify innovative approaches for addressing health and social inequalities.

Quotes from participants given to our external evaluator reflect some of the positive experiences of EaSI participation (our evaluation reports are available on request) :

"I think this study tour has had a very big impact on my work and my attitude to healthy ageing, both on a professional as well as on a personal level, because I realised that there are so many possibilities and options to be involved in such activities for healthy ageing, and also research has a big importance on this topic. We have been planning several activities in the future on healthy ageing in our organisation."

'Now I can prove it's possible to work with different political departments when there is the will and commitment of all stakeholders'.

'I got new motivation and support for my work while having a chance to share experiences and learn from colleagues in other European countries who are working with the same tricky questions.'

"It is necessary to foster comparisons between different models of organisation of public health policies. New ideas and approaches are needed to deal more effectively with the challenges arising from this comparison, so as to help us facilitate equality in health care

"The learning points serve as an inspiration in trying to develop national policy and formulate advice to municipalities aiming to address health

inequalities at a local level. This is beneficial in the attempt to taking the discussion on future action on health inequalities a step forward."

"I have brought back several best practice ideas from Italy partners as well as from the UK. In [our] city council welfare department we have implemented several of them, applying for funding from the municipality, as well as from International funding options."

"It was very helpful to inform my work on strategy development ... I continue to use the experience and some ideas to ensure that ageing is kept high up the agenda for our health services strategy as well as with other partners' organisations in their strategies."

EuroHealthNet has provided support to its members on the matter of accessing EU funds to build capacities and knowledge for wellbeing and social equity. One example is the collaboration between EuroHealthNet and Public Health Wales for the publication of the "European Funding for Health in Wales" catalogue. The catalogue presented EU programmes such as the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - namely the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF) - as well as other funds.

Slovenia has used multi sectoral approaches to address the challenge of an ageing society. In the context of the European Social Investment Package (SIP) and with the support of EaSI, the National Institute of Health in Slovenia (NIJZ) and the Ministry of Health strengthened their collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MLFSA) and attracted the involvement of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MESS). Multi-sectoral and collaborative approaches were established. The Active and Healthy Ageing project AHA.SI (funded separately under the EaSI programme) ensured further resources for development , including the active participation of health and social ministry officials, senior ministers and state secretaries at project events and the more active engagement of the business sector. Key media were important stakeholders so AHA-SI was able to get good coverage. The impact can already be noted. For example, work in the area of Long Term Care led to the development of a tool to help municipalities analyse what they are doing to care for older people.

12. Given the target groups and the programme objectives, do you consider that the most relevant stakeholders have been sufficiently involved?

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the objectives and target groups of the EaSI programme.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please specify:

*

13. What do you consider to be the most effective methods for involving the target groups and/or relevant stakeholders?

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the target groups and stakeholders of the EaSI programme.

- General dissemination of information
- Targeted dissemination of information
- Contact with organisations working with relevant target groups (e.g. NGO, local public services, etc.)
- Direct contact with the target group (subject to contact details being available)
- Through partnerships of organisations working with relevant target groups (e.g. NGO, local public services, etc.)
- Other

Please specify:

The independent evaluation report of EuroHealthNet highlighted a number of ways in which EuroHealthNet has an impact on the work of stakeholder organisations and enhances their engagement at EU levels and in social fields, including policy making and programme development at local, regional and national levels.

Targeted messages, meetings, workshops and consultation processes are developed to stimulate interest, encourage participation and attract commitment. EuroHealthNet has used EaSI support to act as a helpful catalyst to facilitate discussions within member states to translate the broad recommendations from EU policy level and funded projects to be more country specific and develop more concrete outcomes on issues.

Methods we use are:

- Providing information and advice
- Facilitating international collaboration
- Raising the profile of organisations
- Enhancing effectiveness
- Support to influence the development of national policies

Efficiency

This set of questions aims to assess the extent to which the budget allocation and spending as a whole, and by axis and themes is proportionate and efficient for achieving the EaSI objectives.

14. Overall, for achieving the EaSI objectives, do you think the overall budget allocation provided:

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the budget of the EaSI programme.

- Should be increased
- Is appropriate
- Should be decreased
- Don't know

Please explain why you picked your response. Provide at least 2 reasons for your choice.

1) Due to worsening of current challenges: increased social and health inequalities, increased poverty and youth unemployment, increased number of vulnerable groups after the economic crisis (e.g. young people with families, migrants and refugees, frail elderly, lone parents)

2) More action is needed to address inequalities between EU Member States, stimulate exchange and raise awareness on effective policies and interventions, better use of ESIF, and implementation of the potential EU Pillar of Social Rights

The need to strengthen the health and social dimension of the EU, to avoid widening socio-economic inequalities within and between Member States is clearer today than ever before.

Reducing health inequalities is possible. Doing so presents an opportunity to tangibly improve the lives of European citizens and will lead to more sustainable and resilient societies.

15. Which of these budget scenarios would you find most appropriate?

Please note that EaSI resource allocation by axis is as follows: PROGRESS axis 61%; EURES axis 18%; Microfinance and Social entrepreneurship axis 21%.

- No change is necessary
- PROGRESS 80% – EURES 10% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 10%
- PROGRESS 90 % – EURES 10% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 0%
- PROGRESS 90% – EURES 0% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 10%
- PROGRESS 50% – EURES 25% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 25%
- PROGRESS 40% – EURES 30% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 30%
- PROGRESS 33% – EURES 33% – Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship 33%
- Don't know
- Other

Please explain the reasons for your choice:

We only have firsthand experience of valuable PROGRESS support – therefore we would argue for 90%. At the moment we do not have any evidence on the impact of EURES and Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship Programmes in order to make an informed judgement on best ways to split budgets, which explains 2x 10%.

16. Within the PROGRESS axis, what would be in your view the most appropriate allocation of funding on the basis of the different themes? Please specify the percentage for each theme. *Please be aware that the total should be 100%.*

Current allocation: employment, and in particular youth unemployment (20%); social protection, social inclusion, and prevention of poverty (50%); working conditions (10%); social experimentation across all themes (15-20%).

	out of 100% TOTAL
Employment, and in particular youth unemployment	20
Social protection, social inclusion, and prevention of poverty	55
Working conditions	15
Social experimentation across all themes	10

17. Within the EURES axis, what would be in your view the most appropriate allocation of funding on the basis of the different themes? Please specify the percentage for each theme. Please be aware that the total should be 100%.

Current allocation: transparency of job vacancies, applications, and any related information for applicants and employers (32%); development of services for the recruitment and placing of workers in employment through the clearance of job vacancies and application at Union level, in particular targeted mobility scheme (30%); cross-border partnerships (18%). The remainder amount (20%) shall be allocated to one or more of the priorities, or to a combination of them (cross-cutting issues).

	out of 100% TOTAL
Transparency of job vacancies, applications, and any related information	
Development of services for the recruitment and placing of workers in employment	
Cross-border partnerships	
Cross-cutting issues	

18. Within the Microfinance/Social entrepreneurship axis, what would be in your view the most appropriate allocation of funding on the basis of the different themes? Please specify the percentage for each theme. Please be aware that the total should be 100%.

Current allocation: microfinance (45%); social entrepreneurship (45%); cross-cutting issues (10%).

	out of 100% TOTAL
Microfinance	
Social entrepreneurship	
Cross-cutting issues	

Coherence

This set of questions addresses the extent to which the EaSI programme's activities are coherent with other interventions with similar objectives.

19. Are you familiar with the predecessor programmes of EaSI (PROGRESS, PROGRESS Microfinance and EURES)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

21. To what extent do you agree with the following statements concerning the coherence and complementarity of EaSI with other similar interventions?

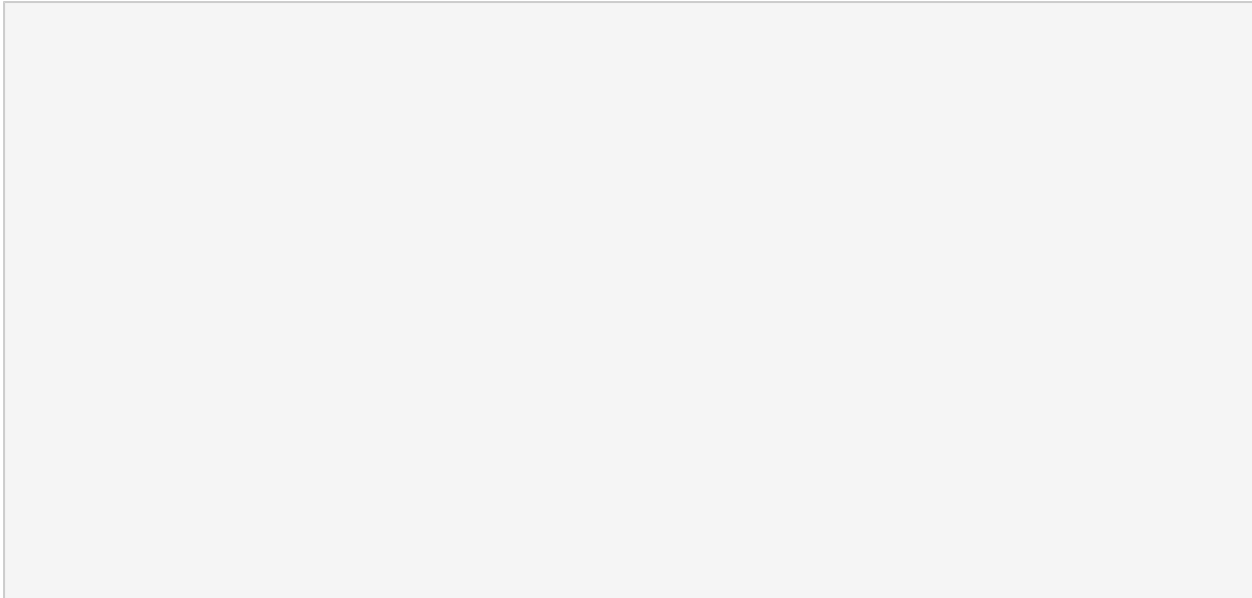
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/not applicable
EaSI complements actions of national programmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EaSI complements actions of other EU-level programmes (e.g. ESF, Euraxess, Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, COSME, Solvit, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The objectives of EaSI overlap with the objectives of national level instruments /programmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<p>The objectives of EaSI overlap with the objectives of other EU-level instruments /programmes</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>Is it important to maintain each type of instruments at EU-level even if there is overlap</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>Other intra-EU initiatives (e.g. European Social funds) can be more efficient than EaSI</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>Nationally funded initiatives can be more efficient than EaSI</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comments:

As our response to the potential EU Pillar on Social Rights consultation set out, we believe there is added EU value in programmes that help build knowledge and capacities between and within states, not least at sub national levels for regions, municipalities and communities, and other non-government stakeholders. We believe the EU Semester can be improved to integrate better with social programmes and instruments, including use of good practice examples, which we have been using the EaSI programme to share in missions to numerous states including Portugal, Poland, Latvia and Ireland. That will contribute to longer term shifts to tackle common challenges such as youth unemployment, active ageing, health and social system sustainability and integration of migrants and refugees. The EaSI programme is recognised by our members and shown in evaluations as an important part in that complex jigsaw.

Please state which national programmes EaSI actions complement:



A good example of complex integrated working has been demonstrated in different states which we have studied and shared. In Sweden, integrated working at national and regional levels on addressing social determinants of health and social sustainability is producing important learning and outcomes in building inclusive cities in which improved health and social equity is intrinsic, for example in Gothenburg, Malmo and Stockholm. We recommend that learning is taken forward and supported by EU mechanisms as well as other international organisations. In Slovenia, we and EaSI supported a whole of government, whole of society approach which not only included some concrete outcomes mentioned in 11 above, but also demonstrated important lessons about integrated action between national and local authorities and stakeholders on a multisectoral basis.

Thirdly, recent legislation in Wales on wellbeing and sustainable development, also mentioned in 11 above, again shows how cross government action tackle common challenges, in this case implementation of UN Agenda 2030 and SDGs. That should become a stronger feature of an integrated EaSI programme in future, and EuroHealthNet has proposed ways in which EU programmes, legislation and funds can be a toolbox of multi-instrumental integrated “power tools” for states to help achieve universal objectives and targets.

Other states with which we are working, for example in Poland, Ireland, Latvia and Portugal, all have important developments in process linking EU programmes and funds in social and health fields with EU Semester and socio-economic investments, reforms of health and social systems towards sustainability, tackling demographic and other challenges and promoting equity. We have helped to use the social inclusion aspects of EaSI to help those processes, not least by showing the importance of health systems for the increasing employment and social progress of millions of people. Therefore EaSI is a vital element offering EU added value to exactly the priorities which are top of the EU institutional agendas for the current and future planning periods - sustainable growth, equitable demographic change, social security and solidarity.

EaSI complements actions of other EU programmes:

- ESF
- Euraxess
- Erasmus+
- Horizon 2020
- COSME
- Solvit
- Other

22. To what extent are national, regional and local authorities' involved in the implementation of EaSI?

	Involved	Fairly involved	Not sufficiently involved	Not involved	Don't know /not applicable
National authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. To what extent are national, regional and local authorities' involved in the implementation of the PROGRESS axis?

	Involved	Fairly involved	Not sufficiently involved	Not involved	Don't know /not applicable
National authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regional authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. To what extent are national, regional and local authorities' involved in the implementation of the EURES axis?

	Involved	Fairly involved	Not sufficiently involved	Not involved	Don't know /not applicable
National authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Regional authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Local authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

25. To what extent are national, regional and local authorities' involved in the implementation of the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis?

	Involved	Fairly involved	Not sufficiently involved	Not involved	Don't know /not applicable
National authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Regional authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Local authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

EU Added Value

These questions concern results from the EaSI programme compared to what could be achieved by Member States at national, regional and local levels.

26. To what extent do you agree with the following statements concerning the EU added value of EaSI?

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the added value of the EaSI programme.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/not applicable
EU support is required to ensure transparent information regarding job opportunities across the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU support is required to develop institutional capacity of financial intermediaries (e.g. microcredit providers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
EU support is required to facilitate crossborder partnerships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU support is required to facilitate the exchange of information, good practices, and team building of stakeholders across the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU support is required to improve employment opportunities across the EU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<p>EU support is required to increase jobseekers mobility EU support is required to fight social exclusion</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>EU support is required to fight discrimination</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>EU support is required to improve the working conditions of citizens (e.g. decent work, health and safety at work, a healthier balance between professional and private life, etc.)</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>EU support is required to provide better access to, and availability of, microfinance for vulnerable persons and microenterprises</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<p>EU support is required to improve support for social enterprises</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

<p>EaSI objectives can be better achieved through EU level action than through varied actions by Member States</p>						
<p>EaSI has specific features /aspects that cannot be found in other national programmes or schemes</p>						

Comments:

Our members believe that the EaSI programme is a vital element with added value which could not be achieved elsewhere in supporting and enhancing knowledge and capacity building for social progress, equity and wellbeing within and between states.

While respecting subsidiarity and competences, it is clear that many - if not all - states lack the necessary capacities to foresee, address and tackle the common challenges in social and economic fields. In the wake of devastating financial and economic global crises with further turbulence anticipated, any weakening of EU social legislation, programmes and funding could have severe consequences in states and communities.

We know how much social factors impact on health and wellbeing, and vice versa. Whether the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, the daily lives of people in Europe are benefitted by effective implementation and development of the EU EaSI programme and in particular its PROGRESS access, which we call to be enhanced and expanded.

27. What would be the most likely consequences in the fields of employment, social affairs and inclusion if the EaSI programme was discontinued?

Please refer to the background documentation for further information on the added value of the EaSI programme.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know/not applicable
Employment opportunities would decrease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Financial and social exclusion would increase	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jobseekers' intra-EU mobility would decrease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
National level support would not be able to provide microcredit opportunities for micro enterprises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Selfemployment opportunities would decrease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Social Protection and welfare systems would deteriorate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth unemployment will rise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Working conditions would deteriorate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Any other consequence?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What were the other consequences?

Potential further increase of inequalities between EU Member States due to decline in the exchange of information and good practice, in capacity building, and decline of awareness of effective and innovative policies as well as lack of coordinated action across the EU.

Weaker social acquis implementation potentially leading to increased poverty and unemployment and increased disadvantage for the most vulnerable groups (e.g. migrants, minorities, people from low socio-economic status, youth, older people).

28. Have you heard about the results of EaSI activities/projects or evidence of EaSI impact?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

*

Through which means have you heard about the results of EaSI activities/ projects or evidence of EaSI impact?

- Your own research on the Internet/official EU websites
- Via your organisation which disseminated information about EaSI
- Via social media
- Via newspaper/other regular media
- Via other stakeholders
- Via other channels
- Don't know

If via other stakeholders, please specify:

At events organised by the EC or by involved stakeholders

If via other channels, please specify:

At events organised by the EC or by involved stakeholders

How satisfied are you with dissemination activities and the quality of content disseminated?

	Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied	Don't know
Dissemination activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of content	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

29. Would it be useful for you as an organisation or individual to learn more about the results of EaSI activities/projects or evidence of EaSI impact?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Why would it be useful to learn more about the results of EaSI activities/projects or evidence of EaSI impact?

- To collect ideas about projects and activities and best practices done at EU-level
- To receive information of results of EaSI to have an idea of what is done at EU-level
- To be informed of other approaches
- To exchange practices
- To create partnerships
- Other

Through which channels would you prefer to receive information about results of EaSI activities?

- Via social media
- Via a newsletter system where me or my organisation could register to receive the information
- Via official EU-websites
- Via an event (annual conference on EaSI, etc.)
- Via regular mail/post
- Other

Contact

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