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**REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
THE COUNCIL**

**on the activities of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers
(EGF) in 2023 and 2024**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) was set up in 2007 to show solidarity to workers who lose their jobs as a result of globalisation or changing world trade patterns. It offers assistance in the case of major restructuring events and promotes decent and sustainable employment. Displaced workers and self-employed people whose activity has ceased can get help from the EGF to adapt their skills and find new jobs, allowing a smooth transition to new employment.

The scope of the fund was later extended to be able to support people who lost their jobs due to the global financial and economic crisis.

For the 2021-2027 period, the EGF Regulation's scope¹ was extended further to allow the fund to support workers who have lost their jobs regardless of the cause of the restructuring event. This includes, for example, structural changes caused by globalisation, financial or economic crises, digitisation or automation or the transition to a low-carbon economy.

As an emergency fund, the EGF operates reactively. It is guided by the principles of equal opportunities and access to the labour market; fair working conditions; and social protection and inclusion laid down in the European Pillar of Social Rights². By implementing these principles, the fund helps to strengthen social and economic cohesion between the regions and Member States of the European Union, complementing other restructuring support programmes and services for workers.

This report gives an overview of EGF activities and results in 2023 and 2024. The main findings are:

- During the reporting period, three Member States submitted seven applications, amounting to a total of EUR 27.7 million (EGF contribution of EUR 21.2 million and national contribution of EUR 6.5 million), aiming to support to 5 643 workers, most of them from automotive industry and the manufacture of basic metals, followed by the retail sector.
- The European Parliament and the Council adopted eight decisions to mobilise EGF funding for a total amount of EUR 16.4 million to support 4 108 workers³.
- The Commission received 11 final reports, showing that 64% of the workers who had benefited from the measures were back in employment by the end of the implementation period.

¹ [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/691](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers (EGF) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013.

² [European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan](#)

³ Of the eight decisions, two concerned EGF applications received at the end of 2022 (EGF/2022/002 BE/TNT Express Worldwide; EGF/2022/003 ES/Alu Ibérica). One application (EGF/2024/003/BE Van Hool) was received in the last quarter of 2024 and adopted in 2025.

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1. Introduction

Under the 2021-2027 EGF Regulation⁴, the EU demonstrates solidarity with and provides support for workers who are made redundant and self-employed people whose activity has ceased due to any major restructuring event, such as globalisation, financial or economic crises, digitisation or automation or the transition to a low-carbon economy. Major changes were introduced for the 2021-2027 period⁵ to make the rules more inclusive and flexible, allowing a better response to current and future challenges.

To help displaced workers find new jobs, the EGF co-finances active labour market measures implemented by the Member States. It supplements national measures in the event of sudden collective redundancies following a major restructuring event, and provides more personalised support to the most vulnerable displaced workers, tailored to their needs.

This report to the European Parliament and the Council provides an assessment of EGF activities over the last two years, in line with Article 21 of Regulation (EU) 2021/691.

The report focuses on the results achieved and provides information, in particular, on:

- applications submitted;
- the processing time;
- adopted decisions;
- funded measures, including their complementarity with actions funded by other EU instruments, in particular the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+);
- statistics on the indicators set out in Annex II of the EGF Regulation;
- the beneficiary surveys;
- the winding-up of financial contributions; and rejected applications.

The report concludes by briefly presenting the results of the Commission mid-term evaluation of the 2021-2027 EGF, published on 8 July 2025⁶.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2021/691 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers.

⁵ In particular : a) eligibility threshold lowered from 500 to 200 displaced workers; b) shorter time limits for both the Commission and the Member States; c) simplified application requirements and procedures; d) the EGF co-financing rate aligned with the highest co-financing rate of ESF+ in the relevant Member State or 60%, whichever is higher.

⁶ COM(2025) 382 final and SWD(2025) 180.

2. Analysis of EGF activities in 2023 and 2024

2.1. Applications submitted

In 2023 and 2024, the Commission received 7 applications, from Belgium, Germany and Denmark, for a total amount EUR 27.7 million (national and EGF contributions combined). The applications aimed to offer support to 5 643 workers.

Table 1: Applications submitted in 2023 and 2024

EGF Reference	Member State	Case title	Sector in short denomination	NACE Rev. 2 division	Date of application	Art. 4. Intervention criteria Reg. (EU) 2021/691	Cause of displacement	National contribution (in €) (40% or less of total case amount)	EGF contribution (in €) (60% or more of total case amount)	EGF co-financing rate (in %)	Number of redundant workers	Number of targeted beneficiaries	Share of targeted beneficiaries vs. workers redundant	Average EGF amount per targeted beneficiary
								A	B	C	D	E	E/D	B/E
EGF/2023/001	BE	Logistics Nivelles	Warehousing and support activities for transportation	52,49	17/02/2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	380,004	2,153,358	85%	603	603	100%	3,571
EGF/2023/002	BE	Makro	Retail	47	03/07/2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	499,098	2,828,223	85%	1,431	421	29%	6,718
EGF/2023/003	DE	Vallourec	Basic metals	24	15/11/2023	4(2)(a)	Trade	1,989,752	2,984,627	60%	1,518	835	55%	3,574
EGF/2023/004	DK	Danish Crown	Food products	10	06/12/2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	1,254,808	1,882,212	60%	751	390	52%	4,826
EGF/2024/001	BE	Match	Retail	47	03/06/2024	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	469,688	2,661,564	85%	513	365	71%	7,292
EGF/2024/002	BE	Limbourg machinery	Machinery and equipment & paper	17, 28	19/07/2024	4(2)(c)	Sector overcapacity (paper) & Consumer preference for alternative heating systems to panel radiators.	469,424	704,135	60%	681	632	93%	1,114
EGF/2024/003	BE	Van Hool	Automotive	29	28/10/2024	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	1,411,591	7,999,015	85%	2,411	2,397	99%	3,337
Total No. of applications received in 2023 and 2024: 7						4(2)(a)=6 4(2)(c)=1	Total	6,474,365	21,213,134		7,908	5,643	71%	3,759
Average for 7 applications							Average for 7 applications	924,909	3,030,448		1,130	806		

* Belgium opted for a 60% co-financing rate for Limbourg machinery and paper although it could have requested up to 85%.

2.1.1. Applications broken down by intervention criterion and cause of dismissal

6 applications related to redundancies in an enterprise and its suppliers and downstream producers⁷ and one concerned redundancies in the same region of Belgium⁸. The possibility of combining redundancies in the same region in a single application, even if they affect different sectors, was introduced in the current Regulation⁹. Limburg machinery and paper (EGF/2024/002 BE) was the first application making use of this possibility.

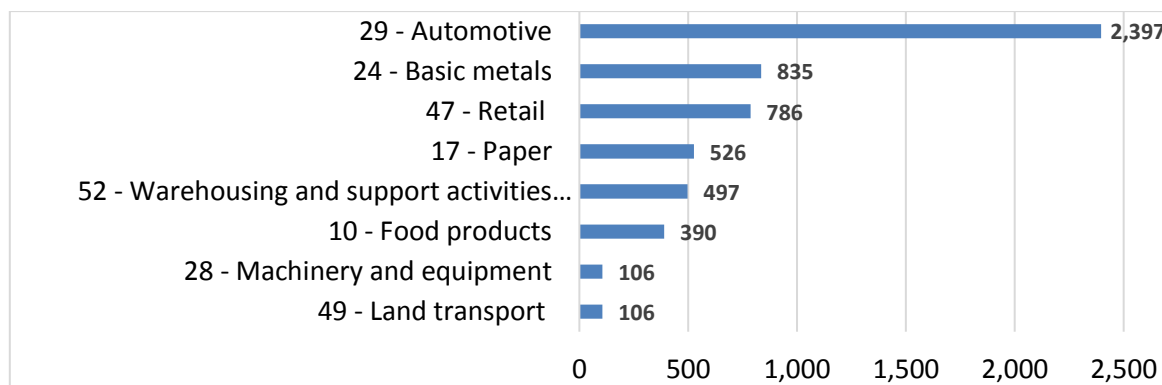
According to the applicant Member States, 5 applications concerned a corporate crisis (BE and DK) and 2 related to trade (DE) and other restructuring causes¹⁰ (BE).

2.1.2. Applications by sector¹¹

The applications concerned redundancies in 8 sectors: automotive, basic metals, food products, land transport, machinery and equipment, paper, retail, and warehousing and support activities for transportation. There were 2 applications for the retail sector and 2 applications from Belgium¹² concerned more than one sector.

The automotive industry (2 397) had the greatest number of targeted beneficiaries, followed by basic metals (835) and the retail sector (786). For the first time there was an application in support of displaced workers in the paper sector.

Chart 1: Number of targeted beneficiaries per sector in 2023–2024



Total number of targeted beneficiaries: 5 643

⁷ Article 4(2)(a) of the Regulation.

⁸ Article 4(2)(c) of the Regulation.

⁹ The possibility of combining redundancies in the same region in a single application already existed, but on condition that all belonged to the same sector (Article 4(2)(b) of the Regulation).

¹⁰ Sector overcapacity (paper) and consumer preference for heating systems other than panel radiators (machinery).

¹¹ [Sectors at NACE Rev. 2 division level](#).

¹² EGF/2023/001 BE Logistics Nivelles (warehousing and land transport), and EGF/2024/002 BE Limburg machinery and paper.

2.1.3. Applications submitted by number of targeted beneficiaries

There were a total of 5 643 targeted beneficiaries (71% of the 7 908 displaced workers; see Table 1). Belgium, with 5 applications, requested EGF support for the greatest number of beneficiaries (4 418), followed by Germany (835) and Denmark (390). The average number of targeted beneficiaries per application was 806.

The ratio of targeted beneficiaries to displaced workers may vary, as Member States may decide to focus on specific groups. For example, in two of its applications Belgium took a regional approach: given the strong Flemish labour market, it was assumed that Flemish workers would be able to find new jobs with the available national support. EGF co-financing was therefore requested only for Walloon workers.

Profile of targeted beneficiaries by gender, age and education level

87% of targeted beneficiaries were men, 62% were aged 30-54 and 61% had completed either upper secondary or post-secondary education. There is no gender bias in the selection of beneficiaries; rather, their profile reflects the fact that most of the displacements occurred in sectors with a predominantly male workforce (90% or more).

Chart 2: Profile of targeted beneficiaries by gender and per application

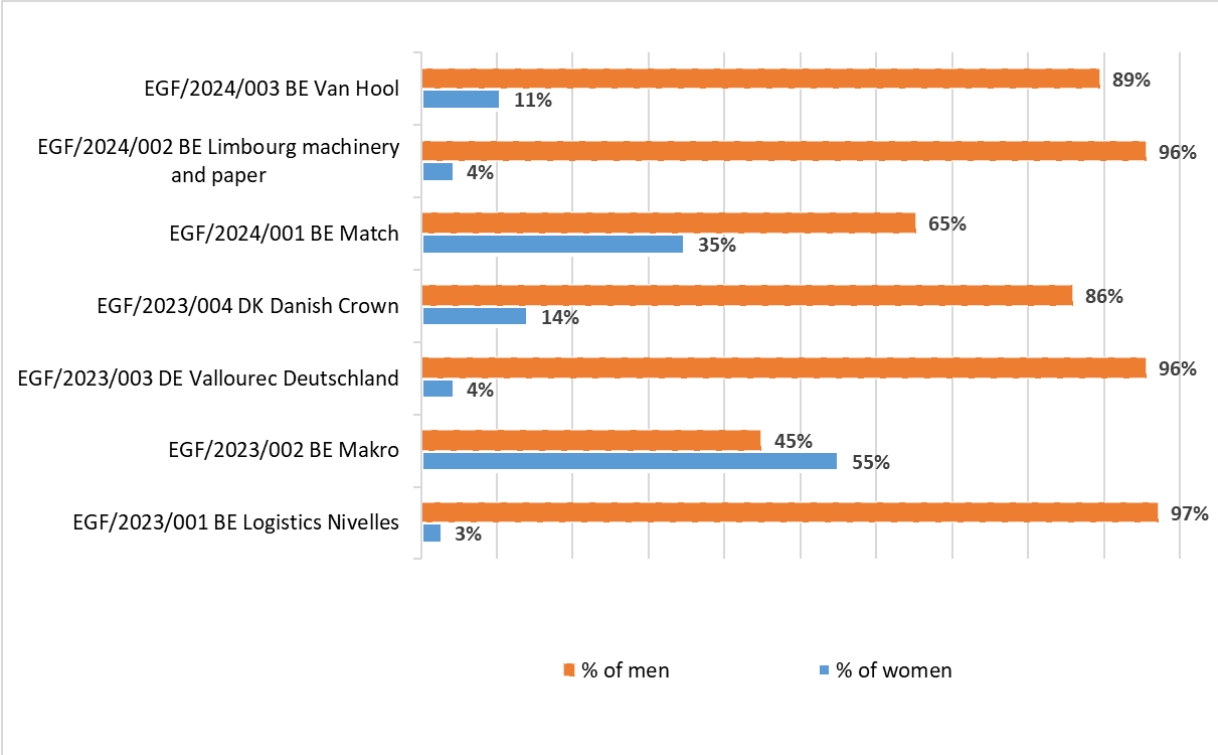


Chart 3: Profile of targeted beneficiaries by education level

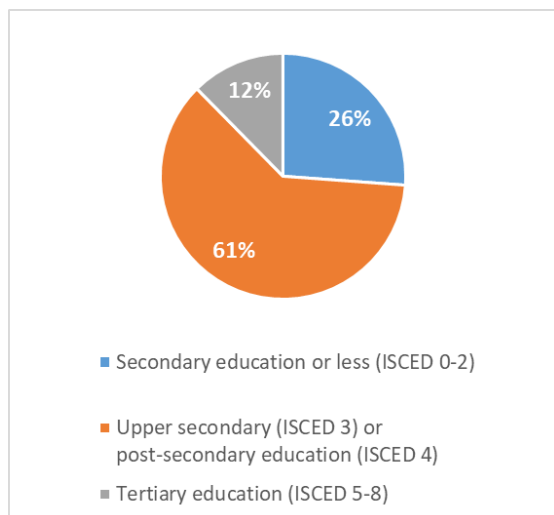
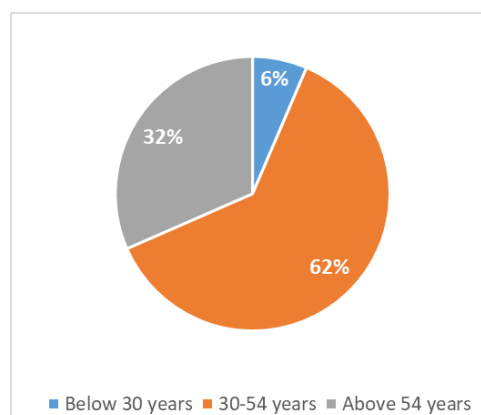


Chart 4: Profile of targeted beneficiaries by age



2.1.4. Applications submitted by amount requested

EGF financial contribution complements Member State measures at national, regional or local level. It is up to the applicant Member State to ensure that the EGF-funded measures comply with State aid rules and that there is no double funding through the EU budget. Moreover, the EGF-funded measures should not substitute any measures that companies are responsible for under national law or collective agreements.

A Member State applying for EGF support must draw up a coordinated package of measures that best fits the targeted beneficiaries' profiles. Under Regulation (EU) 2021/691, the EGF co-financing rate is either 60% or equal to the highest co-financing rate of ESF+ in the relevant Member State¹³, whichever is higher.

The total amount of EGF support requested in the 7 applications was EUR 21 213 134. Belgium, with 5 applications and a co-financing rate of 85%¹⁴ requested the highest amount (EUR 16 346 295), followed by Germany (EUR 2 984 627) and Denmark (EUR 1 882 212), each with 1 application and a co-financing rate of 60%.

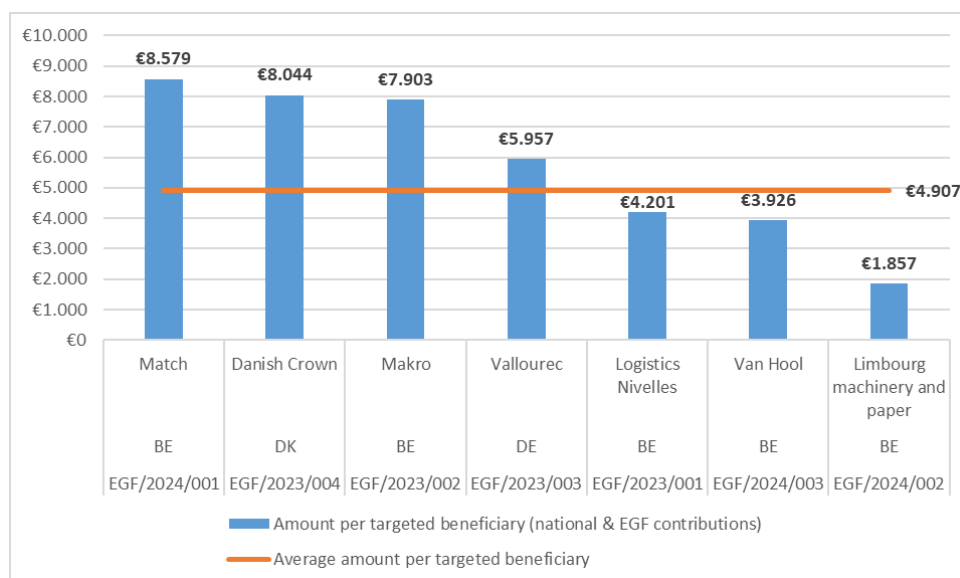
¹³ The co-financing rates of ESF+ range from 40% to 85%.

¹⁴ In application EGF/2024/002 BE/Limburg machinery and paper, Belgium requested a co-financing of 60%.

2.1.5. Applications by amount per beneficiary

Regulation (EU) 2021/691 does not set a limit on the budgeted amount or the amount requested per targeted beneficiary. The amount can vary according to the situation in the relevant labour market, the individual circumstances of beneficiaries, and the support available and cost of providing the relevant services in the Member State concerned.

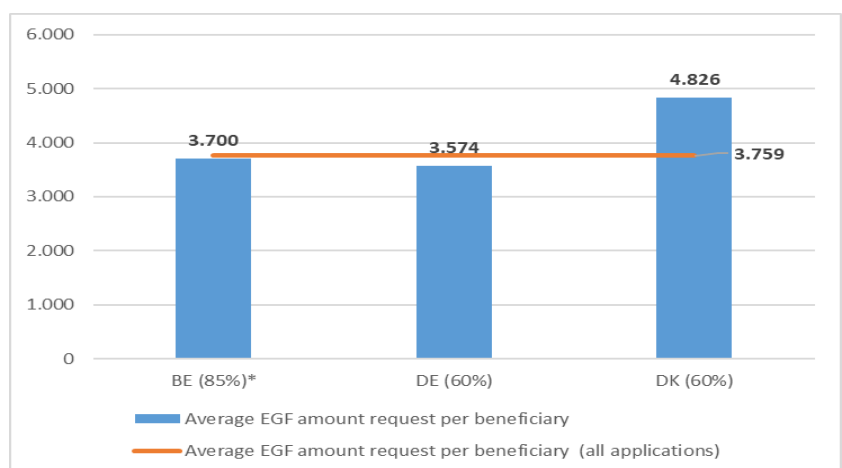
Chart 5: Amount budgeted per beneficiary (national and EGF co-financing) in 2023-2024



Average budgeted amount per beneficiary:

EUR 4 907

Chart 6: EGF amount requested per beneficiary and per Member State in 2023-2024



EGF co-financing rate for each Member State is indicated in brackets.

Average EGF amount requested per beneficiary:

EUR 3 759

* In application EGF/2024/002 BE/Limburg machinery and paper, Belgium requested a co-financing of 60%.

2.1.6. Processing time

In accordance with Article 8(1) of the EGF Regulation, a Member State wishing to submit an application to the Commission, must do so within 12 weeks of date on which the criteria set out in Article 4(2) (3) or (4) have been met. The Commission then has 10 working days to request any additional information it needs to assess the application, from the date on which it receives it (or a translation if required). The Member State must respond within 15 working days of receiving the request, but can ask for a 10-day extension if the request for an extension is duly reasoned. Once it receives this information, the Commission has 50 working days to assess whether the application meets the conditions for providing financial support and propose mobilising the fund. If the Commission is unable to meet this deadline, it must provide an explanation for the delay in the completion of the assessment.

The Commission adopted all the applications received in 2023-2024 between 49 and 75 days of the date of application or the date the translation became available, thus respecting the 75 working days set in Article 8(4) (5) and (6) of the EGF Regulation.

Under Article 15(1) of the EGF Regulation, the budgetary authority must take a decision within six weeks¹⁵ of Commission's proposal. The mobilisation decision was made within the time limit in most cases and was particularly swift (30 calendar days) in the case EGF/2024/002 BE/Limbourg machinery and paper.

Table 2: Processing time of the Commission and the budgetary authority

EGF Ref.	Case	Date of application or translation	Adoption by the Commission	Working days	Date of signature by the BA	Calendar days
EGF/2023/001	Logistics Nivelles	17/02/2023	06/06/2023	71	12/07/2023	36
EGF/2023/002	Makro	03/07/2023	13/10/2023	74	22/11/2023	40
EGF/2023/003	Vallourec *	15/11/2023	29/02/2024	71	24/04/2024	55
EGF/2023/004	Danish Crown	06/12/2023	29/02/2024	56	24/04/2024	55
EGF/2024/001	Match	03/06/2024	16/09/2024	75	23/10/2024	37
EGF/2024/002	Limbourg machinery and paper*	28/08/2024	05/11/2024	49	05/12/2024	30
EGF/2024/003	Van Hool*	03/12/2024	26/03/2025	73	07/05/2025	42

¹⁵ Approximately 42 calendar days.

* A translation was needed.

2.2. Adopted decisions and contributions granted

The EGF is a special thematic instrument, outside the ceilings of the multiannual financial framework. The fund is mobilised through a decision of the European Parliament and the Council.

In 2023-2024 the European Parliament and the Council adopted 8 decisions mobilising EGF funding of EUR 16 445 516, offering support to 4 108 workers in 4 Member States¹⁶. The decisions concerned 2 applications received in the last quarter of 2022, 4 received in 2023 and 2 received in 2024. Therefore, Table 3 covers a different set of cases than Table 1 (applications submitted in 2023 and 2024).

¹⁶ Belgium (5 cases), Spain, Germany and Denmark.

**Table 3: Details of financial contributions granted in 2023 and 2024
(Date of signature by the budgetary authority in 2023 and 2024)**

EGF reference	Member State	Case	Date of application	Art. 4. Intervention criteria	Cause of displacement	National contribution (in €)	EGF contribution granted (in €)	Targeted beneficiaries	Average EGF contribution per beneficiary (in €)	Men targeted	Women targeted	Age below 30	Age 30-54 targeted	Age above 54 targeted	Date of signature by budgetary authority	Date of payment (bank transfer)
EGF/2022/002	BE	TNT	18-10-2022	4(2)(a)	Takeover	345.247	1.956.397	559	3.500	487	72	13	368	178	15-03-2023	03-04-2023
EGF/2022/003	ES	Alu Ibérica	30-11-2022	4(2)(a)	Trade	225.000	1.275.000	303	4.208	293	10	0	294	9	10-05-2023	31-05-2023
EGF/2023/001	BE	Logistics Nivelles	17-02-2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	380.004	2.153.358	603	3.571	586	17	27	450	126	12-07-2023	19-07-2023
EGF/2023/002	BE	Makro	03-07-2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	499.098	2.828.223	421	6.718	189	232	2	229	190	22-11-2023	05-12-2023
EGF/2023/003	DE	Vallourec	15-11-2023	4(2)(a)	Trade	#####	2.984.627	835	3.574	798	37	53	614	168	24-04-2024	17-06-2021
EGF/2023/004	DK	Danish Crown	06-12-2023	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	#####	1.882.212	390	4.826	335	55	39	275	76	24-04-2024	15-05-2024
EGF/2024/001	BE	Match	03-06-2024	4(2)(a)	Corporate crisis	469.688	2.661.564	365	7.292	238	127	28	222	115	23-10-2024	06-11-2024
EGF/2024/002	BE	Limbourg machinery and paper	19-07-2024	4(2)(c)	Sector overcapacity (paper). Changes in consumers' trends (radiators)	469.424	704.135	632	1.114	604	28	55	355	222	05-12-2024	24-12-2024
Total figures						5.633.021	16.445.516	4.108	4.003	3.530	578	217	2.807	1.084		
Total No. of decisions and payments in 2023 and 2024: 8				4(2)(a)=7 4(2)(c)=1	Corporate crisis = 4 Trade = 2 Other = 2	704.128	2.055.690	514		86%	14%	5%	69%	26%	Average figures for 8 cases	

2.2.1. Measures co-funded by the EGF

Under Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2021/691, a financial contribution from the EGF can support active labour market measures that form part of a coordinated package of personalised services, designed to facilitate the reintegration of the targeted beneficiaries, in particular the most disadvantaged among them, into employment or self-employment.

The EGF financial contributions were granted in 2023 and 2024 for the following types of measures:

- occupational and career guidance,
- intensive job-searching assistance tailored to beneficiaries' needs; improving general skills; boosting job-seekers' chances and ability to participate in upskilling courses or to meet the requirements of a job,
- retraining, upskilling and vocational training, including horizontal and soft-skills training, entrepreneurship training and higher education programmes,
- counselling and mentoring aimed at finding a new job and mentoring at the start of the new job,
- promoting entrepreneurship and contributions to business start-up,
- one-off quick redeployment and hiring incentives; various allowances (e.g. for job-search, training, or entrepreneurship, or to encourage participation in IT or language training) and contributions (e.g. toward the cost of commuting or caring for dependents).

When designing their support packages, the Member States took into account the background, educational level, experience and mobility of individual beneficiaries, as well as current or expected future job opportunities in the relevant labour markets. They also took into consideration the recommendations set out in the EU Quality Framework for anticipation of change and restructuring and the need to disseminate skills for the digital industrial age and a resource-efficient economy in line with Article 7(2) of the EGF Regulation.

2.2.2. Complementarity with actions funded by national or other EU funds

EGF measures are always offered on top of regular national support, thus ensuring complementarity. In particular, the fund complements the ESF+, the major EU instrument for promoting employment. The two funds address employment issues from different time perspectives: the ESF+ pursues strategic, long-term goals (e.g. boosting human capital and managing change) based on a multiannual programme, whereas the EGF provides support in response to crisis situations. It supports displaced workers or the self-employed whose activity has ceased due to a specific, large-scale restructuring event that leads to a high number of redundancies over a short period of time.

The EGF enables the Member States to give beneficiaries more in-depth and targeted, personalised support, including measures they would not otherwise have access to (e.g.

second- or third-level education). The fund thus allows services to be designed that are better tailored to the needs of individual redundant workers, far exceeding what standard courses and measures can offer. By contrast, ESF+ support is aimed at a wider population (both those in and out of work). Member States sometimes combine EGF and ESF+ measures in order to provide both short-term and longer-term solutions.

At case level, the EGF typically builds on existing national or ESF+ measures, complementing them with new measures or boosting the existing measures e.g. by increasing the ratio of advisers to beneficiaries or extending the period of support¹⁷. The decisive criterion in the choice of instruments is how it can best help the targeted beneficiaries. It is up to the Member States to select which instruments and actions they wish to use to achieve the desired objectives¹⁸.

Similarly, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, it is up to the Member States to decide whether to use ESF+ or EGF funds and to manage the complementarity between the two funds taking account of current labour market conditions.

Article 9(5) of Regulation (EU) 2021/691 requires the Member States to put in place the necessary mechanisms to prevent any risk of double funding from EU financial instruments. In most Member States, the ESF+ Managing Authority is also responsible for implementing the EGF, which enables them to ensure there is no double funding.

2.3. Rejected applications

None of the applications received in 2023 and 2024 were rejected by the Commission, the European Parliament or the Council.

2.4. Results achieved

The main sources of information on the results achieved by the EGF are the Member States' final reports, to be submitted no later than seven months after the end of implementation (six months for the cases under the 2014-2020 EGF Regulation¹⁹). In addition, Member States provide information in their direct contact with the Commission, e.g. during meetings and

¹⁷ Under Wallonia's regional legislation, redundant workers, can get help from a redeployment unit activated at the request of a trade union. Such redeployment units managed the implementation of the co-financed EGF measures (EGF/2022/002 BE/TNT, EGF/2023/001 BE/Logistique Nivelles, EGF/2023/002 BE/Makro, and EGF/2024/001 BE/Match-Smatch). This allowed the redeployment units' standard 12-months duration to be extended up to 24 months and additional measures to be taken to complement their package of measures, such as contributions to business start-up, hiring benefits or incentives for workers to participate in certain training courses.

¹⁸ EGF support for displaced workers in the metal sector in Spain (EGF/2021/001 ES/Pais Vasco metal) was implemented part of a broader aid programme (AukerabeRRI) that helped businesses find skilled workers suited to their needs, and laid-off workers find new jobs.

¹⁹ Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013

conferences, and in connection with evaluation and audit work. The main results and data reported in 2023-2024 by 7 Member States are summarised below.

Table 4: Labour market status of the assisted beneficiaries (final reports received in 2023 and 2024)

EGF Reference	EGF/2020/001	EGF/2020/002	EGF/2020/003	EGF/2020/005	EGF/2020/007	EGF/2021/001	EGF/2021/002	EGF/2021/003	EGF/2021/004	EGF/2021/005	EGF/2021/006	Total
Case	Galicia shipbuilding ancillary sectors	Estonian tourism industry	GMH Guss	Swissport	Finnair	Pais Vasco metal	Air Italy	Porto Canale	Aragón automotive	Airbus	Cataluña automotive	11 Final Reports
Member State	ES	EE	DE	BE	FI	ES	IT	IT	ES	FR	ES	from 7 MS
Sector	Shipbuilding	Tourism	Basic metals	Support activities for transportation	Air transport	Metalworking industry	Air transport	Warehousing and support activities for transportation	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	Manufacture of transport equipment	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	
Date of application	13-May-2020	12-Nov-2020	15-Dec-2020	22-Dec-2020	30-Dec-2020	25-Jun-2021	15-Jul-2021	15-Jul-2021	26-Jul-2021	26-Jul-2021	23-Sep-2021	
Workers dismissed	960	10.080	585	1.468	508	491	611	190	1.052	508	705	17.158
Beneficiaries targeted	500	5.060	476	1.468	500	300	611	190	320	297	450	10.172
Starting date of measures	30-Nov-2020	1-Jan-2021	1-Apr-2020	9-Jun-2020	21-Oct-2020	11-Jun-2021	4-Nov-2020	8-Oct-2020	1-Jun-2022	1-Nov-2020	6-Sep-2023	
End date of measures	13-Aug-2022	30-Jun-2023	18-Aug-2022	22-Dec-2022	30-Dec-2022	24-Nov-2023	25-Oct-2023	17-Dec-2023	17-Dec-2023	17-Feb-2024	8-Mar-2024	
Deadline for Final Report	13-Feb-2023	1-Jul-2023	15-Jun-2023	22-Jun-2023	30-Jun-2023	25-Jun-2024	17-Jul-2024	17-Jul-2024	17-Jul-2024	17-Sep-2024	9-Oct-2024	
Actual date of submission of the Final Report	10-Feb-2023	5-Jun-2024	21-Jun-2023	19-Jun-2023	16-May-2023	21-Jun-2024	16-Jul-2024	16-Jul-2024	12-Jul-2024	16-Oct-2024	8-Oct-2024	
Case wound up before 31/12/2024	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	
RESULTS AT THE END OF THE EGF IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD, BASED ON MEMBER STATES FINAL REPORTS												
Beneficiaries assisted	521	1.687	200	898	481	80	601	190	263	299	93	5.313
% of beneficiaries targeted	104%	33%	42%	61%	96%	27%	98%	100%	82%	101%	21%	52%
Labour market status of the beneficiaries assisted by the EGF contribution *												
Beneficiaries reintegrated at the end of EGF implementation period	362	1.427	79	458	366	57	300	82	116	136	15	3.398
% of beneficiaries assisted	69%	85%	40%	51%	76%	71%	50%	43%	44%	45%	16%	64%
out of which												
as dependent beneficiaries	350	1.351	78	445	363	56	288	82	116	25	14	3.168
as self-employed	12	76	1	13	3	1	12	0	0	111	1	230
Beneficiaries in education/training	0	0	9	0	23	0	0	0	0	9	1	42
% of beneficiaries assisted	0%	0%	5%	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	1%	1%
Beneficiaries unemployed or inactive - various reasons **	159	68	103	440	92	23	266	0	147	17	77	1.392
% of beneficiaries assisted	31%	4%	52%	49%	19%	29%	44%	0%	56%	6%	83%	26%
Beneficiaries status N/A	0	192	9	0	0	0	35	108	0	137	0	481
% of beneficiaries assisted	0%	11%	5%	0%	0%	0%	6%	57%	0%	46%	0%	9%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

* In principle, the labour market status of beneficiaries reflects the situation at the end of the implementation period.

** Inactive means that people are no longer on the labour market for various reasons e.g. retirement or death.

2.4.1. Summary of the results reported in 2023 and 2024

In 2023-2024, the Commission received 11 final reports on cases that had been implemented from June 2020 to March 2024, of which 5 concerned cases under the 2014-2020 EGF Regulation.

Aggregated figures from the final reports show a quite balanced gender breakdown of beneficiaries (58% men to 42% women), although displacements mainly occurred in sectors with predominantly male workforce. This is explained by one specific case of tourism workers in Estonia, where two out of three people receiving support were women. As this case accounted for one-third of the total workers receiving support, it offset the cases where 90% or more were men.

Beneficiaries aged 54 or more (18%) outnumbered those below the age of 30 (13%). More assisted workers had completed tertiary education (25%) than primary or lower secondary education (19%).

The final reports show that 64% of the 5 313 assisted workers had found new jobs by the end of the EGF implementation period. Approximately 1% of beneficiaries were still in education or training, 26% were unemployed or inactive for various reasons, and for the remaining 9% no employment status was available.

The beneficiary reach rate (workers assisted through the EGF to estimated beneficiaries) was 52% on average, but it varied significantly from case to case. In 5 cases, the rate was around 100%, with a margin of ± 4 percentage points, and in 1 case it was above 80%. By contrast, the lowest rates were 33% and 21%. The circumstances of each case are quite specific, making a precise estimate difficult. The same Member State (Spain) had both the highest and the lowest beneficiary reach rate.

The Member States' final reports describe how they were able to guide displaced workers towards new employment by designing personalised measures tailored to their needs. The reports also confirm that the EGF was able to add value to the Member States' own measures to help targeted beneficiaries find new jobs and reposition themselves in the labour market.

2.4.2. Beneficiary reintegration rate

Based on the reports received, by the end of the measures 3 398 participants (64%) were back in employment, 3 168 (93%) as employees and 230 (7%) as self-employed.

Under the 2014-2020 EGF Regulation, Member States have to report on beneficiaries' employment situation 18 months after the end of the implementation period. According to data received from Estonia, Belgium, Germany and Spain, more than 80% of

beneficiaries have found new employment and are in a situation of job stability (one report has yet to be submitted).

In Estonia, 85% of beneficiaries were employed at the end of the intervention period, with the same reintegration rate for both women and men; 18 months later the rate had increased by 1 percentage point to 86%. In Belgium, the re-employment rate increased by 31 percentage points up to 82%, in Spain by 11 percentage point up to 80% and in Germany by 7 percentage point up to 47%.

Under the 2021-2027 EGF Regulation, the deadline for reporting on beneficiaries' employment situation is six months after the end of the implementation period. However, several Member States have not been able to submit a report due to a technical issue in the SFC reporting module, meaning that data is available only for EGF/2021/004 ES/Aragón automotive.

The re-employment rate in this case increased after six months from 44% (116 people) to 70% (185 people). The rate for women (40%) was 8 percentage points lower than for men (48%) at the end of the intervention, but after six months the rate was 70% for both.

The figures are not representative of the actual re-employment rate as the data is incomplete and the number of months between the end of the implementation period and the time of collecting the data varies. They are therefore presented in Table 5 only for illustrative purposes.

Table 5: Employment status months after the end of the implementation period

EGF Reference	EGF/2020/001	EGF/2020/002	EGF/2020/003	EGF/2020/005	EGF/2021/004					
Case	Galicia ancillary shipbuilding	Estonian tourism industry	GMH Guss	Swissport	Aragón automotive					
Member State	ES	EE	DE	BE	ES					
Sector	Shipbuilding	Tourism	Basic metals	Support activities for transportation	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers					
Date of application	13-May-2020	12-Nov-2020	15-Dec-2020	22-Dec-2020	26-Jul-2021					
Workers dismissed	960	10.080	585	1.468	1.052					
Beneficiaries targeted	500	5.060	476	1.468	320					
Starting date of measures	30-Nov-2020	1-Jan-2021	1-Apr-2020	9-Jun-2020	1-Jun-2022					
End date of measures	13-Aug-2022	30-Jun-2023	18-Aug-2022	22-Dec-2022	17-Dec-2023					
Deadline for Final Report	13-Feb-2023	1-Jul-2023	15-Jun-2023	22-Jun-2023	17-Jul-2024					
Actual date of submission of the Final Report	10-Feb-2023	5-Jun-2024	21-Jun-2023	19-Jun-2023	12-Jul-2024					
Case wound up before 31/12/2024	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO					
RESULTS AT THE END OF THE EGF IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD, BASED ON MEMBER STATES FINAL REPORTS										
Beneficiaries assisted	521	1.687	200	898	263					
% of beneficiaries targeted	104%	33%	42%	61%	82%					
Labour market status of the beneficiaries assisted	End implementation	End implementation + 18 months	End implementation	End implementation + 18 months	End implementation	End implementation + 18 months	End implementation	End implementation + 18 months	End implementation	End implementation + 6 months
	362	419	1.427	1.444	79	94	458	734	116	185
% of beneficiaries assisted	69%	80%	85%	86%	40%	47%	51%	82%	44%	70%
out of which										
as dependent beneficiaries	350	402	1.351	1.372	78	n/a	445	715	116	184
as self-employed	12	17	76	77	1	n/a	13	19	0	1
Beneficiaries in education/training	0	0	0	0	9	7	0	0	0	0
% of beneficiaries assisted	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Beneficiaries unemployed or inactive - various reasons *	159	102	68	34	103	95	440	136	147	78
% of beneficiaries assisted	31%	20%	4%	2%	52%	48%	49%	15%	56%	30%
Beneficiaries status N/A	0	0	192	204	9	4	0	28	0	0
% of beneficiaries assisted	0%	0%	11%	12%	5%	2%	0%	3%	0%	0%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

2.4.3. Beneficiary survey

As a new requirement from 2021, a survey of beneficiaries has to be conducted for each EGF case for evaluation purposes. The survey template was designed by the Commission in close cooperation with the Member States and has been translated into all official EU languages. The surveys are launched during the sixth month after the implementation period has ended and participants can access them on the EU Survey website for at least four weeks..

A beneficiary survey for each EGF case ensures a more qualitative approach to evaluating the fund's effectiveness and its **long-lasting effects on beneficiaries' general employability**, in terms of acquiring new skills and qualifications, and gaining confidence and self-esteem, etc.

* Inactive means that people are no longer on the labour market for various reasons, e.g. retirement.

A summary of replies from respondents is provided below.

- More than half of the respondents said they had gained new skills or qualifications. One in three gained digital qualifications and one in four had acquired environmental/green skills.
- 48% of respondents had gained self-confidence and around 46% of those who had not found a new job felt they were **better qualified** after they had participated in the measures co-financed by the EGF.
- Around 47% of respondents were back in employment, 38% as dependent workers and around 9% as self-employed.
- As for the **quality of the new jobs**, most respondents who had returned to work as dependent workers had **full-time jobs (89%), two out of three with permanent contracts**. For the majority of respondents (56%), working conditions were comparable to or better than in their previous job (56%), while one in four were worse off. The salary was comparable or better for 46% of respondents and worse for 41%. Three in four workers said they had to work fewer or as many unpaid overtime hours as before.
- Of respondents who had returned to work as self-employed, three of four worked full-time. Nearly **half of businesses created by the self-employed had been operating for two years or more** and one in three for between 12 and 24 months. One in five businesses employed people other than the owner.
- Unlike for dependent workers, the majority of self-employed workers (78%) had lower earnings than in their previous job, with only 11% reporting better earnings. However, for more than **half of the self-employed workers who had lower earnings, working conditions had improved**.
- Half of the respondents who are dependent workers said that the support measures co-financed by the EGF had helped them to get their current job, while this had not been the case for the other half. Amongst 71% of respondents said the support they had received had helped them become self-employed.

2.5. Financial execution

2.5.1. EGF contributions

The EGF is a special thematic instrument as set out in Article 8 of the Council Regulation laying down the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework²⁰. An annual ceiling of up to EUR 186 million (2018 prices) was initially set for 2021-2027, but in 2024, the annual ceiling was reduced to EUR 30 million (in 2018 prices) for 2024-2027 to take account of financing needs arising in other areas, including support for Ukraine, geopolitical tensions, natural disasters, etc.

The EGF contribution is paid to the Member State in a single instalment as a 100% pre-financing payment. Payment is due within 15 working days of the date the Commission is notified of the European Parliament and the Council's approval of the budgetary transfer.

In 2023-2024 the budgetary authority approved funding of eight cases totalling EUR 16 445 516. The total estimated cost of personalised services²¹ included expenditure planned to be allocated as follow: 55% for occupational guidance, 19% for training, 19% for allowances and incentives, and 7% for promoting entrepreneurship.

2.5.2. Technical assistance

Under Article 11(1) of Regulation (EU) 2021/691, and at the initiative of the Commission, up to 0.5% of the fund's annual ceiling can be used for technical assistance. This amount is to be used to finance activities that are necessary to implement the EGF, such as preparation, monitoring and data gathering, the setting up of a knowledge base, administrative and technical support, information and communication activities as well as auditing, control and evaluation work. For 2023 the budgetary authority made EUR 190 000 available representing 0.09% of the fund's annual ceiling compared to EUR 165 000 or 0.08%, of the fund's annual ceiling in 2024²².

²⁰ Council Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2093 of 17 December 2020 laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021 to 2027, OJ L 4331, 22.12.2020, p. 11.

²¹ Actions under Article 7(2)(a) and (b) of the EGF Regulation.

²² In 2024, the maximum annual EGF ceiling was reduced from EUR 186 million (2018 prices) to EUR 30 million (2018 prices).

Table 6.1: Technical assistance expenditure in 2023

Description	Total cost budgeted	Actual commitments	Comments
Administrative support	EUR 90 000	EUR 38 480.47	This expenditure covers the cost of: a) the meeting of contact persons held in October 2023 in Brussels followed by a visit to a redeployment unit supported by the EGF in Charleroi; and b) information activities: EGF's online presence and maintenance of the EGF website.
Technical support	EUR 100 000	EUR 99 591.70	Maintenance of the EGF modules in SFC 2014 and update and further development in SFC 2021 ²³
Total costs	EUR 190 000	EUR 138 072.17	

Table 6.2: Technical assistance expenditure in 2024

Description	Total cost budgeted	Actual commitments	Comments
Administrative support	EUR 75 000	EUR59 480.20	This expenditure covers the cost of: a) the meeting of contact persons held in November 2024 in Düsseldorf followed by a visit to the Vallourec premises where displaced workers had received support from the EGF through a transfer company. b) information activities: EGF's online presence and maintenance of the EGF website.
Technical support	EUR 90 000	EUR99 973.07	Maintenance of the EGF modules in SFC 2014 and update and further development in SFC 2021 (final report module). EUR 10 000 was reallocated from administrative to technical support.
Total costs	EUR 165 000	EUR159 453.27	

2.5.3. Reported irregularities

No irregularities were reported to the Commission under Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013 or Regulation (EU) 2021/691 in 2023 or 2024.

2.5.4. Winding-up of EGF financial contributions

An EGF case is wound up when the final report with all required information has been sent to the Commission, all outstanding reimbursements have been paid and no further action needs to be taken by the Member State or the Commission. Nevertheless, the obligation to keep all

²³ The Fund Management Common System (SFC) is an electronic data exchange system.

supporting documents for three years and make them available to the Commission and the Court of Auditors on request (Article 21(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013) continues to apply.

Table 7: Cases wound up in 2023 and 2024

EGF Reference	EGF/2016/002	EGF/2017/007	EGF/2020/001	EGF/2020/005	EGF/2020/007	TOTAL
Case	Ericsson	Ericsson	Galicia Shipbuilding ancillary sectors	Swissport	Finnair	5 cases wound up in 2023 and 2024
Member State	SE	SE	ES	BE	FI	4 Member States
Sector (short denomination)	Computer, electronic and optical products	Computer, electronic and optical products	Shipbuiding ancillary sectors	Support activities for transportation	Air transport	
Date of application	31-Mar-2016	9-Aug-2017	13-May-2020	22-Dec-2020	30-Dec-2020	
Workers dismissed	1,556	2,388	960	1,468	508	8,731
People targeted (incl. NEETs)	918	900	500	1,468	500	5,487
Total budget (€)	6,596,531	3,550,667	3,424,000	6,198,708	2,929,600	31,064,870
EGF contribution	3,957,918	2,130,400	2,054,400	3,719,224	1,752,360	18,633,520
EGF contribution (% of total budget)	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	
Final report deadline	30-Sep-2018	9-Feb-2020	13-Feb-2023	22-Jun-2023	30-Jun-2023	
Final report actual date of submission	26-Sep-2018	6-Feb-2020	10-Feb-2023	19-Jun-2023	16-May-2023	
Winding-up date	26-May-2023	26-May-2023	16-Oct-2023	31-May-2024	19-Oct-2023	
People assisted (workers & NEETs)	224	80	521	898	481	2,204
% of people targeted	24%	9%	104%	61%	96%	40%
Actual budget or budget consumption (all amounts in €)						
Total eligible expenditure	1,556,565.00	483,488.00	2,129,276.35	1,892,828.00	1,351,873.49	7,414,030.84
EGF share of total eligible actual	933,939.00	290,092.80	1,277,565.81	1,135,696.80	811,124.09	4,448,418.50
EGF funding absorption	23.60%	13.62%	62.19%	30.54%	46.29%	24%
EGF funding reimbursed to the EC (unspent funding)	3,023,979.00	1,840,307.20	776,834.19	2,583,527.20	941,235.91	14,185,101.50
Reimbursement rate	76.40%	86.38%	37.81%	69.46%	53.71%	76%

In 2023 and 2024, 5 cases implemented between 2016 and 2020 were wound up. The average absorption rate was 24%, with 13.62% the lowest and 62.16% the highest rate. There are

various reasons why Member States do not use the full amounts granted. While they are encouraged to make realistic budget estimates for the coordinating package of personalised services, accurate planning is not always possible at the application stage. Member States also tend to overestimate budgets and include a high safety margin in their initial calculations to reduce the risk of overspending or because there are many unknowns when applying, e.g. the profiles and needs of potential beneficiaries.

The absorption rate of EGF financial contribution is closely linked to the beneficiary reach rate and to the choices beneficiaries make. The number of workers willing to participate in the proposed measures can be overestimated at the planning stage. A lower level of participation than anticipated may be due to the labour market situation improving or to unforeseen personal factors, such as workers finding a new job on their own, lacking motivation or opting for early retirement. Moreover, some workers may opt for short-term, and therefore cheaper, measures with the aim of quickly getting back into employment instead of more expensive long-term measures.

Other reasons for low spending include delays in starting the measures, a lack of staff to implement them, insufficient use of the possibility to reallocate funds between budget items or more funding than initially expected being available at Member State level.

The Commission offers guidance to Member States from the application stage onwards to encourage optimal fund management, which should improve the implementation rate. As Member States gain experience, the budgeting of measures and the 24-month forecasts of worker participation are expected to improve. The Commission is also seeing improvements in how the various coordination and implementation bodies work and in the quality of communication between the national and regional/local levels.

2.6. Technical assistance activities undertaken by the Commission

2.6.1. Information and publicity – website

Article 12(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/691 requires the Commission to set up, maintain and regularly update a website available in all EU languages.

In 2023-2024, the Commission kept the EGF website²⁴ updated with relevant information. The website provides guidance on the submission of applications, information on accepted and rejected applications, and presents key facts and figures on earlier applications. Users can also find the details of EGF contact persons in the Member States and links to publications, news and EGF-related events organised by the Commission and the Member States.

²⁴ www.ec.europa.eu/egf

2.6.2. Meetings with national authorities and EGF stakeholders

Meetings were held on ongoing cases and planned EGF applications, new features of the 2021-2027 EGF Regulation, the sharing of best EGF practices and other relevant issues. Two EGF contact persons²⁵ meetings (the 29th and 30th meetings) were held, one in Brussels in October 2023 and one in Düsseldorf in November 2024, both followed by a case study visit. In 2023, the visit took place in Charleroi (Belgium) where a redeployment unit co-financed by the EGF had provided support to workers of Logistics Nivelles and Makro. In 2024, during a visit to the Vallourec premises in Düsseldorf, the EGF contact persons learnt how a transfer company had helped former Vallourec workers find new jobs.

2.6.3. Electronic data exchange system (SFC2021)

The EGF interface in SFC2021 was further developed. In particular, the final report module was aligned with the requirements of the 2021-2027 EGF Regulation.

2.6.4. Commission mid-term evaluation of the 2021-2027 EGF

The Commission carried out a mid-term evaluation to assess how and to what extent the EGF achieved its objectives in the analysed period (2021-2024) in line with Article 22 of the EGF Regulation. The evaluation assesses the EGF's effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, relevance and the EU added value, focusing in particular on the significant changes introduced as from 2021²⁶. Although the application process and procedures have been simplified, uptake of the fund remained low due to strong labour markets, alternative funding sources (e.g. ESF+, JTF), lengthy procedures and administrative complexity. The mid-term evaluation examined 18 EGF applications²⁷ received from 7 Member States between 2021 and 2024 (mainly in the automotive industry, transport and trade) and 7 final reports received in the last quarter of 2024.

In terms of **effectiveness**, the EGF provided individual support to displaced workers tailored to their needs, in particular to vulnerable groups. Final results are still pending, but the preliminary data indicates reintegration rates of around 50%, slightly lower than in earlier periods. Beyond reintegration into the labour market, participation in the EGF measures has proved to have **long-lasting effects on beneficiaries' general employability**, in terms of new skills and qualifications, including digital skills and environmental/green skills, increased self-esteem, feeling better qualified for work, feeling encouraged to overcome

²⁵ EGF Contact Persons is a group of experts. Its members are nominated by the authorities of the Member States responsible for the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for Displaced Workers.

²⁶ [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/691, OJ L 153, 3.5.2021, p. 48–70.](#)

²⁷ The 11 applications received in 2022-2024 are included, but without any analysis of the results, which will become available between 2025 and 2027

gender stereotypes in job selection and new social networks created from participating in EGF measures.

On **efficiency**, procedures have become faster and simpler both nationally and at EU level. However, the EU approval process (5.5 months)²⁸ is still seen as too long. The average fund absorption rate was 63%, an improvement on previous periods. There were no major overlaps with other EU or national funds. There is strong complementarity with ESF+, though some Member States prefer using more flexible instruments.

In terms of **added value**, the EGF provides support beyond what national systems can offer, notably in terms of aid intensity and services tailored to beneficiaries' needs. Around **70%** of the consulted stakeholders confirmed its added value in a survey²⁹.

²⁸ From the date of application until the date of payment.

²⁹ Written surveys of stakeholders from all Member States carried out during October-December 2024.