



Reference	EGF/2014/011 BE/Caterpillar
Member State	Belgium
Sector	Division 28 (Manufacture of machinery and equipment)
Submitted to EC	22 July 2014
Total budget planned	2 038 090
EGF contribution	1 222 854
Intervention criterion	Article 4(1)(a) Regulation (EC) No 1309/2013
Period of reference	1 Jan. 2014-1 May 2014
Redundancies during period of reference	663
Active employment measures	Support/guidance/integration
	Facilitating job-search
	Training/retraining
	Entrepreneurship

BACKGROUND

- Caterpillar is the world leader in the production of machines and accessories necessary for the construction and operation of mines. Their Gosselies plant specialises in car assembly, production of components, soldered assemblies and structures. Its production is exclusively directed at the European construction and mining sectors.
- The events giving rise to the redundancies: Steel and metal products in Europe have suffered from intense competition from emerging economies. Furthermore, European steel prices have risen sharply. Consequently, the European market share has fallen. Internal demand in Europe has on top of this been heavily negatively affected by the aftermaths of the financial and economic crisis.
- The application concerns the Province of Hainaut in the Region of Walloon. The whole Region has seen a significant decline in industrial production in recent years. The activity rate in the Charleroi area where the plant is located stands at 52,26% and is among the lowest in the region (56,7% in the Walloon Region). In addition, the unemployment rate is very high at 16% and the job seekers often lack qualifications and have been without a job for a long time.
- The contribution from EGF will supplement active labour market measures provided in line with Belgian legislation by the Belgian labour market institutions.