



The Employment Committee

Indicators Group

EMCO Indicators Group Work Programme 2020

a) EMCO Indicators Group Core Business

In 2020, the EMCO Indicators Group (EMCO IG) will continue to support EMCO in the quantitative description and analysis of relevant policy issues. The broad EMCO priorities imply that the EMCO IG will continue to support the surveillance and monitoring capacities of EMCO in the following ways:

The European Semester

- It will discuss the draft Joint Employment Report, including the use and interpretation made of the Social Scoreboard. Particular attention will be devoted to the issue of monitoring upward social convergence.
- It will update the Employment Performance Monitor (EPM), the key tool to monitor progress towards the Europe 2020 employment target and identify the key employment challenges and good labour market outcomes of the Member States and the EU as a whole.
- It will also start reflecting on how to transform and adapt the EPM post-Europe 2020 Strategy, possibly focusing on increasing the synergies with the employment indicators of the Social Scoreboard and/or with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, as envisaged in the EMCO Work Programme for 2020.
- It will contribute to the refinement of the indicators and methodology used under the Joint Assessment Framework (JAF).
 - This can include revisiting the 10 JAF Policy Areas and refining the list of indicators in view of enhancing the usability of the tool and of better reflecting the latest Employment Guidelines.
- It will produce the EMCO Annual Employment Performance Report, which will represent EMCO's contribution to the preparation of the Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy for 2021.
- It will continue to work on the benchmarking proposals from the Commission to contribute to the analysis underpinning work on the Semester. Work will go on to complete the benchmarking frameworks on unemployment benefits and active labour market policies, and minimum wage as well as mapping collective bargaining.

Monitoring of Council Recommendations

The EMCO IG will continue its work on analysing the results of the data collections on monitoring the Council Recommendations on Youth Guarantee and on Long-term unemployed. Where necessary, the EMCO IG will evaluate the pertinent Indicator Frameworks.

Assessment of the Europe 2020 Strategy

As a follow-up to its joint work with the Social Protection Committee and its Indicators Subgroup (SPC ISG) on the assessment of the Europe 2020 Strategy, EMCO IG will reflect

on adapting its working methods, reporting tools, and monitoring framework(s) in view of a possible successor strategy. It will also be ready to provide its contribution to the debate on the future of social Europe post-2020, taking into account the UN 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, the planned Action plan on the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Council's new strategic agenda for the EU for the period 2019-2024.

Employment indicators for monitoring of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EMCO IG is ready to follow up and support the work carried out by the Commission on employment indicators for monitoring of the UN Sustainable Developments Goals.

Reconciliation of work and private life

The EMCO IG, in cooperation with the SPC ISG, will continue to work on enhancing comparative EU-level data on the topic of reconciliation of work and private life.

Other analytical areas

The EMCO IG will continue its work on monitoring multidimensional policy concepts through the JAF. The EMCO IG will look (when and if necessary) at the results of impact assessment studies, especially on the impact of ESF financed measures in the context of employment policies and the effectiveness of labour market policies.

b) Working Methods

The main discussions of the EMCO IG take place during its scheduled meetings. In order to facilitate the discussion and to allow Members to prepare adequately for the meeting, documents will be sent sufficiently in advance of the meeting, where possible.

Written procedures can be helpful in the follow-up to meetings, when agreements have to be reached before the next scheduled meeting or when documents are circulated too close to the meeting date, but should not replace discussions in the working group on a regular basis.

When the number of agenda items does not justify full-day meetings in Brussels, the EMCO IG Secretariat will also envisage organising written procedures and/or videoconferences instead of scheduled meetings, with the approval of the EMCO IG Chair.

Building on past successful experience, the EMCO IG could envisage organising *ad hoc* working groups consisting of a few Member States to develop proposals to be discussed in the EMCO IG concerning specific areas of the EMCO IG work such as revising/developing a policy area or developing indicators for monitoring a specific subject.

c) Co-operation with other Committees and institutions

The EMCO IG will continue to promote close working relationships with all other relevant committees, particularly on work related to the JAF and the scoreboard for monitoring of the European Pillar of Social Rights, and the EMCO IG Chair and the Secretariat will regularly update the Members on relevant work carried out in the other committees.

In addition to the close cooperation with the SPC ISG in the context of the work on the JAF and on the Social scoreboard, the EMCO IG will continue its collaboration with the EPC sub-group that deals with the Europe 2020 monitoring (LIME) in order to enhance consistency between our work and macro-economic monitoring, with DG EAC's Standing Group on indicators and benchmarks (SGIB) with respect to the benchmarking work on skills and measuring the education headline targets, with the Eurostat Working Group on labour market statistics (LAMAS) and the PES Network focusing on their PES benchmarking, in particular on the effectiveness of labour market policies, as well as with the European Platform on preventing and deterring undeclared work..

Also, the EMCO IG will continue to promote the cooperation with other institutions and bodies carrying work in the area of analysis of the labour market, including CEDEFOP, EUROFOUND, and international organisations such as ILO and OECD.

Annex 1: Specific methodological issues

In order to enhance surveillance and monitoring capacities, and to facilitate the link with the qualitative aspects of the monitoring, a number of additional specific methodological issues would merit further attention. Work in these areas will be prioritised to follow the work of EMCO (pending the adoption of the EMCO Work programme).

- Fair minimum wage
- Skills agenda
- Labour and social conditions of platform workers
- Youth Guarantee
- European Green Deal - including the Just Transition Fund
- A European unemployment benefit reinsurance scheme