

Manufacture of Furniture



Reference	EGF/2009/016
Member State	Lithuania
Sector	Manufacture of Furniture
Submitted to European Commission	23 September 2009
Total budget planned	€1 018 597
EGF contribution	€662 088
Intervention criterion	Article 2 (b) Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006
Period of reference	16 October 2008 to 15 July 2009
Redundancies during period of reference	1469 redundancies in the furniture sector. The application concerns personalised measure to be provided to the 636 workers still in need of assistance at the time of the application.
Active employment measures	Including: - the provision of information on employment opportunities, - the development of personalised employment plans, - job-search assistance, - training and re-training, - outplacement assistance, - promotion of entrepreneurship, - job-search allowances and training allowances.

BACKGROUND

- Redundancies follow the steep slowdown in demand for furniture as a result of the economic crisis and the slowdown in construction activity.
- Lithuania has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the EU and alternative employment opportunities are few and far between.
- The economic crisis was unforeseen, and the Lithuanian furniture industry, which exported over 50% of its production was badly affected..
- The whole of Lithuania is affected, and the application concerns workers in the entire country. A total of 49 enterprises, mostly small and medium-sized enterprises, are cited in the application as having made workers redundant during the reference period.