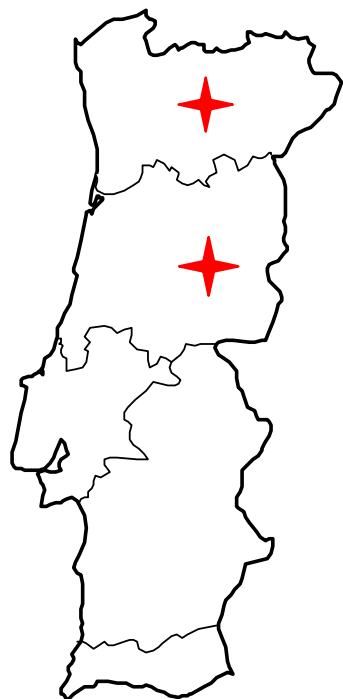


## Norte - Centro



<b>Reference</b>	EGF/2009/001
<b>Member State</b>	Portugal
<b>Sector</b>	Textiles
<b>Submitted to European Commission</b>	23 January 2009
<b>Total expenditure</b>	EUR 492,983.54
<b>EGF contribution</b>	EUR 246,491.77
<b>Intervention criterion</b>	Article 2(b) Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006
<b>Period of implementation</b>	1 July 2008 to 22 January 2010
<b>Redundancies</b>	1 588 redundancies in 49 enterprises during the reference period (of which 39 in the region Norte and 10 in the region Centro), plus 138 redundancies in the following two months.
<b>Active employment measures</b>	were provided to 720 workers, including : - skills recognition, validation and certification - vocational training and training grants - assistance for insertion - entrepreneurship support - personal employment plans

### LESSONS LEARNT / GOOD PRACTICES

- Participation in most measures (except vocational training) was lower than anticipated. Vocational training uptake, on the other hand, was three times as high as expected (714 workers took part, while 250 had been expected).
- Unit costs of all the measures provided, were lower than budgeted, as the workers opted mainly for training courses of short duration.
- About a quarter of the workers were aged 55 years and above, with low levels of education and skills, and could have benefited from longer educational measures. These were not possible, given the short implementation period. Targeted workers aged between 55 and 65 years participated in the measures to a higher extent than the younger targeted workers. Women with a more advanced level of education were also well represented..
- 79 % of the workers had not completed nine years of basic education, and a further 13 % had not completed secondary education.
- Of the 1,504 workers eligible, only 720 took part in the EGF funded measures. At the end of implementation, 30 workers out of the 720 were back in employment. A further 9 were in education or training, and the remaining 681 were either unemployed or inactive, with little prospect of finding a job.
- Participants recognised that the basic training in IT which they had received, and the recognition of prior experience, had increased their employability.
- Lessons learnt : The value of advance publicity, full involvement of the employment centres and efforts to comply with a timetable for best use of the implementation period.
- Delicate problem in a regional case : which dismissing enterprises to include?