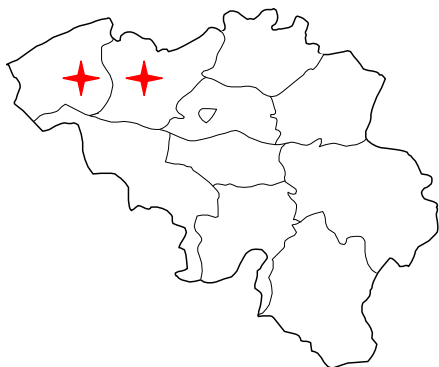


Textile Oost en West Vlaanderen



Reference	EGF/2009/004
Member State	Belgium
Sector	Textiles
Submitted to European Commission	5 May 2009
Total expenditure	€402 235,96
EGF contribution	€144 829,46 (= 36,01 %)
Intervention criterion	Article 2(b) Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006
Period of implementation	1 September 2008 – 4 May 2011
Redundancies	1 175 redundancies in 39 enterprises during the reference period in 2 contiguous NUTS II regions East Flanders (BE230) and West Flanders (BE225)
Active employment measures	Targeted at 580 workers and included i.a.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - competence screening - interview skills training - job search and career assistance - individual job search support - training - outplacement

LESSONS LEARNT / GOOD PRACTICES

- The measures were provided by the Flemish employment and professional training service (VDAB) and the sectoral training centre for the textiles industry (COBOT).
- The EGF project reached 508 individual workers. At the end of the implementation period more than 66 % had found a new job, whereas 33,7 % were still unemployed.
- The following measures appeared to be the most effective for enhancing the redundant workers chances to find a new job: individual job search support, individual training, interview skills training and training for the acquisition of generic competences in the context of Life Long Learning.
- The measure with the largest uptake was training for the acquisition of generic competences with 321 participants, amongst whom 147 followed more than one training course offered under this measure.
- At the end of the reference period the unemployment rate was 6,59 % in Oost-Vlaanderen and 5,40 % in West-Vlaanderen. At the end of the reference period (april 2011) it had improved in both provinces, 6,19 % in Oost-Vlaanderen and 4,99 % in West Vlaanderen.
- The managing authority drew the following practical conclusions from the difficulties encountered in managing the application: the need to have the list of the dismissed workers and their ex-employers at an early stage in particular for sectoral applications with a large number of dismissals in many enterprises, the relatively long delay between the dismissals and the start of the measures and the ensuing difficulty to contact workers and to motivate them to participate in the measures.