


Steiermark – Soziale Dienstleistungen (Styria - mobile social work activities)



Reference	EGF/2011/011 AT/Soziale Dienstleistungen
Member State	Austria
Sector	Mobile social work activities
Submitted to European Commission	21.12.2011
Total budget planned	€8 001 000
EGF contribution	€5 200 650
Intervention criterion	Article 2 (b) Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006
Period of reference	1.4.2011 – 15.12.2011
Redundancies during period of reference	1 050
Active employment measures	to be provided for 350 workers, and to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - occupational orientation - various options of training - active job search - training and subsistence allowances for the duration of the training and job search activities

BACKGROUND

- The dismissals in Steiermark's mobile social services sector (provision of mobile social services for people with handicaps and mobile youth assistance) occurred as a result of reductions in the social budget as a consequence of the current economic and financial crisis.
- As a result of the budget cuts, Steiermark's social service providers first reduced their activities (implementing shorter working hours for staff) and subsequently started dismissing workers from mid-2011 onwards.
- The reductions in public finances for the highly specialised services came unexpectedly putting service providers and social service workers (many of whom are women) under severe pressure. Without an upgrading of the qualifications of the workers made redundant, the Styrian labour market does not offer sufficient employment options.
- The package of EGF co-funded measures aims to help the dismissed workers by offering them tailor-made advisory services (such as career guidance and active job search support), various types of upskilling and training in preparation for future jobs with a growth potential (including training towards business creation), as well as allowances for the duration of the training and job search activities.
- The package of measures is provided to the dismissed workers through a regional labour foundation (operational since 1.10.2011) which coordinates the support for the workers with Styria's public employment services.