



Helpdesk

EU NEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF “ACQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE”

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New website of the European Commission shows data on the beneficiaries of EU funds

Address: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/search/index_en.htm

What can I find on this site?

The names of the beneficiaries **of the €10 billion or so of grants** and other forms of support, awarded (in budgetary terms: "committed") by the Commission every year, either directly or through "executive agencies" set up to help it run EU funded programmes. The site also contains certain procurement contracts, excluding for the moment those linked to administrative expenditure of the Commission.

This information is separate from [information on funds managed by EU or non-EU national governments or other parties](#) on the behalf of the Commission.

Data for any given year is not published until the following year. The first year for which figures will be available in full is **2009**.

The site shows only **lists of awarded amounts and beneficiaries** - it does not provide amounts consolidated per country, budget line, etc.

What details will I see?

- who receives the funds ("beneficiary")
- where the beneficiary is **located** (country and postal code)
- **amount**

- which Commission **department** ("Directorate-General" or "DG") awarded the amount
- which **part of the EU budget** ("budget line") it comes from
- year in which the amount was **booked in the accounts**.

and (where available):

- name of the relevant **EU programme**
- **percentage of the project cost covered** by EU funding

The website is currently in a test phase. At a later stage, you will also be able to view data on the **Commission's own procurement contracts as financed by administrative expenditure** Furthermore, information which at this stage may be found in most but not in all cases (see the last fields mentioned above) will become systematically available.

What should I be aware of?

Confidentiality

For data protection reasons, you will not be able to view the names of **private individuals** (unless the scheme explicitly requires such data to be made public). Similarly, the financial rules foresee certain conditions under which grants or contracts should remain confidential. For more details, please see the Legal Background text below.

Multiple beneficiaries

In the case of **multiple beneficiaries** of the same grant or other support scheme, the system will either list all of them or, in certain cases, it will only show the lead organisation signing the agreement with the Commission.

Provisional commitments

In certain circumstances – generally in the case of routine expenditure – Commission departments can commit funds in the budget without having to identify the beneficiary until an actual order form is signed and payments can be executed. Due to the provisional nature of this type of expenditure, the field "name of beneficiary" only specifies "provisional commitment – beneficiary identified at a later stage".

Legal Background

The basic requirement for the Commission to publish this information on beneficiaries of EU funds is given in **Article 30(3)** of the financial regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities:

"The Commission shall make available, in an appropriate manner, information on the beneficiaries of funds deriving from the budget held by it when the budget is implemented on a centralised basis and directly by its departments, and information on the beneficiaries of funds as provided by the entities to which budget implementation tasks are delegated under other modes of management.

This information shall be made available with due observance of the requirements of confidentiality, in particular the protection of personal data as laid down in Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (1) and Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European

Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2001 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (2), and of the requirements of security, taking into account the specificities of each management mode referred to in Article 53 and where applicable in conformity with the relevant sector-specific rules." Articles 90(1) and 110(2) of the Financial Regulation and the relative implementing rules give further information on how the requirements of confidentiality and security affect publication.

Go to the [Financial Regulation](#)