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Factsheet for case **BE-2020-13/422**

Wallonia: financial support by the emergency fund for SME's

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Country	Belgium, applies regionally – BE3 RÉGION WALLONNE
Time period	Open ended, started on 25 March 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Supporting businesses to stay afloat – Direct or indirect financial support
Case created	09 April 2020 (updated 10 April 2020)

Background Information

The Walloon regional government provides financial support for small companies (less than 50 employees) that are facing cashflow problems due to the Corona virus in certain sectors. It is intended as a direct financial injection for companies that are forced to close due to the virus or the associated measures. There is also financial support for companies that see a significant decrease in revenue due to the virus or the measures.

Washing and polishing of motor vehicles

Retail

Other passenger land transport

Accommodation provision

Eating and drinking establishments

Other activities of specialised designers

Rental and leasing of tents

Rental and leasing of crockery, glassware, kitchen utensils, tableware, electric household appliances and other household utensils

Activities of travel agencies, tour operators, reservation service and related activities

Organisation of congresses and fairs

Driving schools

Specialised image, lighting and sound techniques

Other personal services (laundry, hairdresser, beauty care, ...)
Exploitation of fairground attractions
Tourist attractions

Content of measure

The region has set up an emergency fund of approximately 233 million euro to aid the sectors and companies that have been struck the directly because of the virus and/or the associated measures.

For companies that are eligible and are forced to close due to the crisis there is a single tax-free payment of €5000 available to support them.

In addition there is also a lower payment available of €2500 for companies that notice a significant reduction in revenue because of the situation.

In addition there are also guarantees available through the regional government and loans of up to €200 000.

Use of measure

In total approximately 48 890 small businesses are eligible (small and in the proper sector) for the single payment of €5000 due to closure.

In addition approximately 6015 companies are able to make use of the compensation of €2500 because of a significant reduction activity/revenue.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
Local / regional government	Sector specific set of companies SMEs	Regional funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Informed
Form of involvement	Unknown

It is to be expected that social partners were at least informed of the measures, their concrete involvement is unclear.

Sectors and occupations

This case is sector-specific (only private sector).

Economic area	Sector (NACE level 2)
G - Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	G47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H - Transportation And Storage	H49 Land transport and transport via pipelines
I - Accommodation And Food Service Activities	I55 Accommodation
	I56 Food and beverage service activities
R - Arts, Entertainment And Recreation	R90 Creative, arts and entertainment activities
	R93 Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities
S - Other Service Activities	S96 Other personal service activities

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 18 March 2020: RTL (www.rtl.be)