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AN UNEMPLOYED PERSON COSTS BETWEEN €18,008 AND €33,443 A YEAR, A NEW REPORT REVEALS

To face this rising unemployment, the European Commission identified promising sectors such as personal and household services

BRUSSELS, 30 January 2013 : An unemployed person costs yearly on average €19,991 in Spain and €26 905 in Sweden, revealed a report published today. While the European Conference on the job creation potential of personal and household services¹ opens today, EFSI stresses that schemes supporting the sector could create 5.5 million jobs at a low cost for public finance.

“Public measures supporting the personal and household services’ sector will undoubtedly contribute to move millions of undeclared workers from the shadow to the formal economy” said Aurélie Decker, EFSI’s Director. *“It is time for governments to recognize that the cost of an unemployed is higher than the potential loss of revenue induced by schemes supporting jobs creation in the sector”* she added. For instance, whereas the average cost of an unemployed in Belgium is estimated at €33 500 per year, the Service vouchers scheme costs on average €3 500 per year per worker.

“The personal and household services is a sector with potentially numerous non-transferable jobs over the long-term that is not limited to providing stable employment to person with low or no qualification or that used to work informally. The sector benefits to the society as a whole” said Aurélie Decker. Indeed, personal and household services enables women and family carers to better conciliate professional and personal life and allow them to return to the job market. In addition, it contributes to the social inclusion of elderly and dependent people and also of people with low or no qualification that are usually on the fringes of the labour market.

Entitled **“why invest in employment ? A study on the cost of unemployment”**, Idea Consult’s report calculates the cost of an unemployed person related to the benefit of an active person in six EU Member States : Belgium (€33,443), France (€28 737), Germany (€25,550), Spain (€19,991), Sweden (€26,905) and United Kingdom (€18,008). It reveals that the most important cost of unemployment is induced by the potential loss of revenue for governments.

¹ The personal and household services sector represents a broad range of activities that contributes to well being at home of families and individuals such as child care, long term care for the elderly and for persons with disabilities, housework, remedial classes, home repairs, etc.

Click here to **download** the [study](#) and the [press kit](#). A video of the press conference will soon be available on EFSI website.

For further information, please contact:

Aurélie Decker

Director - EFSI

+32 (0) 2 204 08 73

+32 (0) 473 66 48 69

aurelie.decker@efsi-europe.eu

www.efsi-europe.eu

As the European Federation for Services to Individuals, **EFSI** is the representative body of national federations and associations as well as companies involved in the development of personal and household services in Europe. Through its members, EFSI is present in 22 EU Members' States.