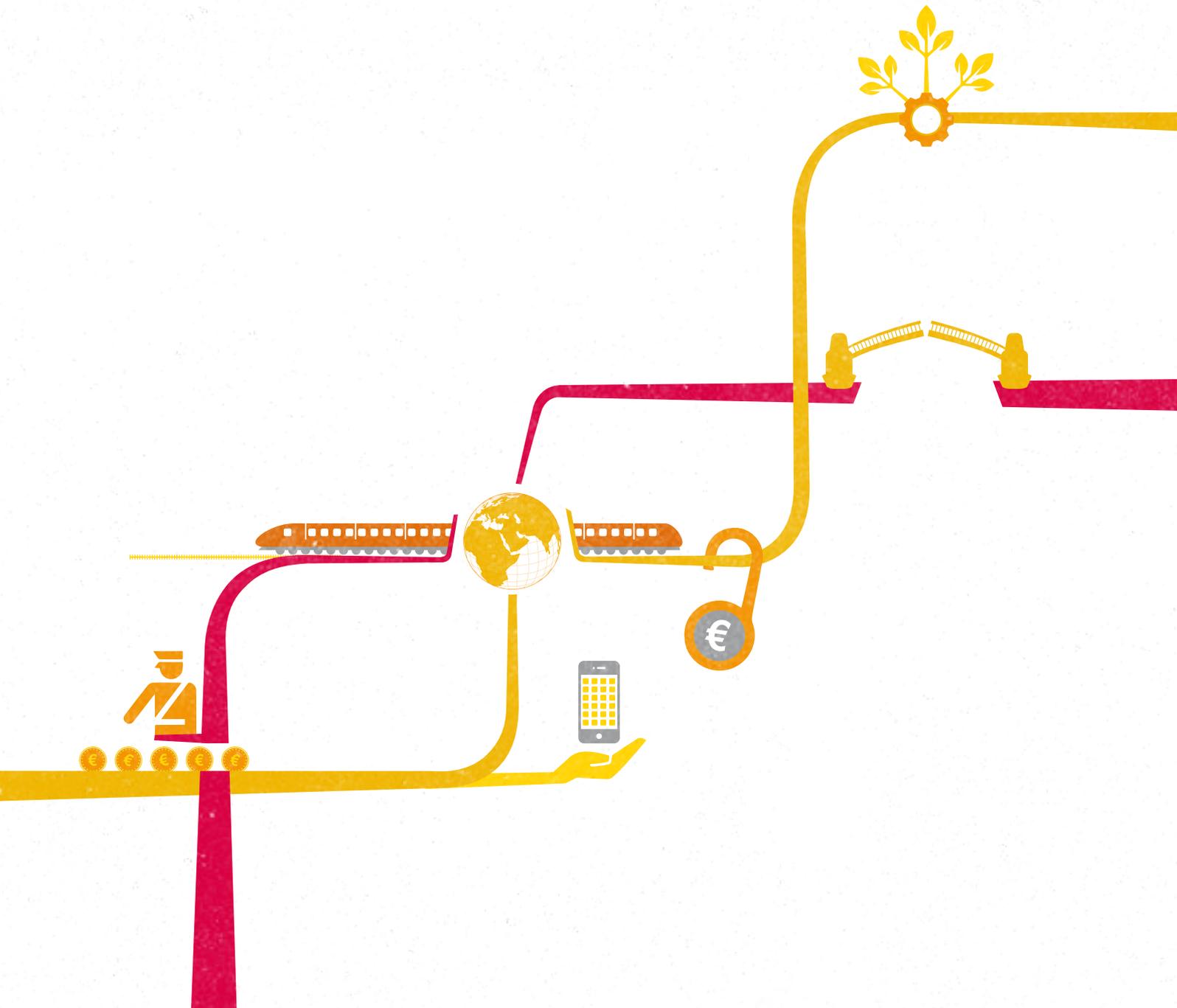


A shared agenda for growth:
European Commission Services



Our presence: Global and European

Grant Thornton is one of the world's leading organisations of independent assurance, tax and advisory firms. With 40,000 people working in over 130 countries, we are a truly global organisation. Our strong global presence, combined with our understanding of local markets across Europe, means we can provide effective support to the European Commission wherever it pursues its goals.

Grant Thornton member firms have been working with government agencies worldwide for over 90 years. Our strong track record means we can support the European Commission (EC) to deliver its 2020 agenda stimulating economic growth via investment in infrastructure, digital networks, education, research and innovation, sustainability and energy efficiency.

We are a leading advisor to public and private sector clients, and we occupy a unique position at the centre of the economic growth agenda through our position as a leading advisor to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). We also understand and share the EC's agenda to increase transparency and strengthen financial management across EU member states.

Grant Thornton in Europe

There is a Grant Thornton presence in all of the EU member and accession states. We can offer on-the-ground support to the national ministries charged with distributing, applying and managing EC funding.


12,000
people in
42 countries

\$1.86bn
revenue

247 
offices

Supporting the delivery of EC priorities: a shared agenda

Promoting growth and jobs

Under the EC's strategic agenda, over €300 billion of planned investment will boost the European economy and generate employment. Funds are focused on developing the broadband, energy and transport networks required to strengthen European competitiveness. Education, research and innovation, renewable energy and energy efficiency will also benefit.

Most of the jobs created through the investment package will be in small and medium-sized companies. With our global experience working with dynamic companies of this size, Grant Thornton is uniquely qualified to support and advise. We combine this expertise with public sector specialists who offer practical support, grounded in local knowledge. This ensures funding is appropriately administered and will maximise the EC's stated economic objectives.

Facilitating economic progress

As the EC boosts investment across Europe, strong and transparent financial management systems are more important than ever. The EC must be confident its funding is being used as intended, while recipients must demonstrate that they have control over how funds are used.

Across the European Union, the maturity of financial management systems varies considerably. Supporting countries with less mature systems to establish robust financial management is essential.

Grant Thornton member firms have extensive experience in helping national governments develop and deploy the financial management systems they need to secure ongoing EC funding. Our firms also act on behalf of the EC to monitor investment and provide assurance that funds are being used to further the EC's goals.

Sustainability and natural capital

If the EU is to prosper in a future with natural resource constraints it must prepare now. The EC is building a roadmap for that eventuality, underpinned by a vision of sustainable growth. This includes creating a more competitive low-carbon economy that makes efficient use of resources, capitalising on Europe's leadership in green technologies and improving the business environment for SMEs.

Our experience working with high-growth SMEs in the energy and cleantech industry means we have the expertise to support the EC's objectives. Our knowledge of different routes to commercialisation and involvement in establishing efficient programs that reduce overall energy demand can be used to support the EC's initiatives.

Building capacity through cross border activity

The European economy faces new competition from fast-emerging markets around the world. To remain competitive it must take advantage of its status as a stable and accessible single market. Entrepreneurship and cross border activity will be developed and promoted by concrete policy initiatives and changes to existing legislative and accounting frameworks.

As a leading global accounting organisation Grant Thornton is at the cutting edge of standard setting and regulation. We are members of the Global Public Policy Committee (GPPC), which brings together the six global accounting networks to collaborate on matters of mutual interest for public benefit. We are also supporting discussions on reform of capital markets at the highest level and participating at the OECD in Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) discussions.



Why Grant Thornton?

Global resources with local expertise

Our global organisation, combined with our understanding of local markets, means Grant Thornton member firms can provide support wherever the European Commission pursues its goals. These firms offer a full spectrum of services, with local offices that deliver personalised service.

A different way of doing business

Our member firms' business model enables their partners and senior people to give clients more attention. Grant Thornton firms have a higher partner-to-professional staff ratio than any of the largest four accounting firms. By working closely with their clients our member firms transfer their knowledge and develop clients' skills.

Solutions built around your needs, not our structures

Grant Thornton member firms have collaborative teams who work seamlessly across service lines, industry specialisms and geographies – bringing the best team to the table.

International standing

Grant Thornton is known for quality of service and professionalism. We are present on all major accounting forums worldwide, and our member firms work to the highest ethical and professional standards. We are also one of the business members on the EC's joint transfer pricing forum.



Collaborative teams working together across service lines



Our solutions

We provide a full range of advisory, tax and assurance services to provide solutions to your challenges.

Audit and assurance

Audit missions
Project audit and expense verification

Business growth services

Delivering EC-funded services
Systems implementation, aligned with ISO9001 accreditation
Administering capital investment for grant-funded programmes

Energy and cleantech advisory

Legislative advisory
Operational advisory

Infrastructure and PPP

Infrastructure advisory
Promoting economic growth

Policy monitoring

EU capital markets monitoring
Tax service monitoring
Advisory services monitoring
Market structure reporting
Financial and auditor reporting

Programme and project management

Project development
Bid process management
Project finance
Project evaluation
Sector policy formulation

Public financial management

Financial management
Financial system implementation
International compliance assessment
Executive financial reporting
Transactional business decision making

Research and studies

Sector trends
Industry analysis
Impact analysis
Policy decisions comparative analysis

Sustainability

Policy, strategy and risk management advisory
Benchmarking sustainability in performance and operations
Sustainability reporting
Assurance
Supply chain management
Environmental regulation advisory

Tax policy and impact assessments

Direct international tax
Global mobility services
Indirect international tax
Private client services
Transfer pricing
Tax policy
Tax and customs policy assessment

Who we work with

Grant Thornton public sector specialists provide services to all types of government agencies, including central and state government, local governments, autonomous agencies, public sector units and project entities.



Proud to have worked with:

- DG Connect**
- DG Competition**
- DG Enlargement**
- DG Internal Market and Services**
- DG Taxation and Customs Union**
- DG International Cooperation and Development**
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**
- European Economic Area and Norway Grants**
- European Agriculture Guarantee Fund (EAGF)**
- European Refugee Fund**
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**
- European Regional Development Fund**
- European Union External Action**

In addition, Grant Thornton is actively supporting international development agencies, including the European Commission, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the US Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the United Nations Development Programs.

Delivering value

Our strong track record means Grant Thornton can support the European Commission to deliver on its agenda. Some examples of our work includes:

DG Connect creating a dynamic map of tech start-ups

Grant Thornton supported a Startup Europe initiative to create a dynamic map of the stakeholders involved in web entrepreneurship and startup ecosystems across Europe with a service contract maximum value of €500,000. The project contributes to Startup Europe's aim to strengthen the business environment for web and ICT entrepreneurs in the EU.

GROW Offshore Wind managing a £4.5m grant funding pot

We have mobilised and run the GROW Offshore Wind service. The programme consists of over 40 projects with an estimated investment value of £80 – £100 billion that aims to support small businesses growing in the offshore wind sector. Grant Thornton's role includes managing a pot of £4.5m of grant funds.

DG Competition serving as a monitoring trustee

Grant Thornton is a leading provider of monitoring trustee services for DG Competition across a number of industries. We also serve as an independent advisor in Austria, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, Germany and Czech Republic. Our integrity and independence provides the EC with 'eyes and ears' on the ground to ensure compliance with covenants and commitments.

EEA and Norway Grants establishing trust and transparency

Grant Thornton firms across 16 EU countries provide in depth and independent project and compliance reviews of EEA and Norway Grants. We ensure that donor money is spent transparently and within established guidelines, so that funds achieve their full stated impact.

GrowthAccelerator helping ambitious businesses achieve rapid growth

We have developed the Growth Accelerator on behalf of the UK government. This premier service, delivered via an online portal integrated with CRM, is used by more than 4,000 business coaches to engage with and support ambitious businesses with the potential for rapid, sustained growth.

Manufacturing Advisory Service managing growth- focused grants

We launched the Manufacturing Advisory Service on behalf of the UK government in 2002. Through the service we have managed grants to help thousands of manufacturing businesses in England access funding, share knowledge, improve productivity and increase competitiveness.



About Grant Thornton

Grant Thornton is one of the world's leading organisations of independent assurance, tax and advisory firms. These firms help dynamic organisations unlock their potential for growth by providing meaningful, forward looking advice.

Proactive teams, led by approachable partners in these firms, use insights, experience and instinct to understand complex issues for privately owned, publicly listed and public sector clients and help them find solutions. More than 40,000 Grant Thornton people, across 130 countries, are focused on making a difference to clients, colleagues and the communities in which we live and work.

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