



European Social Fund (ESF) 2007-2013

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European Commission

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

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Legal basis (1)

Article 146 of the Treaty: the aim of the ESF is *“to render the employment of workers easier and to increase their geographical and occupational mobility within the Community, and to facilitate their adaptation to industrial changes and to changes in production systems, in particular through vocational training and retraining”*



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Legal basis (2)

Regulation (EC) no 1081/2006 of the
European Parliament and of the Council
of 5 July 2006
on the European Social Fund and repealing
Regulation (EC) No 1784/1999



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- Reinforced links with EU employment and social inclusion priorities
- Contributes to Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment
- Mainstream of innovative actions and trans-national cooperation
- Priority for administrative capacity development
- Promotion of good governance and partnership



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Reinforced links with the EES

- Strengthen economic and social cohesion by supporting MS policies aiming at:
 - full employment,
 - quality and productivity at work,
 - social inclusion
 - reduce regional employment disparities
- Take account of EU objectives in the field of social inclusion and gender equality
- Concentration on the employment recommendations



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ESF Priorities

'Convergence' and 'Regional Competitiveness and employment'

- Adaptability of workers and enterprises
- Enhancing access to employment
- Reinforcing social inclusion of people at disadvantage and combating discrimination
- Enhancing Human Capital
- Mobilising for reforms in employment and inclusion



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Priorities for '*Convergence*'

- Expanding and improving investment in human capital
- Institutional Capacity of public administrations and public services



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Mainstreaming

- Innovative Actions
- Transnational and interregional cooperation

Through sharing of information, experiences results and good practices

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Mainstreaming innovation and trans-nationality

- Promotion and mainstreaming of innovative and trans-national action within each programme
- Each Managing Authority will choose the themes for innovation
- Trans-national co-operation: specific axis (+10%) or programme



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Promotion of good governance and partnership

- ESF shall be implemented at the appropriate territorial level according to MS specificities
- Greater involvement of Social Partners and consultation of non-governmental stakeholders in ESF programming, implementation and monitoring
- An ‘appropriate amount’ under Convergence for capacity building and activities undertaken by Social Partners
- Adequate access of NGO to funded activities



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Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities

- Operational Programmes include description of how gender equality and equal opportunities are promoted in ESF implementation
- Balanced participation of women and men in the management and implementation of OP's at all levels



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Reports

Annual and final reports shall include summary on:

- Gender mainstreaming
- Participation of migrants in employment
- Integration and social inclusion of minorities
- Integration of other disadvantaged groups
- Innovative activities
- Transnational actions

