Filling the gap between National Coalition actions and EU funding

European Structural and Investment Funds Operational Programmes

22 June 2017
Multi-stakeholder partnership

To tackle the lack of digital skills in Europe
To fill ICT-related vacancies across all industry sectors

• Brings together a broad set of stakeholders, as pledgers and/or members

• Builds up National Coalitions and encourages Member States to develop comprehensive national digital skills strategies

• Promotes best practices in digital skills training

• Disseminates information about available EU funds
Guidance to the NCs on funding opportunities

A service of the Secretariat

- A comprehensive guide – to be published during the summer
- A series of webinars on the most important funding sources complemented with best practice projects funded by these programmes

Time plan of the webinars

22 June 2017
October 2017
January 2018
Spring 2018

Do you know any best practice project funded by ERDF, ESF, Interreg or Erasmus+? Contact us!

Potential topics of the webinars

ESF in general → ESF at national level (OP) → best practice project supporting NC activities

ESI Funds (e.g. ERDF, Interreg Europe) – best practice projects from Europe

Introduction into Erasmus+, most important Key Actions, best practice projects

EaSI
Webinar 1: ESF – the most important potential funding source for NCs

**Objective:**
How to make ESF funding allocated for the activities of NCs defined in their roadmaps/strategies
- to help NCs to understand the operation of ESI Funds and especially to clarify how ESF budget could be used to support the implementation of the NCs’ activities

**Webinar rules**
- Mute yourself
- Use chat for questions
- Session is recorded

**Introduction into ESF**
Maëva Roulette, DG Employment

**ESF at national level**
Tamás Boór, Ministry of National Economy

**Launching a dedicated project**
Sándor Fehér, ICT Association of Hungary
What is the ESF?

- To improve employment opportunities
- To promote education and life-long learning
- To enhance social inclusion and combat poverty
- To improve efficiency of public administration

→ An expression of European solidarity
Role of ESF

The ESF supports the inclusive growth strand of the Europe 2020 Strategy (art. 162 TFEU)

The ESF contributes to territorial and social cohesion (art. 174 and 175 TFEU)
People supported by ESF (average per year)

- Unemployed or inactive: 10.1
- Women: 8.1
- Younger than 25: 4.4
- Older than 54: 1.0
- Ethnic minority or migrant: 1.4
- Disabled: 1.1
The ESF and the EU budget 2014-2020

Minimum 23.1% of Cohesion policy

Actual ESF share
Over 12 bn€ /year
ESF as part of the ESIF

The ESF is one of the five European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). The other ones are:

- European Regional Development Fund
- Cohesion Fund
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- European Maritime & Fisheries Fund

These funds are the main source of investment at EU level to help Member States to restore and increase growth and to ensure a job rich recovery, while guaranteeing sustainable development, in line with the Europe 2020 objectives.
Proportion of ESIF in public investment
Focus of investments – 11 thematic objectives

1. Research and Innovation
2. Information and Communication technologies
3. Competitiveness of SMEs
4. Low-carbon economy
5. Combating climate change
6. Environment and resource efficiency
7. Sustainable transport
8. Employment and Mobility
9. Social inclusion
10. Better education, training
11. Better public administration
How does it work? (1)

Shared management

European Commission

Member States

programming

agreeing on priorities, setting budgets, defining actions (7-year cycle)

Monitoring implementation

reimbursing expenditure

accountable for the budget

Partnership

European Commission

Member States

Social partners

Joint decision making

Co-financing

EU-share

50% > 95%

National co-funding

( + private contribution in some cases )
How does it work? (2)

**Step 1**
- Each Member State agrees with the EC on a partnership agreement.

**Step 2**
- Each Member State, in partnership with the EC, agrees on one, or more, Operational Programmes, which will be funded by the ESF during the 7 year programming period.

**Step 3**
- These programmes fund projects which are run by a range of public and private organisations called beneficiaries.
ESF 2014-2020

• 187 programmes (including to YEI programmes and 92 multi-fund programmes)

• Total allocation ESF: 86.4 billion EUR
  ➢ 83.1 billion EUR without ESF matching allocation to YEI

• YEI allocation: 3.2 billion EUR
  ➢ 6.5 billion EUR with ESF matching allocation to YEI
Education objective – EUR 27.1 bn

- Early-school leaving: EUR 8 bn
- Higher education: EUR 5.1 bn
- Life-long learning: EUR 7.2 bn
- Vocational education and training: EUR 6.8 bn
ESIF and the digital sector

• Approximately EUR 21.4 billion from the ESI Funds is available for ICT investments over the 2014-2020 funding period.
ESF and digital skills

• **EUR 2.2 billion** from the ESF to support human capital development in ICT, in particular for the following types of actions:
  • ICT skills,
  • support for business creation
  • e-justice
  • ensuring cross-country and cross-entity inter-operability of systems

• **Example of ESF project:**
  • The ESF can help in achieving the economic and employment opportunities the Internet offers: in Germany at the University of Dresden, the ESF supported young researchers who worked at the frontier of R&D in the field of IT Technologies. The ResUbic Lab project comprised 19 young researchers working on cyber-physical systems, software for decision planning, and architectures for cloud computing. [http://europa.eu/!XK43Xx](http://europa.eu/!XK43Xx)
Who can apply?

• ESF funding is available through the Member States and regions.

• To find out whether you are eligible for ESF support in MS – please contact the responsible ESF Managing Authority.

• National and regional ESF websites as well as local employment services are also a good source of information on opportunities proposed by the ESF.
Want to know more?

• ESF website:
  • http://ec.europa.eu/esf/home.jsp

• ESIF Open Data Platform: data on finances and achievements
  • https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/

• ESIF contribution to the Digital Single Market:
Thank you for your attention!
ESI Funds in the service of national priorities: National Operational Programmes

Mr Tamás Boór, evaluation expert, Ministry of National Economy in Hungary
EU 2020 targets

➢ Increasing the employment rate of the population aged 20–64 to at least 75%
➢ Increasing the investment in R&D to 3% of GDP
➢ Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20%
➢ Moving towards 20% increase in energy efficiency
➢ Increasing the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption to 20%
➢ Reducing school drop-out rates to less than 10%
➢ Increasing the share of the population age 30-34 having completed tertiary education to at least 40%
➢ Lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion

Hungarian targets

- Employment rate of the population aged 20–64 to at least 75%
- Expenditure on R&D & I 1.8%
- Share of renewable energy 14.6%
- 10% increase in total energy efficiency
- Tertiary education attainment among pop. aged 30-34 30.3%
- Max. 10% greenhouse gas emissions increase compared to 2005
- Reduction of poverty to 23.5%
- Share of early school leavers max. 10%
- Reduction of school drop-out rates to less than 10%
- Increasing the share of the population age 30-34 having completed tertiary education to at least 40%
- Lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion
## Launching of the Programme – Hungarian OPs 2014-2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Operational Programme</th>
<th>million EUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development and Innovation Operational Programme (GINOP)</td>
<td>8 813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competitive Central-Hungary Operational Programme (VEKOP)</td>
<td>927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territorial Operational Programme (TOP)</td>
<td>3 971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Transport Development Operational Programme (IKOP)</td>
<td>3 920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme (KEHOP)</td>
<td>3 785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Development Operational Programme (EFOP)</td>
<td>3 070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration and Services Operational Programme (KÖFOP)</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Development Programme (VP)</td>
<td>4 174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungarian Fisheries Operational Programme (MAHOP)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP for Supporting Socially Disadvantaged Persons (RSZTOP)</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ direct Single Area Payment Scheme</td>
<td>7 643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>37 400</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thematic Objectives and EDIOP

EDIOP

Priority 1. – TO 3. Increasing competitiveness and productivity of SME’s (ERDF)
Priority 2. – TO 1. Research, technological development and innovation (ERDF)
Priority 3. – TO 2. Infocommunication developments (ERDF)
Priority 4. – TO 4. Energy (ERDF)
Priority 5. – TO 8. Employment (ESF, YEI)
Priority 6. – TO 10. Competitive labour force (ESF)
Priority 7. – TO 6. Tourism (ERDF)
Priority 8. – TO 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 – Development of financial instruments and services

TO 1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
TO 2. Enhancing access to, and use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT)
TO 3. Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
TO 4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
TO 5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
TO 6. Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
TO 7. Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
TO 8. Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility
TO 9. Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination
TO 10. Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning
TO 11. Enhancing institutional capacity of public authorities and stakeholders and efficient public administration

Tamás Boór, 22/06/2017
Economic Development and Innovation OP – Priorities

1. SME
   ≈ 1582 M EUR
   Capacity building
   Modern business infrastructure
   Entrepreneurship
   Clustering, access to foreign market

2. R&I
   ≈ 1688 M EUR
   R&I infrastructure and capacity
   Business R&I
   Strategic R&I cooperation

3. ICT
   ≈ 455 M EUR
   Competitive ICT sector
   Digital economy
   Digital catching-up
   Broadband

4. Energy
   ≈ 226 M EUR
   Energy efficiency and renewable energy

5. and 6. Employment and training
   ≈ 2150 M EUR
   Employment programmes
   Trainee programmes
   Flexibility at work
   Training

6. Tourism
   ≈ 361 M EUR
   Preservation of natural and cultural heritage

8. Financial Instruments
   ≈ 2352 M EUR (5 TO)
The Commission adopted the text of the **Partnership Agreement on 29 August 2014**, signed in Budapest on 11 September 2014 by the Prime Minister of Hungary and the President of the European Commission.

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**Main milestones of OP planning**

The draft of the OP’s submitted to the Commission: 06.2014

The Commission adopted the text of the **Partnership Agreement on 29 August 2014**, signed in Budapest on 11 September 2014 by the Prime Minister of Hungary and the President of the European Commission.
The way from the OP to the publication of a Call

Step 1. • Responsible line officer/ministry

Step 2. • Annual Development Plan (government decision)

Step 3. • Call planning (working group)

Step 4. • Social consultation

Step 5. • Quality assurance by Prime Minster’s Office

Step 6. • Publication
Procedure types

• Standard rules of procedure
• Simplified rules of procedure
• Special selection rules of procedure
• Regional selection rules of procedure (not applicable to EDIOP)
• CLLD selection rules of procedure (not applicable to EDIOP)
Special selection process:

i. a project designated by the responsible line officer/ministry

ii. preliminary government decision in the Annual Development Plan (the name of recipient(s), vocational expectation, max. support)

Standard selection process:

i. performance of a public task – but the recipient and the budget is not specified in advance

ii. neither conditions for simplified nor special nor regional selection rules of procedure criteria apply,

iii. it is applicable in case of R&D projects

iv. it is possible to convene a decision preparation committee

Simplified selection process:

i. special selection rules of procedure conditions do not apply,

ii. only assistance applicant eligibility or/and criteria not listed in the Call for Proposal requiring assessment are evaluated,

iii. total eligible project cost amounts to maximum HUF 300 million,

iv. micro and SMEs can apply
Launching a dedicated project
How to implement a National Coalition’s actions with a dedicated project

Mr Sándor Fehér, project manager, ICT Association of Hungary (coordinating organisation of the Hungarian National Coalition)
Introduction

This webinar aims to provide guidance on how to deal with the biggest challenges faced when designing a dedicated project.

PA → National Operational Programmes → Dedicated calls

Difficult to identify the right strategy and tools

Solution: dedicated calls; Invite the pre-selected and in the call highlighted applicant(s) to submit the application.
Evolution of IVSZ (IVSZ - IT Association of Hungary)

- 25 years
- Education
- Projects (EU-HUN/other funded)
- Communication
- IT - industry development
- Lobby

Sándor Feher 22/06/2017
Key challenges – How to reach your goals?

- INVEST – HR, money etc.
- Transparency?
  - Be proactive!
- Find supporters
- Involve Governmental organization(s)
Evolution of a Dedicated Call

1. Your vision
2. Develop a brief
3. Lobbying
4. Prep. of the call
5. Iterate
6. Submitting

Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

Sandor Feher 22/06/2017
Define your vision and explore the funding environment!

Study the Operational Programme Structure and processes of your country: You must know your country’s operational programme structure and have a clear vision where your proposed call/project could fit in (which operational programme, which intervention etc.)

Study well the topic: discuss it with relevant stakeholders in the form of bilateral or multilateral meetings; learn better the expectations of all sides and have a clear picture on who it will affect the most; who could, how and what benefit, if it was solved etc.
Develop a brief or a one pager

1) The teacher should be the leader of the students’ digital development!
- IVSZ ICT training for teachers every year
- IVSZ ICT pedagogical assistant/10 teachers
- IVSZ ICT system administrator/100 students

2) Typing must be a compulsory subject in the later years of elementary education

3) Digital talent development must be made compulsory

4) Studying must be supported in all situations
- IVSZ Coordination of learning environments at school, at home and in institutions

5) Support for the distribution of digital education materials
- For 9% of textbooks also for digital textbooks

6) The personal smartphones and devices owned by students must be turned into classroom assets and involved into the education
- Support instead of restrictions

The Program for Promoting Digital Education in Schools is free to download, print and distribute!

12014, USA: TOP 25 most popular and best paying jobs

- Expert jobs in the IT environment ($90,000)
  - software developer
  - IT manager
  - database administrator

- Jobs in the IT sector ($75,000)
  - UX designer
  - process planning engineer
  - software developer

All together 276,633 expert positions, which require also digital skills

Demand: Current status of education and labor market

Supply

Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition
Lobbying - reach the peak!

If the responsible governmental organisation agrees with the draft content of the proposed call it must submit the proposal for validation to the OP’s administrative structure.

During this validation period, the topic owner might further lobby for the inclusion of the call in the next work programme at the different actors of this process.
Finish line

If the Managing Authority receives a green light for the inclusion of the proposed call in the next work programme then the proposed call (basic outline) will be included and published in the next work programme.

Once the work programme is published each call needs to be developed in detail. The MA will request the help of the ministry in respect of the elaboration of the detailed technical content of the call while the MA develops the more “administrative” parts of it.
Submitting phase - the work has just begun!

**Public consultation:** Before their official publication, calls are published for public consultation where stakeholders can provide comments on the calls. The MA will consider each comment and integrate them, if appropriate, in the final text of the call.

**Proposal elaboration in detail:** Once the call is published officially the identified contractual beneficiary (in case of dedicated calls) can start the preparation of the detailed proposal and submit it until the given deadline.
Dedicated Call in the field of ICT stakeholders cooperation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Encouraging and supporting the cooperation of educational organisations and ICT companies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Background</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The continuously growing shortfall of digitally well-skilled workforce hinders the economic development and is a barrier for the competitiveness of companies and Hungary. Due to a longer awareness raising and lobbying process of the ICT Association of Hungary, the government launched a dedicated call to tackle this issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To improve the cooperation of educational organisations and ICT companies → the higher education curricula shall meet the labour market requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase the number of students enrolled in ICT higher education → increase the number of ICT professionals available in the labour market.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consortium</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Governmental Information Technology Development Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ICT Association of Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ministry of National Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establishment of a demand-supply knowledge base regarding the ICT labour market</td>
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<td>• Improving the cooperation of educational organisations and ICT companies operating in their surrounding</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Improving the popularity and the socio-economic recognition of IT professions</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Communication activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improvement of the IT carrier selection with the help of establishing IT experience and demonstration centres that help the guidance of young people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Budget</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 2016-2020: EUR 27 million, 100% funding rate, ERDF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

The project has five identified goals and outputs:

1. Increase the knowledge base related to the training and competence needs of ICT businesses
2. Develop co-operation between training institutions and ICT businesses
3. Give recognition to IT professions
4. Implement communication activities
5. Create demonstration and experience centers to assist in IT tracking
Thank you for your attention!

Questions, comments or remarks?
Conclusions

1. The ESI funds are locally distributed EU funding that could support the NC’s activities
2. In theory both ESF and ERDF can be used for your activities – the way you define your goals will be the key
3. Know well who are the main actors involved in the distribution of ESIF funding in your country.
4. Know well the processes and find where you could intervene in the process (be aware also of the status of your country’s ESIF budget spending)
5. Get recognition in your field of expertise – be the „only competent” who could implement that project (this is an important condition for a dedicated project)
6. Build your network to all stakeholder types and put special emphasis on your governmental connections – be well-embedded
7. Develop value propositions for each stakeholder groups, in the governmental one emphasise what the country/government could win with this „investment”
8. It requires time ...
9. …
More questions? Comments?

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online community LinkedIn
European Commission website