2021-2027 European Social Fund Plus: ESF+ for third-country nationals, migrants and people with a migrant background

2021-2027 Toolkit on EU funds for the integration of people with a migrant background

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Scope

The ESF + aims to:

- achieve high employment levels by improving employment opportunities for all, including by investing in education and skills
- ensure social inclusion
- contribute to poverty eradication in particular for children

In the current context, it will particularly contribute to:

- grow a skilled and resilient workforce ready for the transition to a green and digital economy
- tackle the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular for the hardest hit such as youth

Budget

- €99.3 billion (€98.5 billion shared management; € 762 million indirect management)
- Co-financing rates *(common to all funds covered by Common Provisions Regulation)*:
  - (a) 70 % for the less developed regions;
  - (b) 55 % for the transition regions;
  - (c) 40 % for the more developed regions.
The ESF+ objectives

Cohesion Policy Objective 4: A More Social and Inclusive Europe Implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights

**EMPLOYMENT**
- (a) Access to employment of all jobseekers
- (b) Modernising labour market institutions and services
- (c) Gender-balanced labour market participation, work/life balance
- (d) Adaptation of workers & enterprises, well-adapted working environment, active & healthy ageing

**EDUCATION TRAINING**
- (e) Improving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems
- (f) Promoting equal access to and completion of, quality and inclusive education
- (g) Lifelong learning, re- and up-skilling, anticipating change and new skills requirements

**SOCIAL INCLUSION**
- (h) Active inclusion
- (i) Promoting socio-economic integration of third-country nationals, including migrants
- (j) Promoting socio-economic integration of marginalised communities such as the Roma
- (k) Equal and timely access to services; social protection, healthcare systems and long term care
- (l) Social integration of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion
- (m) Addressing material deprivation, including accompanying measures

→ ESF+ Regulation, article 4.1 “Specific objectives”

Contribution to “Smarter Europe” and “Greener Europe” [article4(2)]

both direct support to people and reforms
ESF+ support to TCNs and migrants

• **Targeted** action through ESF+ SO (i) - promoting socio-economic integration of third country nationals, including migrants
  
  → EU mobile workers not included
  → Need to have access to labour market
  → Contributes to 25% thematic concentration for social inclusion

• **Mainstream** support under other SOs: includes broader group than TCNs

• Examples of actions (*non exhaustive list*):
  
  • Labour market activation; training and employment measures; apprenticeships; inclusive/integrated/individual support schemes
  • Quality, non-segregated early-childhood education; fighting early-school leaving; transitions from school to employment.
  • Integrated services and multi-stakeholder partnerships ((with local authorities, social partners, companies, volunteer organisations, citizens, NGOs, user-led organisations representing TCNs and migrants themselves) and networks (incl. peer support, social and professional networks)
  • Social innovation involving TCNs and migrants (eg. entrepreneurship, social economy, user-led initiatives)
  • Measures to overcome segregation, prejudice and discrimination, esp. in the labour market
Useful links


• ESF+ website (includes project examples): https://ec.europa.eu/european-social-fund-plus/en