Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-27 in support of the European Pillar of Social Rights: The ESF+
European Pillar of Social Rights

- A reference framework for upwards convergence
- 20 principles and rights
- Building on the existing EU social law
- A scoreboard of employment and social indicators
- Several concrete initiatives
Putting the Pillar into action: a joint effort

- Update EU legislation, step up enforcement
- Funding
- European Semester
- Social dialogue
- Civil Society
Evolving technology, productivity and globalisation call for adapted education and training systems

Improved employment situation in the EU but still important long-term and youth unemployment

People in/at risk of poverty and social exclusion still high

Demographic trends (ageing population, migration) affecting society and world of work
Support for the Pillar in the MFF 2021-2027

II COHESION & VALUES

5 Regional Development & Cohesion
- European Regional Development Fund
- Cohesion Fund
- Support to the Turkish-Cypriot Community

6 Economic & Monetary Union
- Reform Support Programme including the Reform Delivery Tool and Convergence Facility
- Protection of the Euro Against Counterfeiting

7 Investing in People, Social Cohesion & Values
- European Social Fund + (incl. Integration of Migrants & Health)
- ERASMUS+
- European Solidarity Corps
- Justice, Rights & Values
- Creative Europe (incl. MEDIA)
ESF + 2021-2024 €101.2 Billion

ESF+ Shared management €100 billion

Concentration requirements
• CSR implementation
• at least 25% Social inclusion
• at least 2% material deprivation (4% EU-level target)
• at least 10% in Member States with high NEET rate

ESF+
(in)direct management €1,2 billion
- Employment and Social Innovation strand €761 million
- Health strand €413 million

Outermost Regions/NSPA €400 million

Transnationality €200 million
The ESF+ components

Support to the most deprived (FEAD)
Investment in Youth (YEI)
Employment, education and social inclusion (ESF)

European Social Fund +
EU priority actions / experimentation (EaSI)
Health

Shared management € 100 bn

Reminder: EGF € 1,6 bn (outside MFF ceiling)
Direct mgt € 1,2 bn
ESF+ (& ERDF, CF) policy objectives

11 objectives are simplified and consolidated to 5:

1. A smarter Europe (innovative & smart economic transformation)
2. A greener, low-carbon Europe (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)
3. A more connected Europe (mobility and ICT connectivity)
4. **A more social Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights**
5. A Europe closer to citizens (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)
ESF+ Specific objectives

(i) improving access to employment
(ii) modernising labour market
(iii) women’s labour market participation, work/life balance, childcare, working environment, adaptation to change, active and healthy ageing
(iv) Quality education and training
(v) Education and training systems
(vi) lifelong learning,
(vii) active inclusion
(viii) integration of migrants and marginalised communities ie. Roma;
(ix) access to services; social protection healthcare systems and long term care
(x) people at risk of poverty including / most deprived and children;
(xi) addressing material deprivation

Contribution to "Smarter Europe"
Climate mainstreaming
Policy alignment

Enabling conditions (former "ex ante")

- Fewer, clearer, tighter link to policy
- Followed up, not just set at the beginning

EU Governance

- European Semester
Policy alignment

Stronger articulation between challenges identified in the European Semester and Cohesion Policy funding

- **Strong link in two directions**
  - Policy analysis guides Funds’ investments
  - Funds’ investments deliver policy results

- **Expected benefits**
  - More consistency between different policies
  - Higher impact and better outreach to stakeholders
  - Transparency and accountability

- **Implications for European Semester deliverables**
  - Stronger focus of the 2019 EC country analysis (CRs) on regional and territorial disparities
  - Investment needs and guidance to be derived from this analysis
Support to policy innovation

- Member States shall support actions of social innovation and social experimentations and partnerships, under any/all ESF+ specific objective

- Support to up-scaling of innovative approaches tested on a small-scale (social experimentations) developed under the Employment and Social Innovation strand and other Union programmes.

**Programmed under dedicated priority axes; higher EU co-financing rate**
Partnership and social dialogue

Social partners
  Civil society
  Bodies for fundamental rights, gender equality, non-discrimination

ESF+ programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

ESF+ resources for capacity building of partners
ESF+ Specific Objectives

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Link with the European Pillar of Social Rights
General objectives

▪ All strands: Support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights

▪ Shared management strand: also the Employment Guidelines and Country-specific recommendations under the European Semester

▪ Employment and Social Innovation strand: special focus on employment, skills, social protection, social inclusion and working conditions.

▪ Health strand: ensure a high level of health protection in the Union

Specific objectives

▪ 11 specific objectives under the CPR policy objective “a more social Europe” in the policy areas of employment, education and social inclusion, including health

▪ Wording closely follows the principles of the Pillar

▪ Specific references to migrants and basic material assistance

▪ ESF+ also contributes to other CPR policy objectives
**ESF+ Specific Objectives**

(i) improving access to employment of all jobseekers, in particular youth and longterm unemployed, and of inactive people, promoting self-employment and the social economy;

(ii) modernising labour market institutions and services to assess and anticipate skills needs and ensure timely and tailor-made assistance and support to labour market matching, transitions and mobility;

(iii) promoting women’s labour market participation, a better work/life balance including access to childcare, a healthy and well-adapted working environment addressing health risks, adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change, and active and healthy ageing

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**Pillar Principles**

4. Active support to employment

5. Secure and adaptable employment

8. Social dialogue and involvement of workers

9. Work-life balance

10. Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment and data protection

11. Childcare and support to children

16. Health care

17. Inclusion of people with disabilities
(iv) improving the quality, effectiveness and labour market relevance of education and training systems, to support acquisition of key competences including digital skills;
(v) promoting equal access to and completion of, quality and inclusive education and training, in particular for disadvantaged groups, from early childhood education and care through general and vocational education and training, and to tertiary level, as well as adult education and learning, including facilitating learning mobility for all;
(vi) promoting lifelong learning, notably flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all taking into account digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility;

**Pillar Principles**

1. Education, training and lifelong learning
4. Active support to employment
11. Childcare and support to children
17. Inclusion of people with disabilities
(vii) fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability;

(viii) promoting socio-economic integration of third country nationals and of marginalised communities such as the Roma;

(ix) enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services; modernising social protection systems, including promoting access to social protection; improving accessibility, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services;

(x) promoting social integration of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, including the most deprived and children;

**ESF+ SO**

**Pillar Principles**

11. Childcare and support to children
12. Social protection
13. Unemployment benefits
14. Minimum income
16. Health care
17. Inclusion of people with disabilities
18. Long-term care
19. Housing and assistance for the homeless
20. Access to essential services
The following principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights are applicable to all ESF+ specific objectives:

2. Gender equality
3. Equal opportunities
ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation (specific objective xi)

- Ensures continuation of support provided by the FEAD in 2014-2020 to OP I: *Addressing material deprivation through food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived, including accompanying measures*

- Objective of the merge: to promote synergies between ESF and FEAD support, whilst preserving lighter rules for FEAD-type support:
  
  - ESF+ Regulation and CPR proposals continue to provide for simpler requirements for this type of operations
ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation (2)

Relevant provisions in ESF +:
• Scope and principles (Chapter 3, Articles 16 and 17), Definitions (Article 2)
• content of programming (Article 18 ESF +)
• eligibility of operations and expenditure (Article 19 and 20 ESF +)
• indicators and reporting (Article 21 and Annex II);
• audit (Article 22)

Relevant derogations in CPR, such as:
• Performance framework: no targets and milestones
• Exceptions on programming and monitoring
• Measures linked to sound economic governance
ESF+ support for addressing material deprivation (3)

The Regulation proposal provides for full flexibility. ESF+ support to address material deprivation can take two forms:

- Specific objective is part of comprehensive ESF+ programme
- Specific programme exclusively addressing material deprivation

- NEW! Vouchers/electronic cards for food and/or basic material assistance
ESF+ support to social integration of the most deprived (specific objective x)

- May ensure continuation of support provided by the FEAD in 2014-2020 to OP II: now part of a broader specific objective x – “promoting social integration of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, including the most deprived and children”

- In “duly justified cases”, addressing the most deprived under specific objective (x) counts for 2% minimum allocation to address material deprivation.

- In ESF+ proposal, this falls under Chapter II, General support of the ESF+ strand under shared management (already in 2014-2020 many of the simpler rules only applied to OP I)

- Common provisions apply throughout
ESF+ support to social integration of the most deprived (2)

Indicators

• Annex I of ESF+ Proposal applies
• Indicators aligned with other specific objectives

• [Compared to ESF] Shorter list of common indicators: decreased from 44 to 23.

• When data are available in registers or equivalent sources, **MS must enable MA to obtain data from these registers or equivalent sources.**

• **In the case of certain common output indicators,** the values can be determined based on informed estimates by the beneficiary.
Conclusion and next steps

- Commission ready to start informal dialogue, important to make as much progress as possible in 2019 and 2020
- Engage from the start in dialogue with all relevant stakeholders (Code of Conduct!)
- Member State programming plans by end of June 2019 (roadmap)
- Technical seminar with Managing Authorities
- Joint objective to adopt all PA and programmes by end of 2020