

9th Meeting of the ESF Managing Authorities of the Danube Region | Summary

1 December 2021 | Online

Introduction

Priority Coordinators of the EU Strategy of the Danube Region of the Priority Areas 9 “People and Skills”, Roland Hanak, and Priority Area 10 “Institutional capacity and Cooperation”, Claudia Singer, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

State of Play ESF+ Operational Programmes

The participants shared the current state of play in ESF+ programming with a particular focus on selected topics, the next steps of the programming process and links to transnational cooperation (TC).

Country/OP	Topics/Priorities	Process	Link to EUSDR/TC
Austria	<p>The OP focus on employment – the following priorities are included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - equality between women & men (narrow pay gap, tackle stereotypical professional views) - active ageing - social inclusion - avoid school drop-outs - life-long learning - social innovation 	First Draft will be finished in January/February 2022	Social innovation – in the frame of the Social Innovation Competence Centre
Baden-Württemberg	<p>The OP focus on Social inclusion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - child poverty, - labour market); - Integration of women in labour market (for women with experience of domestic violence or to enable exit from prostitution) <p>Further Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual support for people in vocational training for nursing assistant and housekeeping assistant professions - individual support for people in part-time vocational training 	<p>OP was sent to EC in October 2021 – response is expected in 2021 and the programme should start in January 2021</p> <p>First calls are expected to be published by spring 2022 on www.esf-bw.de</p>	TC will be a horizontal objective; project promoters will be encouraged, but not a must
Croatia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Labour market & employment - Education - social inclusion & health 	First Draft was sent to EC in July 2021	TC will most likely be implemented via horizontal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - health - youth employment - child poverty - FEAD activities - social innovation 	Currently working on the 2 nd draft of the OP based on meetins with stakeholder for labour market and social inclusion	issues – but has to be discussed with line ministries
Hungary	<p>Multi-Fond-Programme: enterprise development, research & development, innovation</p> <p>3 Priority Areas for ESF+:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable labour market - Youth Guarantee - Quality and inclusive vocational education and higher education 	OP is prepared of inter-service consultation; approval of the programme is expected in summer 2022	<p>HU = active in setting up a transnational social innovation competence centre</p> <p>TC open for all priorities, but there will not be a specific TC</p>
Slovakia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adaptable/accessible services - labour market - quality inclusive education - Youth Guarantee - active inclusion and available services - FEAD - Social innovation & experiments <p>Active involvement of Roma is one of the priorities</p>	<p>1 Multi Fund Programme</p> <p>Preparation of Partnership Agreement and OP is ongoing; last draft was sent to EC in November 2021;</p>	Text module has been integrated in the template of the OP
Slovenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - labour market - education and training - social inclusion and poverty reduction - health and long term care 	<p>1 Multi Fund Programme</p> <p>Final version of OP should be sent the EC by December 2021;</p> <p>At the moment consultation and preparation pf programme documents; events for public consultation</p>	No decision on TC yet

Topics for Transnational Cooperation

The list of topics for transnational cooperation was discussed and updated. The list includes the following topics:

- Women in the Labour Market
- Digitalisation
- Vocational Training
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Inlcusion of Vulnerable Groups/Roma
- Ageing Population
- Life-long Learning

- Social Innovation



Women in the Labour Market



Equality between women & men
(narrow pay gap, tackle stereotypical
professional views, flexibility of work)



Integration of women in labour market
(esp. women with experience of
violence, prostitution)



Women in the labour market
(e.g. flexible working conditions
for women/esp. mothers)

Related topics



Labour market

Projects



2 projects currently implemented in REACT -
EU:

1. Labour market integration of women , who
experienced prostitution
2. Labour market integration of women, who
experienced (domestic) violence



Project on flexible working conditions
for young mothers



Inclusion of Roma/ Vulnerable Groups



Active inclusion



Individual work place - support for people with
disabilities, migrant background, low -skilled



Social inclusion & health;
Child poverty; Social innovation



Roma inclusion in the labour market



Adaptable/accessible services;
Quality inclusive education;
Active inclusion and available services;
Roma inclusion is part of all priorities



Social inclusion

Projects



Child poverty;
Further proposals for projects , e.g. area of Roma
inclusion



Digitalisation

considered a horizontal topic/aspect for projects



Modernisation of social services



Horizontal topic in the OP



HU has a specific OP to improve digitalization in all sectors; could also be a possibility for social innovation/modernisation of social services

Related topics



Raising quality of vocational education (developing digital content for VE)



Quality and inclusive education: Improving digital skills



Ageing Population



Active ageing



Ageing population



Ageing & long-term care



Ageing population & long-term care

Related topics



Qualification for care takers



Long-term Care

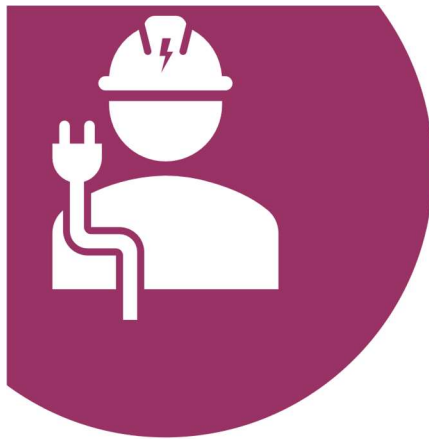
Projects




Project for qualification of assistant nurses & household professions with a focus on ageing population



Pilot project (in Burgenland) provides financial compensation and training for relatives caring for relatives in need for care. Additionally, the training is seen as a stepping stone to attract and recruit care takers.




Avoid school drop-outs
(focus on measures in school,
step end of school and labour market)

Vocational Training & Youth Employment



Vocational orientation in schools
(break up job stereotypes)
Activities in schools: 1-week training to try out
professions (e.g. building furniture);
Go for Europe: exchange of apprentices to learn
languages & social skills abroad;
Part-time educational programme with
accompanying social work assistance



Tertiary & vocational training;
Raising quality of vocational education
(developing digital content for VE); Youth
employment (special Youth Guarantee priority
for NEETs); Training for teachers in vocational &
tertiary education;
Activities on drop-out prevention;
Facilitating access to tertiary education from
vocational training;
Vocational orientation for primary schools



Education; Youth employment,
Vocational schooling (establishing a
new school for masters of crafts);
Pre-school education; Investment in
NEETs



Vocational Training



Activities for NEETs (as objective for the
Youth Guarantee): One-stop shops for
all regions in the framework of the
transnational mobility programme



Life-long learning



Life-long Learning



Life-long Learning
through work- place
based training



Life-long Learning in the area
of active inclusion &
accessible services



Life-long Learning
(not decided yet, which OP will address the topic)



Life-long Learning activities in the area of labour
market/employment/education



Social entrepreneurship



Social entrepreneurship could be supported under social innovation



Support for social entrepreneurship activities (e.g. regional information centres, investment aid) as part of active labour market measures



Social Innovation



Social Innovation



Social innovation & experiments

Outlook

Barbara Willsberger and Claudia Singer thanked the participants for their contributions. The next meeting should take place in spring 2022 as a face-to-face event with the opportunity to exchange on good practice examples and for an in-depth-discussion about tools for cooperation.

Annexes

- Agenda of the 9th Meeting of ESF Managing Authorities
- PPT