

ESF+ Community of Practice on Employment, Education and Skills

Peer Review on Target Indicators in the ESF+ Projects

Objectives of the event:

This peer review will focus on how to design target indicators in ESF projects that focus on the labour market inclusion of vulnerable groups, to ensure that the interventions reach those most in need.

The question has emerged from recent analyses showing that existing performance management frameworks in ESF projects (or more broadly, in public employment services or other implementing agencies) may discourage outreach, either by pressing the implementing agencies to focus on „easier“ clients or by failing to reward efforts invested in outreach. This may distort the targeting of ESF-funded measures and reduce efficiency.

The event will support Managing Authorities and other organisations working with the design of outcome indicators in ESF-funded projects across the EU in improving their performance management frameworks. We will discuss indicator setting in national operational programmes and also at the level of implementing organisations.

At the event we will showcase two examples from **Estonia and Poland**, presenting not only the specific indicators, but also the logic behind, any difficulties during the process of designing and introducing these indicators and, if available, any evidence of how the indicator encouraged better outcomes, and more outreach to vulnerable groups.

Key information

Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Time: 8.50 TO 11.50 (CEST)

Draft agenda

Time (CEST)	Description
8.50–9.00	Technical set-up and virtual welcome coffee Participants log in through the link at least 10 minutes before the beginning of the event to test the tools and have the informal chat with other participants
9.00–9.05	Opening and welcoming Welcome to the participants.
9.05–9.20	Are indicators really so important? A brief introduction A brief introduction to the existing evidence on how performance indicators may generate adverse incentives and influence the targeting of social investment programmes
9.20-10.10	Performance management and implementing EU funded employment programs in Estonia Representatives from Estonia will share their practice Q&A and reflections from the participants

10.10-10.20	Comfort break
10.20-11.10	Design of target indicators in ESF/ESF+ projects in Poland Representatives from Poland will share their practice Q&A and reflections from the participants
11.10-11.40	The logic of ESF+ indicators The representative from the European Commission will reflect on the two practices presented and explain the current Commission guidelines and the underlying arguments regarding the design of output and outcome indicators Q&A from participants
11.40-11.50	Closing remarks and next steps