

ESF Programme for Employment, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020

2017 Annual Implementation Report (AIR) Template

Article 125(2)(b) of the CPR requires the MA to prepare an AIR which is submitted to the Commission following approval by the Monitoring Committee. Article 50(2) of the CPR sets out that the AIR will contain key information on the implementation of the OP (including the YEI) by reference to financial data, common and programme specific indicators and quantified target values. A synthesis of the findings of evaluations undertaken, issues arising and measures taken are also to be included along with actions taken to fulfil ex-ante Conditionalities. Failure to include the required information will result in the AIR being inadmissible. Article 50(9) provides for a citizen's summary of the AIR's content to be published.

The 2017 AIR must be submitted to the Commission by 31st May 2017 and shall cover the 2016 financial year. Article 5(3) of the ESF Regulation (1304/2013) requires the MA to transmit electronically structured data for each priority axis broken down by investment priority. This data relating to output and result indicators is to be provided for both partially and fully implemented operations.

The **Intermediate Body** is required to complete this template for aggregation into the 2017 AIR. The responses provided such be succinct and relate only to activity within the reporting period itself. An entry must be made under each heading, even if only to formally record no change. **Indicator and data on participants is obligatory for all Activities and should be entered on the accompanying Excel workbook.**

Reporting Period:	January to December 2016
Priority:	Youth Employment Initiative
Activity:	TÚS
AIP Ref:	ESF 4.3

1. Activity description

Provide a paragraph *briefly* describing the objectives of the Activity and its target group.

Tús is a community work placement initiative, established in 2011, to provide short-term quality work opportunities for those who are unemployed for more than a year. The initiative is delivered through the network of local development companies and Údarás na Gaeltachta in Gaeltacht areas, collectively known as the Implementing Bodies (IBs).

Tús aims to provide quality work for those who are unemployed in order to break the cycle of unemployment and to improve a person's opportunities in returning to the labour market. A primary objective of Tús is to improve the employability and work readiness of participants by providing them with the opportunities to put work skills into practice and learn new ones enabling progression to work, further education or skill development opportunities. In addition, participation on Tús serves to boost the participant's motivation and confidence, while simultaneously providing prospective employers with evidence that a participant has the necessary skills and abilities to do the job. Since March 2017, Tús participants receive a payment equivalent to their rate of their social welfare payment plus a €22.50 top-up with a minimum payment of €215.50 per week. Participants are generally employed by not-for-profit voluntary organisations.

The target group are U25 participants who must be NEETs (Not in Employment Education and Training) as defined by the nationally agreed definition, under 25 at the point of

commencement and meet the Tús scheme's eligibility as set out at the time. The eligibility period commenced on 1st May 2015.

2. Significant Changes in the Operating Environment

Report on any significant changes in the operating environment that impact, either positively or negatively, on the performance of the Activity (such as changes in Government policy, socio-economic trends, etc). Where there are no significant changes, this should be indicated.

Among the significant changes in the operating environment is that the unemployment rate fell to 7.1% in January 2017, down from 8.6% in the same month last year. Unemployment has fallen from a crisis peak of 15.1% to 7.1% in January 2017. The youth unemployment rate has fallen in line with the overall recovery from 22.5% in January 2015 to 13.5% in January 2017. Economic forecasts suggest that this improvement will continue.

The Government published the Pathways to Work 2016-2020 Strategy in 2016 to ensure the progress towards full employment and help those on the Live Register to avail of work, training and education opportunities.

Reform process within the Department of Social Protection has focused on process and organisational change including increased case officer capacity which facilitates enhanced engagement with unemployed people of working age including youth. The JobPath programme has a target to refer 60,000 long term unemployed people in 2017.

3. Commentary on Implementation of the Activity – key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems:

This section requires an overall commentary on actions taken *during 2014 and 2015* to implement the Activity. Outline key developments; new initiatives taken; issues/problems that arose and steps taken to overcome. Commentary should be confined to progress *within the area of Activity* only.

Implementation of the Activity has remained consistent in 2015. A number of changes were implemented during 2015 to the Tús initiative and these can be seen as actions to support and target the activity;

- 20% assisted referral was introduced for Tús places . These customers are mediated through a Case Officer in their Local Intreo Office .
- Assisted referral to Tús was extended to include former OFP customers whose youngest child is 14 years of age or over who transferred to the Live Register and those on JST, no qualifying period applies.
- A review of means for participants on Tús was implemented to ensure continued entitlement to participate

4. Progress in relation to physical performance indicators and targets

Statistical information relating to the reporting period should be entered in the format contained in the *Activity Implementation Plan* – as per the following table. A commentary on the main features of the statistical information should also be provided.

Note: Having regard to the 2018 target value of 5940 participants aged under 25 on Tús as indicated in the AIP, please comment in the comment box provided on your progress to date in achieving the 2018 target based on the output figures for 2014 and 2015 below.

ACTIVITY SPECIFIC OUTPUT INDICATORS		
Outputs and Results Indicator Targets	Measurement Unit	2016
OUTPUTS		
Number of participants aged under 25 on Tús See Note above *Figures should correspond with Annex III Indicator CO06	Number of YEI eligible participants	EUFC Unit ??
RESULTS		
Number of participants who complete intervention	Number of participants	
Unemployed participants who complete the YEI supported intervention *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR01	Number of unemployed participants	
Unemployed participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR02	Number of unemployed participants	
Unemployed participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employed, upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR03	Number of unemployed participants	
LTU participants who complete the YEI supported intervention *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR04	Number of LTU participants	
LTU participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR05	Number of LTU participants	
LTU participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employed, upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR06	Number of LTU participants	
Inactive participants not in education or training who complete the YEI supported intervention *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR07	Number of inactive participants	
Inactive participants not in education or training who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship, upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR08	Number of inactive participants	
Inactive participants not in education or training who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR09	Number of inactive participants	
Participants in continued education, training programmes leading to a qualification, an apprenticeship or a traineeship six months after leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR10	Number of participants	
Participants in employment six months after leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR11	Number of participants	
Participants in self-employment six months after leaving *Figures should correspond with Annex V Indicator CR12	Number of participants	

Comments:

5. Participant Indicators

The data on participants an ESF supported operations should be inserted in Common Output Indicators and Common Result Indicators tables in the attached Excel Workbook.

For guidance of the description of the indicators, please refer to:

- Annex B-D in the ESF Guidance Document on Monitoring & Evaluation of European Cohesion Policy.
- Annex D Practical Guidance on data collection and validation.

Please click on the link below to access these documents:

<http://www.esf.ie/en/Regulations/Evaluations-and-Guidelines/>

6. Data Action Plan (ex-ante conditionalities) - Update

Please state the current position in relation to the collection of Indicator Data including YEI Indicator Data as outlined in the Data Collection Summary Action Plan which accompanied the Operational Programme/Commission Decision.

This work is ongoing and the Department is currently working with Pobal on enhancements to the data collection process.

7. Information and Communication 2016

Please provide a paragraph describing the Information and Communication activities undertaken for the previous year.

Tús

Tús is a community work placement initiative aimed at providing short-term, quality work opportunities for those who are unemployed for more than a year. Tús began operations in July 2011. The initiative is being delivered through the network of 47 Local Development Companies nationally and Údarás na Gaeltachta in Gaeltacht areas. These are known as Implementing bodies. These Implementing Bodies are assigned an allocation of placements based on the geographic distribution of those meeting Tús criteria of being over a year on a Jobseekers payment and on the Live Register.

The purpose of Tús is to focus on those people who are long-term unemployed. It aims to improve the employability and work readiness of participants by providing them with the opportunities to put work skills into practice and learn new ones enabling progression to work, further education or skill development opportunities. In addition, participation on Tús will boost the participant's motivation and confidence, while simultaneously providing prospective employers with evidence that a participant has the necessary skills and abilities to do the job.

Since May 2015, 20% of Tús places are open to assisted referral whereby an eligible person can make an application to participate on Tús. This application must be approved by a Departmental Case Officer. From May 2015, the Tús scheme also includes former One Parent Family Payment customers whose youngest child is 14 years of age or over who transfer to the Live Register and those on Jobseekers transition payment. No qualifying period for Tús applies to these customers, however they must go through a Departmental Case officer.

In August 2016, refugees aged 18 years or older authenticated by the Department of Justice and Law Reform and in receipt of Jobseekers allowance who satisfy the eligibility conditions may have immediate access to the Tús scheme if a placement is available.

8. Compliance with EU and National policy

Declarations

It is a requirement that all Programme Activities comply with EU and national policy in areas such as;

- procurement,
- competition,
- state aids
- ESF information and publicity requirements
- Compliance with the project selection criteria as set out in the AIP.
- Promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination
- Sustainable development
- Ensuring beneficiaries are provided with documentation setting out the conditions of ESF support.

Please confirm compliance with these requirements and advise on any deviations thereto:

Compliance Confirmed _____ Date _____
On behalf of the IB

Deviations from Requirements

Declared by _____ Date _____
On behalf of the IB

[Extract from Regulation 1304/2013 Annex I and II (the ESF Regulation)]

ANNEX I

Common output and result indicators for ESF investments

(1) Common output indicators for participants

"Participants"¹ refers to persons benefiting directly from an ESF intervention who can be identified and asked for their characteristics, and for whom specific expenditure is earmarked. Other persons shall not be classified as participants. All data shall be broken down by gender.

The common output indicators for participants are:

- unemployed, including long-term unemployed*,
- long-term unemployed*,
- inactive*,
- inactive, not in education or training*,
- employed, including self-employed*,
- below 25 years of age*,
- above 54 years of age*,
- above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long-term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training*,
- with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)*,
- with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)*,
- with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)*,
- participants who live in jobless households*,
- participants who live in jobless households with dependent children*,
- participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children*,
- migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)**,
- participants with disabilities**,
- other disadvantaged**.

The total number of participants will be calculated automatically on the basis of the output indicators.

These data on participants entering an ESF supported operation shall be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(1) and (2) and Article 111(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

- homeless or affected by housing exclusion*,
- from rural areas*²

The data on participants under the two above indicators will be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. The data shall be collected based on a representative

¹ Managing authorities shall establish a system that records and stores individual participant data in computerised form as set out in Article 125 (2) (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. The data processing arrangements put in place by the Member States shall be in line with the provisions of Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 281, 23.11.1995, p. 31), in particular Articles 7 and 8 thereof. Data reported under the indicators marked with * are personal data according to Article 7 of Directive 95/46/EC. Their processing is necessary for compliance with the legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 7(c) of Directive 95/46/EC). For the definition of controller, see Article 2 of Directive 95/46/EC. Data reported under the indicators marked with ** are a special category of data according to Article 8 of Directive 95/46/EC. Subject to the provision of suitable safeguards, Member States may, for reasons of substantial public interest, lay down exemptions in addition to those laid down in Article 8(2) of Directive 95/46/EC, either by national law or by decision of the supervisory authority (Article 8(4) of Directive 95/46/EC).

² The data shall be collected at the level of smaller administrative units (local administrative units 2), in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) (OJ L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 1).

sample of participants within each investment priority. Internal validity of the sample shall be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of investment priority.

(2) Common output indicators for entities are:

- number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations,
- number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment,
- number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level,
- number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy).

These data shall be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(1) and (2) and Article 111(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

(3) Common immediate result indicators for participants are:

- inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving*,
- participants in education/training upon leaving*,
- participants gaining a qualification upon leaving*,
- participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving*,
- disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving**.

These data shall be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(1) and (2) and Article 111(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. All data shall be broken down by gender.

(4) Common longer-term result indicators for participants are:

- participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving*,
- participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving*,
- participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving*,
- disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving**.

These data shall be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. They shall be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each investment priority. Internal validity of the sample shall be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of investment priority. All data shall be broken down by gender.

ANNEX II

Result indicators for the YEI

These data shall be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 50(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and in the report to be submitted in April 2015 as specified in Article 19(3) of this Regulation. All data shall be broken down by gender.

(1) Common immediate result indicators for participants

"Participants"¹ refers to persons benefiting directly from a YEI intervention who can be identified and asked for their characteristics, and for whom specific expenditure is earmarked.

The immediate result indicators are:

- Unemployed participants who complete the YEI supported intervention*,
- Unemployed participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving*,
- Unemployed participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving*,
- Long-term unemployed participants who complete the YEI supported intervention*,
- Long-term unemployed participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving*,
- Long-term unemployed participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving*,
- Inactive participants not in education or training who complete the YEI supported intervention*,
- Inactive participants not in education or training who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving*,
- Inactive participants not in education or training who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving*.

(2) Common longer-term result indicators for participants

The longer-term result indicators are:

- Participants in continued education, training programmes leading to a qualification, an apprenticeship or a traineeship six months after leaving*,
- Participants in employment six months after leaving*,
- Participants in self-employment six months after leaving*.

The data for longer-term result indicators shall be collected based on a representative sample of participants within each investment priority. Internal validity of the sample shall be ensured in such a way that the data can be generalised at the level of investment priority.

¹ Managing authorities shall establish a system that records and stores individual participant data in computerised form as set out in Article 125 (2) (d) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. The data processing arrangements put in place by the Member States must be in line with the provisions of Directive 95/46/EC, in particular Articles 7 and 8 thereof. Data reported under the indicators marked with * are personal data according to Article 7 of Directive 95/46/EC. Their processing is necessary for compliance with the legal obligation to which the controller is subject (Article 7(c) of Directive 95/46/EC). For the definition of controller, see Article 2 of Directive 95/46/EC. Data reported under the indicators marked with ** are a special category of data according to Article 8 of Directive 95/46/EC. Subject to the provision of suitable safeguards, Member States may, for reasons of substantial public interest, lay down exemptions in addition to those laid down in Article 8(2) of Directive 95/46/EC, either by national law or by decision of the supervisory authority (Article 8(4) of Directive 95/46/EC).