ESF Programme for Employment, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020

2016 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 2016 AIR must be submitted to the Commission by 31st May 2016 and shall cover the 2014 and 2015 financial years. 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. Article 19(4) of the ESF Regulation (1304/2013) requires the AIR to present the findings of the evaluation of the YEI undertaken in 2015 and to set out and assess the quality of employment offers received by YEI participants and their progress in continuing education, apprenticeships/traineeships, employment etc.

The Intermediate Body is required to complete this template for aggregation into the 2016 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 2014 to December 2015
Priority: Technical Assistance
Activity: Technical Assistance
AIP Ref: ESF 5.1

1. Activity description

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

The Technical Assistance Priority provide financial support for the administration costs to allow for a successful delivery of the ESF programme. The budget covers certain costs in relation to certain areas of activity including the costs of the Audit Authority (ESF Financial Control Unit, DES); Monitoring Committee meetings; management, monitoring, implementation and control of the OP; evaluations) and activity level/thematic evaluations; seminars; the computer-based integrated data management system; information and publicity, document printing and other costs.
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.

There have been no significant changes in the operating environment during 2014 and 2015 that impact on Technical Assistance.

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.

2014
The main items of expenditure under this Activity in 2014 related to consultancy services for the ex-ante evaluation of the ESF Operational Programme for the period 2014 to 2020 in July 2014, this evaluation can be found on the ESF website at: http://www.esf.ie/en/Programmes/ESF-Programme-for-Employability-Inclusion-and-Learning-PEIL-2014-2020/PEIL-2014-2020-Documents-and-Reports/. Other items of expenditure included the ESF Calendar and diary for 2015, printing of posters and promotional material for the programme.

2015
The main items of expenditure in 2015 related to consultancy services for the Youth Employment Initiative evaluation, this evaluation was not concluded until early 2016 and is to be published in due course.

Other items of expenditure were the redevelopment of the website for the new Operational Programme PEIL 2014-2020 www.esf.ie. The launch of the Operational Programme and the first Monitoring Committee meeting which took place in April. Other expenses incurred included printing of information and publicity material including the ESF Newsletter which was complied with the assistance of the IBs, PBBs and Projects for 2015. The Newsletter can be found on the ESF website at: http://www.esf.ie/en/Info-Publicity/Newsletter/

Issues
As the electronic claim system for the PEIL 2014-2020 Operational Programme has yet to be developed, an expenditure claim has yet to be received from any activity under the programme, and therefore no audits have been conducted by the employees of Financial Control Unit. Technical Assistance co-fund the salaries of the Financial Control Unit, this cost is normally the main item of expenditure under this Activity.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY SPECIFIC OUTPUT INDICATORS:</th>
<th>Outputs and Results Indicator Targets</th>
<th>Measurement Unit</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OUTPUTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit and output</td>
<td>Number of audits per annum</td>
<td>0*</td>
<td>0*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees</td>
<td>Number of employees</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of meetings per annum</td>
<td>Number of meetings per annum</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESULTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit and output</td>
<td>Number of audits per annum</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees</td>
<td>Number of employees</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of meetings per annum</td>
<td>Number of meetings per annum</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As no expenditure has been claimed to date under PEIL 2014-2020, no audits have taken place.

Comments:

5. Participant Indicators

The data on participants on each ESF supported operation 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 D Practical Guidance on data collection and validation.

Please click on the link below to access these documents:

Non applicable for this Activity Technical Assistance
6. Data Action Plan (ex-ante conditionalities) - Update

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

Non applicable for this Activity Technical Assistance

7. 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 (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**;

\(^1\) 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).
— 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*1

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 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.

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