**PEIL 2014-2020 ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**ESF PR 2.4**

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ESF PR 2.4

1. CONTEXT/ PROBLEM/ NEED BEING ADDRESSED:

Young Persons Probation is a specialised division of the Probation Service established to work with young offenders. Probation Service work with young offenders is underpinned by the key principles of diversion, restoration and collaboration.

Young Persons Probation Projects (YPPs) are Community Based Organisations (CBOs) that are structured as independent companies limited by guarantee. The Probation Service works with these projects to provide a range of programmes to support meaningful change in the lives of young offenders.

The measures proposed by the Community Programmes Unit will contribute to a number of national strategies including:

“The provision of a focused, integrated approach to prevention, support and rehabilitation of young people at risk of offending or re-offending”¹. This specific conditionality is referred to under No.9 of Annex XI of Reg 1303/2013.

The measures will also contribute to
- Tackling Youth Crime (Youth Justice Action Plan) 2014 – 2018

These strategies support a whole of Government effort to improve outcomes for children and young people and recognise the shared responsibility across Government to achieving these results. The focus of the National Children and Young People’s Policy Framework is on investing in young people to reach their potential towards reducing inequality within society and to break cycles of intergenerational disadvantage.

The measures will contribute to other key supporting policy including:
- National Reform Programme for Ireland under the Europe 2020 Strategy

“Targeted social inclusion programmes” and in particular to “programmes for minority groups such as Travellers and migrants”².

Refers to “the building of a fairer Ireland by helping to reduce inequality and improve poverty outcomes across society”. Some important facts in relation to youth are set out below:
- 20% of children live in jobless households³
- Youth unemployment 2007-2012 grew 10% to 30.4%⁴
- By the end of 2012, the rate of youth unemployment across the EU had risen to 23.4% and Ireland scored higher than average at 30.2%
- 40% of young people aged 16-24 are at risk of poverty or social exclusion⁵
- Independence and living independently requires both the material means and the life skills to manage, to cook, to budget and to make good choices, recognising that some people may require support to achieve this independence.

An OECD Report in September 2013 on Ireland noted that we must do more to tackle youth unemployment and that activation policies are paramount. It noted that Ireland has the highest share of young people on income support in the EU and that it is more than 3 times the OECD

¹ (Ref 2.6.3 page 37 of the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion)
² (page 27 of the Reform Programme)
³ OECD Report September 2013
⁴ Central Statistics Office (CSO, 2013)
⁵ OECD Getting Youth on the job Track 2013 pg 63
average. The focus of the projects within this proposal is to engage with young people who are hardest to reach.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTIVITY:
The YPPs will add value to the work of the Probation Service in supporting and motivating young persons to address the cause of their offending behaviour and to make positive changes in their lives so as to avoid further offending. The YPPs will work with young people to address their identified risks and needs and support their personal development in areas including the following:
1) Educational needs
2) Self-care living skills
3) Drug and alcohol misuse
4) Emotional and mental health

3. ESF FUNDED ELEMENT OF ACTIVITY:
The Simplified Costs Option under Article 68b(1) of 1303/2013 ESF CPR is to be applied to the operations of this activity. This means that ESF claims will be made up of eligible direct staff costs plus 40% to cover the remaining eligible costs of an operation.

Eligible direct staff costs includes costs deriving from an agreement between employer and employee or service contracts for external staff (provided that these costs are clearly identifiable). For example, if a beneficiary contracts the services of an external trainer for its in-house training sessions, the invoice needs to identify the different types of costs. The salary of the trainer will be considered as external staff costs. However, teaching materials for example cannot be taken into account.

Staff costs include the total remuneration, including in-kind benefits in line with collective agreements, paid to people in return for work related to the operation. They also include taxes and employees’ social security contributions as well as the employer’s compulsory and voluntary social contributions. The following are not considered to be staff costs for ESF claim purposes:
- Costs of business trips
- Allowances or salaries disbursed for the benefit of participants (e.g. students, trainees) in ESF operations
- Redundancy or back-pay costs paid to staff that are not related to the eligibility period of the operation being co-funded.

Also, any net revenue generated from the co-funded operations shall be deducted from its eligible expenditure in line with section 3.6 of the Department of Education and Skills Circular 1/2015, Eligibility Rules for 2014-2020 ESF and YEI. This includes any maternity and welfare benefits paid/reimbursed to the employer.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERMEDIATE BODY:
In line with Article 123(6) of CPR 1303/2013, an administrative agreement between the Managing Authority and Intermediate Body for this activity will formally record in writing the responsibilities and tasks to be carried out by the Intermediate Body on behalf of the Managing Authority.

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*The salary scale of service contracts may vary across and within YPP projects.*
### 5. CONTRIBUTION TO HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES

| **A. Promotion of Equality between men and women** | Each YPP project completes a needs assessment for each individual referred and an action plan is agreed with the offender.  

Young Persons Probation recognises a gender specific approach is required when working with female offenders.  

YPDs are conscious that the pathways into crime are different for women, and the profile of female offenders is different to male offenders. |
|---|---|
| **B. Promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination** | The majority of referrals to YPP projects lead chaotic lifestyles and come from disadvantaged backgrounds. The YPP projects provide clients with the skills required for them to engage in their community as equals and without fear of being discriminated against because of their background.  

YPDs are committed to equality which includes promoting equality and prohibiting discrimination in employment and in service delivery on nine grounds as defined in the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2011 and the Equal Status Acts 2000-2012. The nine grounds are gender (including gender identity), family status, civil status, sexual orientation, age, disability (including mental health), race (including skin colour, ethnicity and nationality), membership of the Traveller community, religion (including non-religious belief).  

YPDs will also allow for a positive action to promote or ensure equality through preferential treatment or positive measures which promote equality of opportunity for people who may be disadvantaged because of their circumstances, or to cater for their special needs. |
| **C. Sustainable Development** | As set out in the Partnership Agreement, the principle of sustainable development requires that the needs of the present be met without compromising the ability of future generations. This requires that support for environmental protection requirements, resource efficiency, sustainable management of natural resources, risk prevention and management are addressed through both dedicated funding streams and through their horizontal integration across the Operational Programmes.  

The Government’s sustainable development framework document is intended to provide a platform for the integration of sustainable development principles into policies across all sectors. The framework broadly follows the thematic approach of the *EU Sustainable Development Strategy* and sets out a wide range of measures that seek to ensure an improvement in Ireland’s quality of life into the future. Among the areas listed are sustainability of public finances and economic resilience, sustainable consumption and production, conservation and management of natural resources, climate change and clean energy, social inclusion, sustainable communities and spatial planning, education, communication and behaviour change, innovation, research and development, skills and training and global poverty and sustainable development. |
6. INDICATORS and REPORTING

Reporting on the progress of each activity is required for the Annual and YEI Implementation Reports and the Programme Monitoring Committee. This reporting includes information on financial and non-financial indicators as outlined in the subsequent paragraphs.

High level Investment Priority and Priority Axis targets have been set as part of the output and results indicators and performance framework\(^7\) tables included in PEIL 2014-2020. The ESF co-funded and ESF + YEI co-funded tables below detail the activity level indicators that contribute to the higher level targets in the OP. In order to meet the reporting requirements the data in the table below must be captured and reported for this activity.

In addition to the capturing and reporting on the data for the high level targets included in the OP, data on common indicators is also required. These indicators are detailed in the attached Annex I\(^8\) in line with the requirements of Article 5 of the ESF Regulation 1304/2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority 2 (ESF co-funded)</th>
<th>Outputs and Results Indicator Targets</th>
<th>Measurement Unit</th>
<th>Target Value 2023</th>
<th>Performance Framework Targets</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Target Value 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>OUTPUTS</td>
<td>The number of participants from disadvantaged groups on social inclusion employability programmes, including personal development towards employability programmes - Number of participants engaged by YPP projects</td>
<td>Number of participants</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The number of youths (&lt;25 yrs) participants from disadvantaged groups on social inclusion employability programmes, including personal development towards employability programmes - Number of young (&lt;25yrs) participants engaged by YPP projects</td>
<td>Number of Young (&lt;25yrs) participants</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Certified Expenditure</td>
<td>€m</td>
<td>11.6m</td>
<td>1.9m</td>
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<tr>
<td>RESULTS</td>
<td>Number of participants from disadvantaged groups that have completed a social inclusion employability programme and/or are in training/education/job search/work related environments upon leaving – YPP participants who have completed an intervention</td>
<td>Number of participants</td>
<td>821</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\(^7\) Additional information on the application of the performance framework and reserve are set out under Articles 20 to 22 of the CPR 1303/2013

\(^8\) The information on each participant are set out in data fields included in section (1) of Annex I. The European Commission issued an ESF guidance note on the Monitoring and Evaluation of European Cohesion Policy in September 2014 and Annex C of this document includes definitions for common ESF/YEI indicators. A further guidance note on the completeness of data is to be issued by the European Commission to further clarify the requirements in this area.
Number of young (<25yrs) participants from disadvantaged groups that have completed a social inclusion employability programme and/or are in training/education/job search/work related environments upon leaving - Young (<25 yrs) YPP participants who have completed an intervention

| Number of Young Participants | 821 | N/A | N/A |

7. FINANCIAL INPUT

| Budget (€/m.) | ESF + National Contribution | €11.64m |
| ESF Contribution (€m) | €5.82m |
| ESF Co-Financing % | 50% |
| EU Intervention Field Code | 109 |

8. CERTIFICATION ROLES

| Ex-Ante checks by: | Certified Claims Submitted by: | Submitted To: |
| Community Programmes Unit (Probations Services), IYJS | Community Programmes Unit (Probations Services), IYJS | Intermediate Body Financial Management Unit, Dept. of Justice and Equality |
| Intermediate Body Financial Management Unit, Dept. of Justice and Equality | Intermediate Body Financial Management Unit, Dept. of Justice and Equality | Managing Authority DES |
| Managing Authority DES | Managing Authority DES | Certifying Authority DES |
| Certifying Authority DES | Certifying Authority DES | European Commission |

9. PROJECT SELECTION

Project Selection Process | Given its role in the community, the Probation Service has a long history of working in partnership with a range of community based organisations. The service recognises that it cannot address all of these needs alone and the importance of community involvement in preventing re-offending cannot be underestimated. In this regard, the Probation Service provides grants to Community Based Organisations to support the work of the Probation Service in re-integrating offenders back into their community. These grants are funded on an annual basis by the Department of Justice and Equality through the Irish Youth Justice Service and funding is provided in the Justice Vote under Sub Head A10 Community Programmes. |
| Project Selection Criteria | Each Young Persons Probation Project submit an annual grant application for funding for the provision of services to young |
offenders. The criteria for grant funding are subject to the availability of funding and the manner in which applicants meet the following criteria:
- The manner in which the grant funding proposal is aligned to Probation Service priorities;
- The support the intended outputs will provide to Probation Service clients in reintegrating back into their community;
- The Provisions of Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular on Management of and Accountability of Grants from Exchequer funds

Composition of Project Selection Committee
Applications for Grant Funding are assessed by Probation Service Senior Management and sanctioned by the Irish Youth Justice Service.

10. PUBLICITY/INFORMATION PLANS

Publicity/Information Plans for the Activity
Website, brochures, reports and promotional materials will equally publicise the appropriate funding source in line with national and EU requirements regarding information and publicity measures to be carried out by the Member States concerning assistance from the Structural and Investment Funds.

The following Regulations apply:
- EU Regulation No. 1303/2013 CPR (Articles 115-117)
- Commission Implementing Regulation No. 821/2014 (Articles 3 and 4 and Annex II).

11. IMPLEMENTATION CONTACT

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Version Control

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<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>13th November 2018</td>
<td>AIP post-Designation</td>
</tr>
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<td>2.0</td>
<td>17th June 2019</td>
<td>Target Values Updated.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>25th October 2019</td>
<td>Section 3 – Technical Changes to reflect revised CPR.</td>
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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.

(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.
 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).