

# European Union Structural Funds and Priority 1 “Human Resource Development” of the Estonian National Development Plan



As a member state of the European Union (EU), Estonia will have the opportunity to participate in the regional policy of the Community and to receive financial assistance from the EU budget. The principles of EU Structural Funds assistance and its use and application procedures are described in “The Estonian National Development Plan for the Implementation of Structural Funds – Single Programming Document 2004-2006” (SPD). SPD is the basis for cooperation between Estonia and the EU in enhancing social and economic development.

According to the needs of Estonian economy, four priority areas have been chosen for Estonia:

- Human resource development
- Competitiveness of enterprises
- Agriculture, fisheries and rural development
- Infrastructure and local development

Priorities are divided into measures. Each project funded from the EU Structural Funds must comply with the SPD and the specific application requirements developed for the conditions of the respective measure by the Implementing Agency responsible for the measure. In addition, projects must comply with all the basic criteria listed below:

- The project has to comply with the SPD strategy and the objectives of the measure and priority under which funding is applied for;
- The project has to be relevant and up-to-date – meeting research results, development plans or clearly proved needs;
- The project must be economically efficient and effective;
- The project must be sustainable, creating a permanent or long-term added value;
- The applicant must be able to implement the project;

This brochure focuses on Priority 1 of the SDP – “Human Resource Development”. The brochure will help to find answers to such general questions as the objectives of the Priority, eligible applicants, supported activities and costs, etc.

Please note that the brochure does not list precise conditions for applicants and applications or deadlines for submission of applications. Rather, it contains a description of general guidelines to explain the objectives of the given Priority, the general application conditions and activities that may be potentially supported.

For more information about specific application submission conditions please refer to the Implementing Authority or Implementing Agency of each measure. County development centres can assist and advise in project drafting. The list of county centres is given in Annex 1 of the brochure.

# Priority 1 of the Single Programming Document “Human Resource Development”

The general goal of this Priority is to enhance and better utilise the Estonian labour potential. The activity guidelines for this Priority have been developed according to the Estonian National Development Plan that is consistent with the European Employment Strategy.

The core aim is to promote human resource development and for that purpose the following activities will be supported:

- Prevention of weaknesses related to human resources;
- Adjusting the education system;
- Promoting life-long learning;
- Improving active labour market measures;
- Promoting the adjustment capacity of labour;
- Rapid and wide implementation of new technologies;
- Promoting the use of widening market and cooperation opportunities.

The Priority will be funded from the European Social Fund.

During the funding period 2004–2006, 99 million euros will be allocated under the SDP Priority “Human Resource Development”, of which the co-funding of ESF will amount to 76 million euros and the Estonian match funding to 23 million euros.

The activities of this Priority will be implemented through four measures, all of which will contribute to reaching the goals of the Priority.

## General

Please refer to general information about the implementation of the European Social Fund in Estonian at [www.sm.ee/esf](http://www.sm.ee/esf)

## Measure 1.1: Educational System Supporting the Flexibility and Employability of the Labour Force and Providing Opportunities of Lifelong Learning for All

### Objectives of the Measure

- Development of human resources and improving its competitiveness in the labour market;
- Improving the education and training system;
- Creating the necessary environment for life-long learning through provision of training;
- Ensuring quality of training;
- Creating equal opportunities in access to education;
- Creating conditions and providing opportunities for life-long learning.

### Supported activities:

- Developing and launching a degree programme and a further training system for teachers of vocational and higher education institutions;
- Curricula development and development of new teaching materials on vocational, applied higher and higher education level linked to training co-financed by the ESF;
- Introducing flexible learning opportunities;
- Preventing drop-out from secondary and vocational education (counseling and guidance, training qualified practitioners and teachers);
- Developing and implementing the quality assurance system in vocational and higher education;
- Creating life-long learning opportunities for employed adults;
- Creating a database of learning opportunities for adults;
- Establishing a lifelong learning system recognising previous work experience and already acquired knowledge;
- Further elaboration and implementation of the vocational qualifications system;
- Raising the quality of vocational and higher education to an internationally recognised level;
- Inviting top-level teaching and research staff to work with Estonian higher education institutions on a long-term basis, providing post-doctoral research and teaching experience for universities teaching and research staff, etc.;

- Training of top specialists in the key areas of Estonian economy and in other areas related to increasing economic competitiveness;
- Training of students of pedagogical specialities in the use of ICT;
- Training of teachers in the field of digital technology and for the purpose of creating E-learning materials.

#### **Applications may be submitted by:**

- Educational institutions providing vocational and higher education and further and re-training;
- The Ministry of Education and Research and state agencies in its area of administration;
- Local government units and agencies and county governments;
- Foundations and NGOs;
- Providers of awareness and counselling services;
- Organisations related to the development of vocational qualifications and vocation awarding institutions.

#### **Financial plan 2004–2006**

During the funding period 2004–2006, 53,6 million euros will be allocated under this Measure, of which the co-funding of ESF will amount to 40,2 million euros and the Estonian match funding to 13,4 million euros.

#### **Application procedure**

Applications are received and processed at INNOVE, Foundation for Lifelong Learning Development, which is the Implementing Agency for Measure 1.1.

#### **Information and contact:**

Liivalaia 2, Tallinn 10118

Tel.: +372 699 8060

E-mail: [struktuurifondid@innove.ee](mailto:struktuurifondid@innove.ee)

[www.innove.ee/struktuuritoetused](http://www.innove.ee/struktuuritoetused)

The conditions for this Measure were elaborated by the Implementing Authority for this Measure, the Ministry of Education and Research:

Tel.: +372 735 0277

[www.hm.ee/toukefondid](http://www.hm.ee/toukefondid)

## Measure 1.2: Human Resource Development Increasing the Competitiveness of Enterprises

### Objectives of the Measure

- Ensuring a growth of investments in further and re-training of labour in order to ensure an increase in the productivity and competitiveness of enterprises;
- Encouraging entrepreneurs to start a business by teaching them business management skills;
- Increasing the knowledge of managers about novel management methods, export operations and marketing;
- Giving an opportunity to employees to get trained in new technologies and quality management systems when these are introduced in enterprises.

### Supported activities:

- Training of staff and managers of enterprises;
- Identifying training needs in different economic branches;
- Providing training to potential employees for starting their own business;
- Increasing the awareness and knowledge of managers and specialists;
- Introducing the assistance possibilities provided under this Measure, activating target groups and initiating projects;
- Developing curricula and training of trainers, business consultants and staff of business information centres;
- Developing professional standards for trainers, experts, business consultants and staff of business information centres;
- Assessment and accreditation of trainers, experts and business consultants.

### Applications may be submitted by:

- Enterprises, especially small and middle-sized enterprises;
  - Providers of training, experts and consultants;
  - Potential entrepreneurs, except unemployed who are supported by Measure 1.3;
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- Business organisations and professional associations;
- Business development organisations.

### Financial plan 2004–2006

During the funding period 2004–2006, 10,1 million euros will be allocated under this Measure, of which the co-funding of ESF will amount to 7,6 million euros and the Estonian match funding to 2,5 million euros.

### Application procedure

Applications are received and processed at Enterprise Estonia offices in Tallinn, Tartu and Jõhvi.

Enterprise Estonia Tallinn office:

Liivalaia 13/15

10118 Tallinn

Tel.: +372 627 9400

E-mail: eas@eas.ee

These conditions were elaborated by the Implementing Authority for this measure, the Ministry of Economy and Communications:

Tel.: +372 625 6376

E-mail: struktuurifondid@mkm.ee

## Measure 1.3: Inclusive Labour Market

### Objectives of the Measure

The overall objective of the Measure is a more extensive and efficient prevention and alleviation of unemployment and, thus, poverty and social exclusion, and enhancing social inclusion. The Measure should help:

- To integrate more quickly in the labour market the unemployed and the employees who have received a redundancy notice and are at a risk of becoming unemployed;
- To provide better access to risk groups to the labour market;
- To increase the effectiveness and quality of labour market services.

### Supported activities

- Further and re-training to the unemployed and job seekers who have received a redundancy notice;
- Supporting the working ability and readiness for working among risk groups;
- Providing language training opportunities to people who do not have the necessary occupational Estonian language skills;
- Employment aid, including creation of subsidised jobs, assisted or sheltered jobs;
- Aids for self-employment;
- Lowering obstacles that prevent women from entering and re-entering the labour market;
- Developing the existing labour market services and adjusting them to the regional and local needs;
- Active labour market measures and training of staff providing services that support integration to the labour market;
- Modernisation of employment offices.

### Applications may be submitted by:

- The Ministry of Social Affairs and agencies in its area of administration, including the Labour Market Board and Employment Offices;
- Local government units and county governments;
- Foundations, NGOs and businesses;
- Other public and private persons operating in the field of employment and social affairs;
- Self-employed persons.

### Financial plan 2004–2006

During the funding period 2004–2006, 33 million euros will be allocated under this measure, of which the co-funding of the ESF will amount to 26,4 million euros and the Estonian match funding to 6,6 million euros.

### Application procedure

Project applications under this Measure will be submitted to the Implementing Agency of the Measure, the Labour Market Board.

Luha 16, Tallinn 10129

Tel.: +372 625 7740

E-mail: [esf@tta.ee](mailto:esf@tta.ee)

[www.tta.ee/esf](http://www.tta.ee/esf)

These conditions were elaborated by the Implementing Authority for this measure, the Ministry of Social Affairs:

Marge Mõisamaa

Tel.: +372 626 9187

E-mail: [marge.moisamaa@sm.ee](mailto:marge.moisamaa@sm.ee), [sotsiaalfond@sm.ee](mailto:sotsiaalfond@sm.ee)

## Measure 1.4: Enhancing Administrative Capacity

### Objectives of the Measure

- Enhancing the administrative capacity of state agencies and local government units and their associations;
- Raising professional skills in public administration;
- Developing and ensuring a high quality and sustainable public service training system;
- Improving the quality of management by supporting management training of government agencies.

### Supported activities

- Implementation of training projects promoting management quality in public administration;
- Short-term internships of officials in administrations of foreign countries;
- Organisation of training that complies with the training priorities of public administration;

- Conducting research in human resource development and public administration; assessment of training needs;
- Centre for Public Service Training and Development and the Public Service Academy.

### **Applications may be submitted by**

- Government agencies, including county governments;
- Local government units and their associations;
- Centre for Public Service Training and Development;
- Public Service Academy.

### **Financial plan 2004–2006**

During the funding period 2004–2006, 2,5 million euros will be allocated under this measure, of which the co-funding of the ESF will amount to 1,9 million euros and the Estonian match funding to 620 385 euros.

### **Application procedure**

The conditions for this measure were developed by the State Chancellery; it will also receive and process the project applications.

### **Information:**

Triin Press  
Rahukohtu 3, 15161 Tallinn  
Tel.: +372 693 5822  
E-mail: [triin.press@riigikantselei.ee](mailto:triin.press@riigikantselei.ee)  
[haldusmeede@riigikantselei.ee](mailto:haldusmeede@riigikantselei.ee)  
[www.riigikantselei.ee/haldusmeede](http://www.riigikantselei.ee/haldusmeede)

## Annex 1. Contacts of Regional Development Centres:

### **Tartu Business Advisory Services**

Küüni 5, TARTU  
 Tel.: +372 742 8402; +372 51 62 945  
 Fax: +372 742 8491  
 Manager: Piret Arusaar  
 E-mail: bas@tartu.bas.ee

### **Saaremaa Business Development Foundation**

Kitsas 3, 93814 KURESSAARE  
 Tel.: +372 453 3224  
 Fax: +372 453 3064  
 Manager: Villu Vatsfeld  
 E-mail: villu@saare.ee

### **Valgamaa Business Information Center**

Kesk 11, 68203 VALGA  
 Tel.: +372 767 9800; +372 522 9570  
 Fax: +372 767 9801  
 Manager: Anu Metsar  
 E-mail: valgaevk@hotmail.ee

### **Harju Economic Development Center**

Laki 9a, 10621 Tallinn  
 Tel.: +372 650 7975; +372 517 6181  
 Fax: +372 650 7976  
 Manager: Annela Orasi  
 E-mail: hedc@hedc.ee

### **Viljandimaa Development Center**

Vabaduse plats 4, 71020 VILJANDI  
 Tel.: +372 433 4146  
 Fax: +372 433 4146  
 Manager: Urmas Tuuleveski  
 E-mail: save@viljandimaa.ee

### **Business and Development Centre**

Akadeemia 2, 80010 PÄRNU  
 Tel.: +372 443 1269; +372 443 1204;  
 Fax: +372 443 1298  
 Manager: Lehar Kütt  
 E-mail: keskus@parnumaa.ee

### **Tuuru Foundation**

Vabrikuväljak 1, 92411 KÄRDLA  
 Tel.: +372 462 2802  
 Fax: +372 463 2100  
 Manager: Aivi Telvik  
 E-mail: aivi@tuuru.edu.ee

### **Läänemaa Development Center**

Kalda 4, 90503 HAAPSALU  
 Tel.: +372 473 5538  
 Fax: +372 474 4372  
 Manager: Neeme Suur  
 E-mail: info@lak.ee

### **Rapla County Development and Enterprise Centre**

Tallinna mnt 14, 79513 RAPLA  
 Tel.: +372 489 4121; +372 506 3705  
 Fax: +372 489 4122  
 Manager: Janek Kadarik  
 E-mail: aek@raek.ee

### **Järvamaa Development Center**

Rüütli 25, 72713 PAIDE  
 Tel.: +372 385 2365;  
 Fax: +372 385 2365  
 Manager: Üllar Vahtramäe  
 E-mail: arenduskeskus@jarvamv.ee

**Development Agency of Võru**

Jüri 12, 65605 VÕRU

Tel.: +372 786 8367; +372 521 6930

Fax: +372 786 8367

Manager: Tiiu Toots

E-mail: vek@mv.werro.ee

**Jõgevamaa Business and  
Development Center**

Aia 2, 48306 JÕGEVA

Tel.: +372 776 8060

Fax: +372 776 8061

Manager: Toomas Pajula

E-mail: jogeva.evk@neti.ee

**Põlvamaa Development Center**

Kesk 20, 63308 PÕLVA

Tel.: +372 799 8938

Fax: +372 799 8938

Manager: Ain Jõesalu

E-mail: ainjs@hotmail.ee

**Lääne-Viru Development Center**

Kreutzwaldi 5a, 44314 RAKVERE

Tel.: +372 322 4711

Fax: +372 322 4712

Manager: Erika Pääbus

E-mail: erika.paabus@l-virumv.ee

**Ida-Viru Enterprise Centre**

Pargi 27, 41537 JÕHVI

Tel.: +372 339 5610

Fax +372 339 5601

E-mail: info@ivek.ee

<http://www.ivek.ee>

