



European Social Fund (ESF)

EU Funding Seminar – Education and Training, Exploring Funding Opportunities

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What is the European Social Fund?

- One of the EU's Structural Funds, which were set up to reduce differences in prosperity and living standards and help areas of Europe which, for one reason or another are suffering difficulties – **'promoting economic and social cohesion'**
- Helps Member States combat unemployment , prevent people from dropping out of the labour market, and promote training to make Europe's workforce and companies better equipped to face new, global challenges





Who are the main target groups of ESF?

- Students
- Young people
- Adults outside the formal education system
- Unemployed
- Workers
- Disadvantaged groups
- Persons with a disability
- Educators
- Professionals
- Administrators
- Public administration
- Social Partners
- Civil Society Organisations





How can organisations benefit from ESF?.....examples of organisations who are benefiting.....

- **ESF 52: Training Programmes for Youths in Institutional Care**
- **Final Beneficiary: ETC**
- Provided 20 youths living in institutional care with a series of training programmes consisting in:
 - Life Skills
 - Maltese and English Literacy
 - Numeracy
 - Information Technology
 - Specialized (vocational) training





- **ESF 57, REACH – Improving Youth Employment Prospects**
Final Beneficiary: ACCESS

- The project targets students who have fallen out of compulsory schooling or who are frequently absent.
- Aims at increasing the likelihood that the targeted students will complete their education with the minimum attainment of a school leaving certificate and reduce the risk of unemployment
- Involves the students, parents and teachers, providing them with support and training

- **Other Partners:**
- ETC
- Appogg Agency
- Sedqa
- The Cottonera College





ESF 62 - Inclusive ICT Training & Development Programme

Final Beneficiary – Razzett tal Hbiberija

- Aims at enabling persons with physical disability to benefit from information technology thus increasing their independence
- An ICT lab has been set up ,with assistive technology, such as keyboards with larger controls, mouth operated controls and appropriate software
- Participants are receiving the necessary training in using the assistive technology provided to them, thus acquiring the required skills





ESF 2007 – 2013 in Malta

- Based on the Operational Programme II (OPII) – Empowering People for More Jobs and Better Quality of Life
- Focusing primarily on **employment, education, training and social inclusion**
- Supported by five Priority Axes





The Five Priority Axes will address:

- Improvements in education and skills
- Investment in employability and adaptability of the workforce
- Support towards an equal and inclusive labour market
- Strengthening of institutional and administrative capacity
- Technical Assistance





Priority Axis 1

The main objective of this priority axis is to increase the overall participation rates in education at all levels, thus increasing and upgrading the knowledge and skills levels of the labour force.

- investing in the education system;
- addressing skills mismatches;
- research and innovation;
- information and communication technology





Priority Axis 2

Investing in human capital to ensure that working age population and enterprises become flexible to respond to the needs of the economy, whilst reducing unemployment levels.

- continuous training and education;
- supporting the private sector;





Priority Axis 3

Promoting the uptake of stable and quality employment by persons who find difficulties in participating in the labour market.

- female participation in the labour market
- promoting an inclusive society
- addressing labour market distortions and ensuring that work pays





Applying for ESF supported projects.....

- 18th July 2007 – Launch of OPII
- Subsequently calls for submission of projects under the different priority axes will be published
- A number of information seminars will be held before the deadline for submission of projects





Thank you

