

# The European Social Fund

## State of play

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## Content of the presentation

*Short general introduction to the ESF*

*State of play of the procedures*

*The focus on the Roma*



## ESF regulation takes it outset in the Europe 2020 and the European Semester

- Guideline 10: social inclusion and combat poverty
- Country Specific Recommendations



## **ESF minimum share** for the first time in the history of cohesion policy

- **23.1% ESF minimum share**
- Rationale: ensure MS have sufficient resources to achieve the employment, social and education targets and objectives of Europe 2020
- **Earmarking for social inclusion: 20% at national level**



## The social inclusion strand of ESF

- The general approach in the new ESF regulation is to have a horizontal focus.
  - mainstreaming
  - not explicit focus on any groups
- Only exception is marginalised groups where there is an explicit targeting though not exclusive.



## Shared management - partnership

- Design and implementation of programmes are done in a partnership between the European Commission and national and regional authorities, including NGOs and workers' organisations.
- Shared management which means that the responsibility is taken at the appropriate level:
  - The regulatory framework is designed at European level through consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders,
  - Operational Programmes are negotiated between national authorities and the Commission. Implementation on the ground, through Operational Programmes, is managed by the relevant authorities in each country.



## Current state of play - general

**After the entering into force of the ESF regulation  
Member States are preparing their**

1. Partnership Agreements
2. Operational programmes

**For the new programming period**

- **Deadline was end of April for submitting the Partnership Agreements**
- **Right now negotiation between the Commission and the Member States/managing authorities is ongoing.**
- **4 countries' Partnership Agreement were adopted in May**



## Current state of play – the focus on Roma

The main picture for the countries focusing on Roma:

- **Many countries that are having Roma in the PA are having mainstreamed measures**
  - Included under the marginalised groups' access to the labour market
  - Included in the measures under education
- **Few are having measures targeted directly at Roma**
  - Mainly in countries with large Roma communities which are facing particular challenges





## Current state of play – the focus on Roma (2)

### The adopted Partnership Agreements:

- 2 direct reference to Roma but mainstreamed
- 2 no reference to Roma

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**More info: [ec.europa.eu/esf](http://ec.europa.eu/esf)**

