

**PEIL 2014-2020 Activity Implementation Plan
ESF PR 4.x**

ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning OP 2014-2020	
Priority Axis:	Priority 4: Youth Employment Initiative (YEI)
Thematic Objectives:	PR 4: Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility
Investment Priorities:	PR 4: Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people, in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee.
Specific Objectives:	PR 4: To Raise the skills and education levels of people eligible for support under YEI, by providing education, training, work experience and/or work opportunities, including support for self-employment
Activity Title:	Community Training Centres
Overall Objective:	Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning for all age groups in formal, non-formal and informal settings, upgrading the knowledge, skills and competences of the workforce, and promoting flexible learning pathways including through career guidance and validation of acquired competences.
Certifying Authority:	ESF Certifying Authority
Managing Authority:	ESF Managing Authority
Intermediate Body:	SOLAS
Beneficiary Body:	Education and Training Boards

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1. CONTEXT/ PROBLEM/ NEED BEING ADDRESSED:

Community Training Centres (CTCs) have been set up with the needs of the early school leaver and the young unemployed especially in mind. They provide a fresh opportunity for young persons to get national certificates at their own pace and with the assistance of friendly and supportive staff. They look after the training and employment needs of early school leavers, primarily aged between 16 and 21. Each CTC is owned and managed by a local community group. CTCs are funded and supported by Solas / ETB's and learners may qualify for a training allowance.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ACTIVITY:

CTC training programmes are so designed that they facilitate young people to:

- Return to learning and help them prepare for employment and adult life;
- Continue their personal and social development;
- Focus on areas and activities where he or she can experience and build on success;
- Promote a positive attitude to his or her lifelong learning, personal independence and responsibilities, active citizenship and social inclusion;
- Provide them with the skills, knowledge and competencies required whereby he or she can to get a secure foothold in the active Labour Market and compete for work;
- CTCs offer a flexible and tailor-made program of integrated general education, vocational training and work experience; and
- Learners are helped set personal and learning goals that increase their self-esteem, skill and knowledge base and employability. Course elements include Personal and Social Development, a choice of Vocational Skills and Communications Skills including Literacy and Numeracy.

Certification in CTCs:

- CTCs avail of QQI major awards at level 3 and at level 4, designed to meet the training needs of learners.
- They also provide certification for learners who may wish to progress to higher levels.
- The new major awards, at levels 3 and 4, were developed to ensure CTC's can continue to meet the needs of young people with a clear line of sight to the skills needed in today's Labour Market. Each award comprises a number of modules which the learner can achieve at their own pace and accumulate over time towards one of the QQI major awards.
- The flexible format of the awards will allow ensure the program of learning is specifically designed to address the needs of the individual learner.
- In addition, many CTCs offer modules leading to the Junior Certificate and Applied Leaving Certificate.

3. ESF FUNDED ELEMENT OF ACTIVITY:

The ESF will provide co-financing for CTC training programmes which meet the training and employment needs of early school leavers, primarily aged between 16 and 21.

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 formally records in writing the responsibilities and tasks to be carried out by the Intermediate body on behalf of the Managing Authority.

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5. CONTRIBUTION TO HORIZONTAL THEMES	
A. Promotion of Equality between men and women	<p>ETB's will support the principle of equality for women and men as set out in the Regulations and, in particular, will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pursue the objective of equality between men and women and ensure its mainstreaming through the integration of a gender perspective at all stages of the implementation of the funds, including preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, • include specific actions to promote gender equality including engagement with structures with a function to lead on gender-equality issues, • take careful account of how the implementation of projects may affect women and men (gender mainstreaming), • make arrangements for training of relevant staff in the fields of gender equality law and policy as well as on gender mainstreaming related to the implementation of the funds, in accordance with the general ex-ante conditionality • promote gender balance on the monitoring committees.
B. Promotion of equal opportunities and non-discrimination	<p>ETB's 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).</p> <p>ETB's will provide reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities. ETB's will also allow for 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.</p>
D. Sustainable Development	<p>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 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.</p> <p>The Government 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 <i>EU Sustainable Development Strategy</i> 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</p>

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	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.
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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 framework¹ tables included in the PEIL OP. 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 ² in line with the requirements of Article 5 of the ESF Regulation 1304/2013.

An agreed action plan is in place for the fulfilment of this requirement by the end of 2016.

Priority 4 (ESF + YEI co-funded)

Outputs and Results Indicator Targets	Measurement Unit	Target Value 2023	Performance Framework ³ Targets	
			Target Value 2018	Target Value 2023
OUTPUTS				
The number of YEI eligible participants on training/upskilling/personal development towards employability and work environment (including supports for self-employed) programmes/projects. -The number of participants in YR	Number of YEI eligible participants	To be confirmed		
Certified Expenditure	€m			
RESULTS				
The number of YEI eligible participants completing an training/upskilling/personal development towards employability and work environment (including supports for self-employed) programmes/projects - The number of Youthreach participants successfully completing programme or achieving certification	Number of participants			
Unemployed participants who complete the YEI supported intervention	Number of unemployed participants			

¹ Additional information on the application of the performance framework and reserve are set out under Articles 20 to 22 of the CPR 1303/2013

² 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.

³ Selected YEI targets are part of the performance framework (if expenditure allocated to activity is > €10m) but not performance reserve in line with Article 20(a) of CPR 1303/2013.

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Unemployed participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving	Number of unemployed participants			
Unemployed participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employed, upon leaving	Number of unemployed participants			
LTU participants who complete the YEI supported intervention	Number of LTU participants			
LTU participants who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving	Number of LTU participants			
LTU participants who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employed, upon leaving	Number of LTU participants			
Inactive participants not in education or training who complete the YEI supported intervention	Number of inactive participants			
Inactive participants not in education or training who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship, upon leaving	Number of inactive participants			
Inactive participants not in education or training who are in education/training, gain a qualification, or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Number of inactive participants			
Participants in continued education, training programmes leading to a qualification, an apprenticeship or a traineeship six months after leaving	Number of participants			
Participants in employment six months after leaving	Number of participants			
Participants in self-employment six months after leaving	Number of participants			

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7. FINANCIAL INPUT	
Budget (€/m.) ESF + National Contribution	€m to be confirmed
Priority 4 – YEI +ESF Contribution €m	€m (YEI €m + ESF €m).
EU Intervention Field Code	PR 4.x: 103

8. CERTIFICATION ROLES		
Ex-Ante checks by:	Certified Claims Submitted by:	Submitted To:
	ETBs	SOLAS
SOLAS	SOLAS	Managing Authority DES
Managing Authority DES	Managing Authority DES	Certifying Authority DES
Certifying Authority DES	Certifying Authority DES	European Commission

10. PROJECT SELECTION	
Project Selection Process	<p>A detailed planning process is undertaken each year to determine the optimum allocation of resources. This includes a comprehensive consultative process between SOLAS and the Education & Training Boards (ETBs) and the consideration of national economic data where appropriate, trends in demand for programmes and other relevant data.</p> <p>When the annual allocations are agreed, amounts are transferred in the form of grants by SOLAS to the ETBs. The funding received by ETBs is spent either directly through the network of training centres or by contracted training with external private suppliers of training services. If training is to be delivered through external contracting, the suppliers are selected via a competitive tendering process.</p>
Project Selection Criteria	Projects are selected for funding on the basis of their alignment with the FET annual plan which will in turn contribute toward the achievement of the long term FET Strategy. The selection of a particular supplier is based on a series of objective selection criteria in line with good practice competitive tendering.

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Composition of Project Selection Committee	<p>The proposed funding of training programmes (projects) are agreed by senior management via a consultation process between SOLAS and the Education & Training Boards and are ultimately approved by the SOLAS Executive and Board. Individual external contracted projects are approved by ETB management at the appropriate level.</p>
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11. PUBLICITY/INFORMATION PLANS

Publicity/ Information Plans for the Activity	<p>Website, brochures, reports and promotional materials will equally publicise the appropriate funding source in line with national requirements and those of Implementing Regulation (EC) regarding information and publicity measures to be carried out by the Member States concerning assistance from the Structural Funds</p> <p>The following Regulations apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Regulation No. 1303/2013 CPR (Articles 115-117) • Commission Implementing Regulation No. 821/2014 (Articles 3 and 4 and Annex II).
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13. IMPLEMENTATION CONTACT

Body: SOLAS	Contact Name:	Financial Manager (David Dunne) Management Accounting / European Finance
Address: SOLAS Block 1 Castleforbes House, Castleforbes Road, Dublin 1.	Phone:	00353 -1-533 2404
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ANNEX I

Common output and result indicators for ESF investments

(1) Common output indicators for participants

"Participants"⁴ 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.

- homeless or affected by housing exclusion*,
- from rural areas⁵

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.

⁴ 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).

⁵ The data shall be collected at the level of smaller administrative units (local administrative units 2), in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) (OJ L 154, 21.6.2003, p. 1).

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(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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ANNEX II

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"⁶ 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.

⁶ 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).