

Annual and final implementation reports for the Investment for growth and jobs goal

PART A

IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL/FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(2) AND 111(3)(A) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

2.1. Key information on the implementation of the operational programme for the year concerned, including on financial instruments, with relation to the financial and indicator data.

Background

The strategic aim of the ESF Programme 2014-2020 in Northern Ireland is to combat poverty and enhance social inclusion by reducing economic inactivity and to increase the skills base of those currently in work and future potential participants in the workforce. This aim is to be realised through the three thematic objectives of the 2014-2020 programme which focus on promoting access to employment, social inclusion, and skills for growth.

For priority axes 1 and 2, under the first call for applications, a total of 66 operations were originally successful, of which 62 continued to be operational throughout 2016. Operations receive funding allocation comprising of 40% ESF and 25% Departmental match. Operations are responsible for securing the additional 35% match funding.

Priority 3 of the Programme focuses on improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, specifically through apprenticeships and youth training programmes. Provision during 2016 was co-financed under the Letter of Offer (LoO) for the period from September 2015 to March 2017 and comprised of 40% ESF and 60% Departmental match.

Through activity in each of its thematic objectives, the ESF programme aims to enable participants to access, and to overcome their barriers to, sustainable employment. The programme also seeks to enhance social inclusion providing specialist, tailored training and employment support projects for people with a disability and to focus on households as a means of preventing individuals from disengaging from employment, education or training by improving their family environment. The delivery of thematic objective 10 (iv) provides a key pathway for the delivery of a greater volume of higher levels skills to the Northern Ireland workforce.

Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC)

In accordance with Article 47 of Council Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 – hereto after referred to as the Common Provisions Regulation (CPR), a single monitoring committee was established to monitor the implementation and progress of the two Northern Ireland Investment for Growth and Jobs Programmes – ESF and ERDF.

During 2016, PMC met on 28 April and 8 November and the ESF Communications Plan was submitted on 8 December 2016. The Communications Plan was subsequently approved by written procedure on 3 January 2017 before forwarding to the Commission. Minutes of the PMC meetings are uploaded to SFC 2014.

As at 8 November 2016, the Managing Authority reported to PMC that whilst it remained satisfied that the ESF Programme would meet its performance targets, the Community Family Support Programme (CFSP) – investment priority 9 (i) (b)

continued to experience issues in delivery in terms of the original targets. This investment priority continues to be scrutinised and subject to consideration by the Managing Authority.

Managing Authority (MA) Designation

In order to submit claims to the Commission the MA must first be ‘designated’ by the Member State. Prior to being designated, the MA’s internal control environment, risk management, management and control activities, and monitoring procedures must first be assessed by an independent audit body. MA designation is underway with the regulatory Management and Control System document under development and due for submission to the designated audit body for final review, together with the associated procedures, manuals, risk assessment and fraud policies.

Whilst approval of the Management and Control System Description is anticipated in 2017, the MA cannot be granted formal designation until e-cohesion requirements are satisfied, as per Article 122 (3) of the Common Provisions Regulation. Designation will therefore continue to be delayed into 2017, pending the development of the electronic database (DB2014). In accordance with the EU procurement directive (Article 32 (2) (c) and following on from the negotiated procedure, the database is now in development and aims to be fully implemented in 2017. Accordingly the MA aims to complete the first financial drawdown of expenditure in respect of the IGJ ESF Programme in 2017 and submit sufficient certified expenditure to meet the 2017 expenditure target (N+3).

Groups and Forums

An ESF Steering Group has been established for the 2014-2020 Programme to facilitate the implementation of the Programme in compliance with EU regulatory requirements and to ensure that lessons are learnt from the ESF 2007-2013 Programme. The group is comprised of Senior Management within the Department for the Economy along with representatives from the MA, the ESF Certifying Authority, Internal Audit, the Audit Authority, the Department’s Financial Management Branch and other business areas within the Department that provide match funding to projects.

A Forum has been established with the purpose of providing an opportunity for two-way communication between the MA and Project Providers. The Forum allows the MA to provide more in-depth detail on how the programme is progressing and explain the rationale behind any policy decisions. The aim is to work with beneficiaries in order to achieve workable solutions on identified issues that meet EU policy, quality and audit requirements. The Forum met on four occasions during 2016 – 14 January, 15 March, 18 May and 20 September 2016.

Publicity and Communications

The ESF Managing Authority’s Communication Plan was approved by PMC by written procedure on 3rd January 2017 and then submitted to the Commission. During 2016, the MA progressed a number of actions that were aimed at raising awareness of the ESF Programme. These actions involve working in conjunction with the Department’s Communications Branch and NI Direct. The major activity that was planned for 2016 was the launch of the ESF web pages on the

NI Direct website. Development of the web pages has commenced however they will not officially go-live until early 2017.

Programme Expenditure

As the Managing Authority is yet to be designated (in the absence of the programme database) claims have yet to be submitted to the Commission.

In order to meet its first N+3 target, the MA must have submitted expenditure of €25,963,960 for draw down from the Commission by 31 December 2017. Based on the Letters of Offer value and the financial absorption of committed expenditure to date by beneficiaries, the Managing Authority is confident that it remains on track to meet the 2017 N+3 target.

Note: Throughout this report the exchange rate that has been applied at the time of writing is:

£1.00 = €1.19

3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIORITY AXIS (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

3.1. Overview of the implementation

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
1	Access to Employment	<p>Investment Priority 8i</p> <p>This priority funds activity to enhance and extend employment opportunities, in particular for those groups at a disadvantage in the labour market who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or economically inactive.</p> <p>A total of 20 of the 23 operations that commenced during 2015 continue to deliver their ESF supported projects. Beneficiaries have claimed €12.85 million total project costs to date comprising of €5.14 million of Commission co-financing.</p> <p>Operations have supported a total of 11,706 participants to date, but due to data completeness requirements the Managing Authority can only report on 7,550 participants comprising of 4,973 unemployed participants and 2,577 economically inactive participants.</p> <p>Significant progress has already been made and the Managing Authority remains confident that the investment priority will meet its 2018 milestone targets.</p> <p>Investment Priority 8ii</p> <p>This priority focuses on supporting young people aged 16-24 who are not in employment, education or training.</p> <p>All 13 of the original operations that commenced during 2015 continue to deliver their ESF supported projects. A total of €9.09 million total expenditure has been claimed to date by beneficiaries comprising of €3.63 million ESF co-financing.</p> <p>Operations have supported a total of 5,104 participants to date, but due to data completeness requirements the Managing Authority can only report on 1,712 participants (33.5% of data) at this time.</p>

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
		<p>The intermediary body continues to work with operations to improve the quality of the information however the Managing Authority is also re-examining the target set for this investment priority.</p>
2	Social Inclusion	<p>Across the priority 2 axis, to date, beneficiaries have declared a total of €24.25 million eligible expenditure to the Managing Authority comprising of €9.7 million Commission co-financing (40%).</p> <p>Investment Priority 9(i)(a) This IP provides support to unemployed or economically inactive individuals with a disability via specialist, tailored training and employment projects addressing the needs of the individual.</p> <p>As at 31 December 2016 all 24 originally supported ESF operations continue to deliver their projects. Again, due to data completeness the Managing Authority can only report currently on 3,315 of the 4,571 total participants that have received ESF support to date, with 279 participants progressing into employment upon leaving.</p> <p>Delivery of this investment priority continues to perform well to date and the Managing Authority expects to meet the 2018 milestone target</p> <p>Thematic objective 9i(b) This IP aims to support family members and break the cycle of intergenerational unemployment and associated poverty in communities, by supporting NEET participants aged 16 and over within families receiving Community Family Support.</p> <p>5 operations were originally offered financial assistance and all continue to deliver their projects as at 31 December 2016. The Managing Authority has complete data for only 681 of the 1,554 total participants supported to date. This is against a December 2016 target of 2,726 participants, with only 88 participants in employment upon leaving (against a target of 273). This IP is currently subject to scrutiny and further consideration by the Managing Authority.</p>

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
3	Skills for Growth	<p>This investment priority contributes to the development of a highly skilled and innovative workforce contributing to the twin goals of social inclusion and economic success for Northern Ireland. The quality and effectiveness of training for young people and adults are crucial elements of this process.</p> <p>As at December 2016, there was one letter of financial assistance for the government programme, ApprenticeshipsNI.</p> <p>ApprenticeshipsNI promotes sustained employment and social inclusion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focusing on those who lack essential skills and level 2 and 3 qualifications; • By improving the qualifications of low skilled and low paid female workers, it helps to promote gender equality and reduce gender gaps in the workforce. <p>The ApprenticeshipsNI programme specifically aims to improve workforce skills. It also reduces the gender gaps in the workforce, increases the employment of those in the community, including those who are disabled or disadvantaged, and, by improving the skills level of the workforce, promotes sustained employment and social inclusion.</p> <p>ApprenticeshipsNI provides participants with the opportunity to take part in a Level 2/Level 3 apprenticeships where the participant, in paid employment from day one, works towards achieving an industry-approved apprenticeship framework.</p> <p>As at December 2016, the investment priority has supported 12,213 participants working towards an apprenticeship and no problems in delivery have been identified. The Managing Authority anticipates meeting the 2018 milestone target.</p> <p>To date, a total of €30.53 million eligible expenditure has been declared to the Managing Authority which comprises of €12.21 million (40%) ESF support.</p>

ID	Priority axis	Key information on the implementation of the priority axis with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
4	The technical assistance budget will support the effective management and implementation of the Northern Ireland ESF programme structures and achievement of the Programme's aim and objectives.	<p>This priority will support the effective management and implementation of the ESF programme structures and achievement of the programme's aims and objectives.</p> <p>Examples of the type of action to be supported under this priority are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme Database (DB 2014) • Communication and information events • Networking <p>From a TA allocation of €7.7 million, €2.48 million has been allocated across the main Programme bodies to meet administration cost requirements to the end of 2016. To date no problems have been identified.</p>

3.2. Common and programme specific indicators (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Priority axes other than technical assistance

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8i - Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, including the long term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility

Table 2A : Common result indicators for ESF (by priority axis, investment priority, and by category of region). Data on all common ESF result indicators (with and without target) shall be reported broken down by gender. For a Technical Assistance priority axis only those common indicators shall be reported for which a target has been set

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016	
					Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition					28.00	14.00	14.00				11.00	12.00	
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition					279.00	117.00	162.00				76.00	116.00	
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	CO04 inactive, not in education or training	Number	2,500.00		279.00	117.00	162.00	0.11			76.00	116.00	
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition					8.00	6.00	2.00				6.00	2.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					1,788.00	881.00	907.00				584.00	621.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	CO01 unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Number	3,850.00		1,196.00	620.00	576.00	0.31			424.00	394.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	CO03 inactive	Number	1,650.00		592.00	261.00	331.00	0.36			160.00	227.00	
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					1,906.00	926.00	980.00				660.00	709.00	
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					632.00	214.00	418.00				191.00	388.00	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016	
					Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	CO01 unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Number	5,250.00			397.00	156.00	241.00	0.08			139.00	222.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	CO03 inactive	Number	2,250.00			235.00	58.00	177.00	0.10			52.00	166.00
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition						0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition						37.00	15.00	22.00				12.00	22.00
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition						567.00	196.00	371.00				179.00	344.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015		2014	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition	3.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	41.00	46.00	0.00	0.00
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	41.00	46.00	0.00	0.00
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	297.00	286.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	196.00	182.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	101.00	104.00	0.00	0.00
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	266.00	271.00	0.00	0.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	23.00	30.00	0.00	0.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015		2014	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	17.00	19.00	0.00	0.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	6.00	11.00	0.00	0.00
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	17.00	27.00	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8i - Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, including the long term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility

Table 2C : Programme specific result indicators for ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit for indicator	Output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Achievement ratio			2016						
						Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
						Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015						2014							
			Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8i - Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, including the long term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility

Table 4A : Common output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition	28,000.00			4,973.00	2,538.00	2,435.00	0.18			3,164.00	1,645.00	1,519.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition				3,316.00	1,569.00	1,747.00				2,052.00	992.00	1,060.00
CO03	inactive	Transition	12,000.00			2,577.00	1,026.00	1,551.00	0.21			1,590.00	664.00	926.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition				2,414.00	972.00	1,442.00				1,502.00	634.00	868.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition				1,791.00	1,059.00	732.00				1,067.00	641.00	426.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition				718.00	346.00	372.00				492.00	239.00	253.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition				705.00	339.00	366.00				485.00	236.00	249.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition				2,688.00	1,475.00	1,213.00				1,771.00	1,021.00	750.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition				2,105.00	1,034.00	1,071.00				1,258.00	615.00	643.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition				1,059.00	370.00	689.00				724.00	237.00	487.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition				3,345.00	1,879.00	1,466.00				2,107.00	1,221.00	886.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition				682.00	170.00	512.00				421.00	113.00	308.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition				844.00	86.00	758.00				465.00	46.00	419.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition				858.00	302.00	556.00				554.00	199.00	355.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition				847.00	419.00	428.00				522.00	262.00	260.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition				1,789.00	695.00	1,094.00				808.00	338.00	470.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition				254.00	174.00	80.00				134.00	93.00	41.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition				2,620.00	1,353.00	1,267.00				1,551.00	812.00	739.00
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition				0.00						0.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition				0.00						0.00		
	Grand total of participants					7,550.00						4,754.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition	1,809.00	893.00	916.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition	1,264.00	577.00	687.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO03	inactive	Transition	987.00	362.00	625.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition	912.00	338.00	574.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition	724.00	418.00	306.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition	226.00	107.00	119.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition	220.00	103.00	117.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition	917.00	454.00	463.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition	847.00	419.00	428.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition	335.00	133.00	202.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition	1,238.00	658.00	580.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition	261.00	57.00	204.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition	379.00	40.00	339.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition	304.00	103.00	201.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition	325.00	157.00	168.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition	981.00	357.00	624.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition	120.00	81.00	39.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition	1,069.00	541.00	528.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition	0.00			0.00		

CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition	0.00			0.00		
	Grand total of participants		2,796.00			0.00		

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8i - Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, including the long term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility

Table 4B: Programme specific output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8ii - Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), 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

Table 2A : Common result indicators for ESF (by priority axis, investment priority, and by category of region). Data on all common ESF result indicators (with and without target) shall be reported broken down by gender. For a Technical Assistance priority axis only those common indicators shall be reported for which a target has been set

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016	
					Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition					17.00	10.00	7.00				7.00	7.00	
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition					494.00	323.00	171.00				205.00	102.00	
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition					10.00	7.00	3.00				6.00	3.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					378.00	260.00	118.00				172.00	82.00	
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					652.00	428.00	224.00				284.00	144.00	
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					111.00	76.00	35.00				67.00	32.00	
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					56.00	33.00	23.00				28.00	20.00	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015		2014	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	118.00	69.00	0.00	0.00
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	88.00	36.00	0.00	0.00
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment , upon leaving	Transition	144.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	9.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	5.00	3.00	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8ii - Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), 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

Table 2C : Programme specific result indicators for ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit for indicator	Output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Achievement ratio			2016						
						Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
PSR1	Participants in education/training on leaving aged 16-24	Transition				8,750												
PSR2	Participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving aged 16-24	Transition	Ratio		Ratio	3,000.00%			1.51			45.41%	32.57%	12.94%	%	%	%	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015						2014							
			Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	
PSR1	Participants in education/training on leaving aged 16-24	Transition														0
PSR2	Participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving aged 16-24	Transition	124.00%	88.00%	36.00%	124.00%	88.00%	36.00%		%	%	%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8ii - Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), 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

Table 4A : Common output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition				811.00	543.00	268.00				484.00	326.00	158.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition				581.00	380.00	201.00				329.00	222.00	107.00
CO03	inactive	Transition				901.00	554.00	347.00				601.00	365.00	236.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition				901.00	554.00	347.00				601.00	365.00	236.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition				1,712.00	1,097.00	615.00				1,085.00	691.00	394.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition				811.00	541.00	270.00				549.00	356.00	193.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition				420.00	252.00	168.00				248.00	145.00	103.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition				46.00	25.00	21.00				35.00	19.00	16.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition				618.00	389.00	229.00				390.00	245.00	145.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition				97.00	36.00	61.00				53.00	18.00	35.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition				224.00	108.00	116.00				136.00	62.00	74.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition				60.00	34.00	26.00				41.00	24.00	17.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition				319.00	209.00	110.00				218.00	143.00	75.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition				540.00	342.00	198.00				330.00	216.00	114.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition				64.00	38.00	26.00				40.00	26.00	14.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition				1,017.00	601.00	416.00				611.00	396.00	215.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition				0.00						0.00		
	Grand total of participants					1,712.00						1,085.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition	327.00	217.00	110.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition	252.00	158.00	94.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO03	inactive	Transition	300.00	189.00	111.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition	300.00	189.00	111.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition	627.00	406.00	221.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition	262.00	185.00	77.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition	172.00	107.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition	11.00	6.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition	228.00	144.00	84.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition	44.00	18.00	26.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition	88.00	46.00	42.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition	19.00	10.00	9.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition	101.00	66.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition	210.00	126.00	84.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition	24.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition	406.00	205.00	201.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition	0.00			0.00		
	Grand total of participants		627.00			0.00		

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
Investment Priority	8ii - Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), 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

Table 4B: Programme specific output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO01	Participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24	Transition	Number of participants	25.000.00			1,712.00	1,097.00	615.00	0.07			1,085.00	691.00	394.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO01	Participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24	Transition	627.00	406.00	221.00			

Priority axis	2 - Social Inclusion
Investment Priority	9i - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability

Table 2A : Common result indicators for ESF (by priority axis, investment priority, and by category of region). Data on all common ESF result indicators (with and without target) shall be reported broken down by gender. For a Technical Assistance priority axis only those common indicators shall be reported for which a target has been set

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016	
					Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition					47.00	16.00	31.00				16.00	31.00	
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition					434.00	256.00	178.00				198.00	142.00	
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition					35.00	9.00	26.00				8.00	24.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					367.00	223.00	144.00				155.00	119.00	
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					883.00	504.00	379.00				377.00	316.00	
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					197.00	117.00	80.00				101.00	75.00	
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					14.00	9.00	5.00				8.00	4.00	
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					196.00	116.00	80.00				100.00	75.00	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015		2014	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	58.00	36.00	0.00	0.00
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition	1.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	68.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment , upon leaving	Transition	127.00	63.00	0.00	0.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	16.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	16.00	5.00	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	2 - Social Inclusion
Investment Priority	9i - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability

Table 2C : Programme specific result indicators for ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit for indicator	Output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Achievement ratio			2016						
						Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
												Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	
PSR3	Participants with a disability in education/training upon leaving	Transition				1,950												217
PSR4	Participants with a disability in employment, including self employment, upon leaving	Transition				1,300												194
PSR5	Participants with a disability in employment, including self employment, six months after leaving	Transition				650												157
PSR6	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in education/training	Transition				2,520												123
PSR7	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in job searching	Transition				6,300												47
PSR8	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in gaining a qualification	Transition				2,520												29
PSR9	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in employment, including self employment, upon leaving	Transition				1,200												80

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015							2014							
			Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative	
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women		
PSR3	Participants with a disability in education/training upon leaving	Transition							74								0
PSR4	Participants with a disability in employment, including self employment, upon leaving	Transition							85								0
PSR5	Participants with a disability in employment, including self employment, six months after leaving	Transition							21								0
PSR6	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in education/training	Transition							20								0
PSR7	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in job searching	Transition							0								0
PSR8	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in gaining a qualification	Transition							2								0
PSR9	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support engaged in employment, including self employment, upon leaving	Transition							8								0

Priority axis	2 - Social Inclusion
Investment Priority	9i - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability

Table 4A : Common output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition				1,088.00	632.00	456.00				440.00	256.00	184.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition				938.00	538.00	400.00				345.00	196.00	149.00
CO03	inactive	Transition				2,227.00	1,315.00	912.00				694.00	406.00	288.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition				1,461.00	887.00	574.00				555.00	337.00	218.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition				998.00	627.00	371.00				396.00	232.00	164.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition				348.00	190.00	158.00				94.00	51.00	43.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition				276.00	154.00	122.00				88.00	50.00	38.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition				950.00	602.00	348.00				312.00	204.00	108.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition				1,132.00	654.00	478.00				409.00	233.00	176.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition				315.00	165.00	150.00				111.00	62.00	49.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition				1,248.00	734.00	514.00				438.00	250.00	188.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition				158.00	81.00	77.00				56.00	25.00	31.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition				142.00	50.00	92.00				43.00	16.00	27.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition				68.00	38.00	30.00				25.00	13.00	12.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition	13,000.00			3,315.00	1,947.00	1,368.00	0.26			1,134.00	662.00	472.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition				1,190.00	693.00	497.00				385.00	222.00	163.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition				28.00	20.00	8.00				9.00	8.00	1.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition				405.00	229.00	176.00				147.00	90.00	57.00
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition				0.00						0.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition				0.00						0.00		
	Grand total of participants					3,315.00						1,134.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition	648.00	376.00	272.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition	593.00	342.00	251.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO03	inactive	Transition	1,533.00	909.00	624.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition	906.00	550.00	356.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition	602.00	395.00	207.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition	254.00	139.00	115.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition	188.00	104.00	84.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition	638.00	398.00	240.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition	723.00	421.00	302.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition	204.00	103.00	101.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition	810.00	484.00	326.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition	102.00	56.00	46.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition	99.00	34.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition	43.00	25.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition	2,181.00	1,285.00	896.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition	805.00	471.00	334.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition	19.00	12.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition	258.00	139.00	119.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition	0.00			0.00		

CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition	0.00			0.00		
	Grand total of participants		2,181.00			0.00		

Priority axis	2 - Social Inclusion
Investment Priority	9i - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability

Table 4B: Programme specific output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO02	Targeted families	Transition	Number of families	4,200.00			580.00			0.14			422.00		
PSO03	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support (CFSP)	Transition	Number of participants	12,600.00			681.00	246.00	435.00	0.05			495.00	168.00	327.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO02	Targeted families	Transition	158.00					
PSO03	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support (CFSP)	Transition	186.00	78.00	108.00			

Priority axis	3 - Skills for Growth
Investment Priority	10iv - Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, facilitating the transition from education to work, and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality, including through mechanisms for skills anticipation, adaptation of curricula and the establishment and development of work based learning systems, including dual learning systems and apprenticeship schemes

Table 2A : Common result indicators for ESF (by priority axis, investment priority, and by category of region). Data on all common ESF result indicators (with and without target) shall be reported broken down by gender. For a Technical Assistance priority axis only those common indicators shall be reported for which a target has been set

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Common output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016	
					Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition					5,352.00	3,279.00	2,073.00				2,554.00	1,600.00	
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment , upon leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition					0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015		2014	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
CR01	inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR02	participants in education/training upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR03	participants gaining a qualification upon leaving	Transition	725.00	473.00	0.00	0.00
CR04	participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR05	disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment , upon leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR06	participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR07	participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR08	participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CR09	disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Priority axis	3 - Skills for Growth
Investment Priority	10iv - Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, facilitating the transition from education to work, and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality, including through mechanisms for skills anticipation, adaptation of curricula and the establishment and development of work based learning systems, including dual learning systems and apprenticeship schemes

Table 2C : Programme specific result indicators for ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit for indicator	Output indicator used as basis for target setting	Measurement unit for baseline and target	Target value (2023)			Achievement ratio			2016						
						Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
PSR10	Participants to achieve target Level 2 qualifications	Transition				53%												3160
PSR11	Participants to achieve targeted Level 3 qualifications or above	Transition				56%												2190

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015						2014							
			Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative	Cumulative			Annual total			Qualitative
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	
PSR10	Participants to achieve target Level 2 qualifications	Transition							3406							
PSR11	Participants to achieve targeted Level 3 qualifications or above	Transition							2460							

Priority axis	3 - Skills for Growth
Investment Priority	10iv - Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, facilitating the transition from education to work, and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality, including through mechanisms for skills anticipation, adaptation of curricula and the establishment and development of work based learning systems, including dual learning systems and apprenticeship schemes

Table 4A : Common output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO03	inactive	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition				12,213.00	7,566.00	4,647.00				5,521.00	3,474.00	2,047.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition				10,894.00	6,844.00	4,050.00				4,850.00	3,088.00	1,762.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition				49.00	15.00	34.00				20.00	9.00	11.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition				5,638.00	3,766.00	1,872.00				2,715.00	1,832.00	883.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition				5,265.00	3,057.00	2,208.00				2,154.00	1,261.00	893.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition				300.00	129.00	171.00				148.00	57.00	91.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition				231.00	41.00	190.00				103.00	20.00	83.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition				150.00	101.00	49.00				72.00	44.00	28.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition				655.00	435.00	220.00				319.00	218.00	101.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition				2,337.00	1,354.00	983.00				1,133.00	682.00	451.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition				0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00	0.00	0.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition				4,736.00	3,218.00	1,518.00				2,163.00	1,487.00	676.00

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition				0.00						0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition				0.00						0.00		
	Grand total of participants					12,213.00						5,521.00		

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO02	long-term unemployed	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO03	inactive	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO04	inactive, not in education or training	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO05	employed, including self-employed	Transition	6,692.00	4,092.00	2,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO06	below 25 years of age	Transition	6,044.00	3,756.00	2,288.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO07	above 54 years of age	Transition	29.00	6.00	23.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO08	above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO09	with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)	Transition	2,923.00	1,934.00	989.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO10	with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)	Transition	3,111.00	1,796.00	1,315.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO11	with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)	Transition	152.00	72.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO12	participants who live in jobless households	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO13	participants who live in jobless households with dependent children	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO14	participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	Transition	128.00	21.00	107.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO15	migrants, participants with a foreign background, minorities (including marginalised communities such as the Roma)	Transition	78.00	57.00	21.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO16	participants with disabilities	Transition	336.00	217.00	119.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO17	other disadvantaged	Transition	1,204.00	672.00	532.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO18	homeless or affected by housing exclusion	Transition	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CO19	from rural areas	Transition	2,573.00	1,731.00	842.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CO20	number of projects fully or partially implemented by social partners or non-governmental organisations	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO21	number of projects dedicated at sustainable participation and progress of women in employment	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO22	number of projects targeting public administrations or public services at national, regional or local level	Transition	0.00			0.00		
CO23	number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (including cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy)	Transition	0.00			0.00		
	Grand total of participants		6,692.00			0.00		

Priority axis	3 - Skills for Growth
Investment Priority	10iv - Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems, facilitating the transition from education to work, and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality, including through mechanisms for skills anticipation, adaptation of curricula and the establishment and development of work based learning systems, including dual learning systems and apprenticeship schemes

Table 4B: Programme specific output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO04	Employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship	Transition	Number of participants	42,000.00			0.00			0.00					

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PSO04	Employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship	Transition	0.00			0.00		

Priority axes for technical assistance

Priority axis	4 - The technical assistance budget will support the effective management and implementation of the Northern Ireland ESF programme structures and achievement of the Programme's aim and objectives.
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Table 4A : Common output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women

Priority axis	4 - The technical assistance budget will support the effective management and implementation of the Northern Ireland ESF programme structures and achievement of the Programme's aim and objectives.
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Table 4B: Programme specific output indicators for the ESF and YEI

ID	Indicator	Category of region	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)			Cumulative value			Achievement ratio			2016		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PS06	Number of Projects supported		Projects												
PS07	N+3		Eur												
PS08	Annual Error Rate		%												
PS09	Programme Evaluations by External Consultants		Evaluations												
PS10	Communications Strategy		Strategy	1.00			1.00			1.00					
PS11	Major Information Activities (Reg (EU No1303/2013 Art 155 and Annex XI refers)		Activities												
PS12	Number of Training Events		Events												
PS13	Number of employees (FTE's) whose salaries are co-financed by TA		FTE												
PS14	Evaluation Plan		Plan	1.00			1.00			1.00					

ID	Indicator	Category of region	2015			2014		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
PS06	Number of Projects supported							
PS07	N+3							
PS08	Annual Error Rate							
PS09	Programme Evaluations by External Consultants							
PS10	Communications Strategy		1.00			0.00		
PS11	Major Information Activities (Reg (EU No1303/2013 Art 155 and Annex XI refers)							
PS12	Number of Training Events							
PS13	Number of employees (FTE's) whose salaries are co-financed by TA							
PS14	Evaluation Plan		1.00			0.00		

Table 3B: Number of enterprises supported by the operational programme net of multiple support to the same enterprises

Indicator	Number of enterprises supported by OP net of multiple support
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Table 5: Information on the milestones and targets defined in the performance framework

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	2016 Cum total	2016 Cum men	2016 Cum women	2016 Annual total	2016 Annual total men	2016 Annual total women
1	F	F1	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	0.00					
1	O	CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Number	ESF	Transition	5,784.00	3,081.00	2,703.00	3,648.00	1,971.00	1,677.00
1	O	CO03	inactive	Number	ESF	Transition	3,478.00	1,580.00	1,898.00	2,191.00	1,029.00	1,162.00
1	O	PSO01	Participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	1,712.00	1,097.00	615.00	1,085.00	691.00	394.00
2	F	F2	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	0.00					
2	O	CO16	participants with disabilities	Number	ESF	Transition	3,315.00	1,947.00	1,368.00	1,134.00	662.00	472.00
2	O	PSO02	Targeted families	Number of families	ESF	Transition	580.00			422.00		
2	O	PSO03	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support (CFSP)	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	681.00	246.00	435.00	495.00	168.00	327.00
3	F	F3	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition						
3	O	PSO05	Employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship	Number of participants	ESF	Transition						

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	2015 Cum total	2014 Cum total	Observations
1	F	F1	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	0.00	0.00	
1	O	CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Number	ESF	Transition	2,136.00	0.00	
1	O	CO03	inactive	Number	ESF	Transition	1,287.00	0.00	
1	O	PSO01	Participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	627.00		
2	F	F2	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	0.00	0.00	
2	O	CO16	participants with disabilities	Number	ESF	Transition	2,181.00	0.00	
2	O	PSO02	Targeted families	Number of families	ESF	Transition	158.00		
2	O	PSO03	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	186.00		

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	2015 Cum total	2014 Cum total	Observations
			Community Family Support (CFSP)						
3	F	F3	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition			
3	O	PSO05	Employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship	Number of participants	ESF	Transition			

Priority axis	Ind type	ID	Indicator	Measurement unit	Fund	Category of region	Milestone for 2018 total	Milestone for 2018 men	Milestone for 2018 women	Final target (2023) total	Final target (2023) men	Final target (2023) women
1	F	F1	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	62,706,033			146,314,077.00		
1	O	CO01	unemployed, including long-term unemployed	Number	ESF	Transition	10500			28,000.00		
1	O	CO03	inactive	Number	ESF	Transition	4,500			12,000.00		
1	O	PSO01	Participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	9,350			25,000.00		
2	F	F2	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	66,006,350			154,014,817.00		
2	O	CO16	participants with disabilities	Number	ESF	Transition	4,850			13,000.00		
2	O	PSO02	Targeted families	Number of families	ESF	Transition	1,550			4,200.00		
2	O	PSO03	NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support (CFSP)	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	4,700			12,600.00		
3	F	F3	Expenditure	Euros	ESF	Transition	88,008,467			205,353,090.00		
3	O	PSO05	Employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship	Number of participants	ESF	Transition	15,750			42,000.00		

3.4 Financial data (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Table 6: Financial information at priority axis and programme level

(as set out in Table 1 of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1011/2014 (Model for the transmission of financial data))

Priority axis	Fund	Category of region	Calculation basis	Total fund	Co-financing rate	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Proportion of the total allocation covered by eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries	Number of operations selected
1	ESF	Transition	Public	146,314,077.00	40.00	67,916,309.50	46.42%	57,301,551.51	21,935,388.00	14.99%	36
2	ESF	Transition	Public	154,014,817.00	40.00	56,653,501.61	36.78%	55,644,707.91	24,253,262.00	15.75%	29
3	ESF	Transition	Public	205,353,090.00	40.00	35,605,828.96	17.34%	35,605,828.96	30,525,305.51	14.86%	1
4	ESF	Transition	Public	7,700,741.00	40.00	2,475,238.18	32.14%	2,475,238.18	262,112.52	3.40%	1
Total	ESF	Transition		513,382,725.00	40.00	162,650,878.25	31.68%	151,027,326.56	76,976,068.03	14.99%	67
Grand total				513,382,725.00	40.00	162,650,878.25	31.68%	151,027,326.56	76,976,068.03	14.99%	67

Table 7: Breakdown of the cumulative financial data by category of intervention for the ERDF, the ESF and the Cohesion Fund (Article 112(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 and Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013)

Priority axis	Characteristics of expenditure		Categorisation dimensions								Financial data			
	Fund	Category of region	Intervention field	Form of finance	Territorial dimension	Territorial delivery mechanism	Thematic objective dimension	ESF secondary theme	Economic dimension	Location dimension	Total eligible cost of operations selected for support	Public eligible cost of operations selected for support	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the managing authority	Number of operations selected
1	ESF	Transition	102	01	07	07	08	08			44,422,463.70	39,928,935.93	12,849,335.00	23
1	ESF	Transition	103	01	07	07	08	08			23,493,845.80	17,372,615.58	9,086,053.00	13
2	ESF	Transition	109	01	07	07	09	08			56,653,501.61	55,644,707.91	24,253,262.00	29
3	ESF	Transition	118	01	07	07	10	08			35,605,828.96	35,605,828.96	30,525,305.51	1
4	ESF	Transition	123	01	07	07					2,475,238.18	2,475,238.18	262,112.52	1

Table 8: The use made of cross-financing

1	2	3	4	5	6
Use of cross-financing	Priority axis	The amount of EU support envisaged to be used for cross financing based on selected operations (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation to the priority axis (%) (3/total financial allocation to priority axis*100)	Eligible expenditure used under cross financing declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation to the priority axis (%) (5/total financial allocation to priority axis*100)

Table 9: Cost of operations implemented outside the programme area (the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund under the Investment for growth and jobs goal)

1	2	3	4	5
Priority axis	The amount of support envisaged to be used for operations implemented outside the programme area based on selected operations (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation to the priority axis (%) (3/total financial allocation to priority axis*100)	Eligible expenditure incurred in operations implemented outside the programme area declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation to the priority axis (%) (5/total financial allocation to priority axis*100)

Table 10: Expenditure incurred outside the Union (ESF)

The amount of expenditure envisaged to be incurred outside the Union under thematic objectives 8 and 10 based on selected operations (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation (Union and national contribution) to the ESF programme or the ESF part of a multi-fund programme (%) (1/total financial allocation (Union and national contribution) to the ESF programme or the ESF part of a multi-fund programme*100)	Eligible expenditure incurred outside the Union declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority (EUR)	Share of the total financial allocation (Union and national contribution) to the ESF programme or the ESF part of a multi-fund programme (%) (3/total financial allocation (Union and national contribution) to the ESF programme or the ESF part of a multi-fund programme*100)

4. SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS

Synthesis of the findings of all evaluations of the programme that have become available during the previous financial year, with reference of name and reference period of the evaluation reports used

In accordance with the ESF programme's evaluation schedule as detailed in the evaluation plan approved by the Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC), no evaluations took place during the reporting period.

6. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

(a) Issues which affect the performance of the programme and the measures taken

E-Cohesion

The Managing Authority cannot be granted formal designation until e-cohesion requirements are satisfied in full, as per Article 122 (3) of the Common Provisions Regulation. In accordance with the EU procurement directive (Article 32 (2) (c) and following on from the negotiated procedure, the database is now in development and aims to be fully implemented in 2017.

The absence of a programme database has significantly hindered programme monitoring and reporting, with data having to be collated manually, which in turn has created a substantive administrative burden.

Managing Authority (MA) Designation

MA designation is underway with the regulatory Management and Control System description under development and due for submission to the designated audit body for final review, together with the associated procedures, manuals, risk assessment and fraud policies. Coupled with the implementation of the Programme database (see E-Cohesion above) the MA aims to be granted formal designation in 2017, and to complete the first financial drawdown of expenditure from the Commission shortly thereafter.

Match-Funding (Priorities 1 and 2)

Operations funded under priority axes 1 and 2 receive 40% ESF support and 25% Departmental match (65% support towards the total eligible costs). Operations are therefore responsible for securing the additional 35% match funding, which can be obtained from both public and/or private sources.

During 2015 this resulted in some delays to the commencement of operations despite ESF support being available from April 2015. During 2016, several operations have continued to report difficulties in securing the necessary match funding and one operation withdrew from investment priority 8 (i) due to an inability to secure the additional 35% match funding from public or private sources. The MA is currently exploring opportunities to alleviate this issue for the next tranche of projects to be funded from the remaining ESF allocation.

Not in Employment, Education or Training

The Managing Authority is currently reviewing the target for investment priority 8 (ii) of the Operational Programme set with statistical data and as the target set represents close to 100% of the overall NEET population and this may be invalid given that IP 8 (i) and IP 9 (i) (b) will include some of this population.

Community Family Support Programme (CFSP)

The CFSP continues to experience difficulties in delivering against the programme's original targets. The Managing Authority is currently examining the programme design

to identify if there were any issues in the original target setting and definitions associated with this investment priority 9 (i) (b) of the Operational Programme. This intervention therefore continues to be subject to monitoring and consideration by the Managing Authority.

Data Completeness

For priorities 1 and 2, in reporting progress against performance targets, it should be noted that due to data completeness requirements and gaps in individual participant's data captured by operations, a significant amount of data could not be reported on at this time. To date, the programme has supported almost 23,000 participants under investment priorities 8 (i), 8 (ii), 9 (i) (a) and (b), but only just over 13,250 participants have been reported on.- a reduction of over 42% of the entire data set. Engagement with operations is ongoing to improve the completeness of the data set, providing figures that more accurately reflect the programme's activity and performance to date. The Managing Authority anticipates that the issue with data completeness will not reoccur in 2017 and beyond.

(b) An assessment of whether progress made towards targets is sufficient to ensure their fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned, where appropriate.

Priority 1

Operations funded under priority 1 have continued to make steady and significant progress towards programme targets to date.

IP 8 (i) has supported 4,973 unemployed participants to date which represents 47.36% progress against the 2018 performance milestone and 17.76% progress towards the final programme target for 2023. A further 2,577 inactive participants have been supported, which constitutes progress of 57.27% against the 2018 milestone and 21.48% progress against the 2023 final target. In terms of results 1,196 unemployed participants have been progressed into employment upon leaving which is already 31.06% progress towards the programme target for 2023. A further 592 inactive participants have been moved into employment upon leaving against a 2023 target of 1,650 – representing progress of 35.87% to date towards the final target. To date this priority remains on or ahead of its interim targets and, based on current progress, the Managing Authority remains confident that targets will be met.

For IP 8 (ii) 1,712 young people not in education, training or employment have received ESF support. This represents only 18.31% of the 2018 milestone and 6.85% progress towards the final target. 378 participants have progressed into employment and 494 participants have entered education/training on leaving. It is important to note that for this IP in particular, a significant majority of participant data has had to be omitted, in accordance with the data completeness requirements. Remedial work is being conducted with operations however this IP is currently subject to review by the Managing Authority.

Priority 2

3,315 participants with disabilities have been supported under IP 9 (i) (a). This represents progress of 68.35% towards the 2018 milestone and 25.5% progress against the programme's final target of 13,000. 279 participants with disabilities have progressed into employment upon leaving which constitutes progress of 21.46% against the final programme target. This intervention continues to perform well in its progress against the defined targets in the Operational Programme.

For IP 9 (i) (b) the intervention has supported 580 targeted families to date against a milestone of 1,550 – progress of 37.42% against the milestone. However CFSP has supported 681 participants aged 16+ and not in employment, education or training against a milestone target of 4,700 and 12,600. Progress is slow in terms of results indicators with 88 participants in employment upon leaving and 143 engaged in education/training upon leaving.

The issues with CFSP, in terms of delivery against the original targets, have been documented previously and this investment priority is subject to consideration and further scrutiny by the Managing Authority going forward.

Priority 3

The ApprenticeshipsNI provision supported under IP 10(iv) has historically been extremely successful. As the target year for achievement of qualifications is 2 years for a Level 2 or Level 3, and up to 4 years for a Level 2 and Level 3, progress against result indicators cannot be assessed in full at this time. Preliminary indicators are the programme currently supported under Priority Axis 3 continues to be successful as it has, to date, supported 12,213 participants working towards an apprenticeship. 6,566 participants have achieved a targeted Level 2 qualification and 4,647 have achieved a targeted Level 3.

7. CITIZEN'S SUMMARY

A citizen's summary of the contents of the annual and the final implementation reports shall be made public and uploaded as a separate file in the form of annex to the annual and the final implementation report

You can upload/find the Citizen's summary under General > Documents in the SFC2014 application

8. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

9. OPTIONAL FOR THE REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED IN 2016, NOT APPLICABLE TO OTHER LIGHT REPORTS: ACTIONS TAKEN TO FULFILL EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES

Table 14: Actions taken to fulfil applicable general ex-ante conditionalities

General ex-ante conditionality	Criteria not fulfilled	Actions taken	Deadline	Bodies responsible	Action completed by the deadline	Criteria fulfilled	Expected date for full implementation of remaining actions	Commentary

Table 15: Actions taken to fulfil applicable thematic ex-ante conditionalities

General ex-ante conditionality	Criteria not fulfilled	Actions taken	Deadline	Bodies responsible	Action completed by the deadline	Criteria fulfilled	Expected date for full implementation of remaining actions	Commentary

10. PROGRESS IN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MAJOR PROJECTS AND JOINT ACTION PLANS (ARTICLE 101(H) AND 111(3) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

10.1. Major projects

Table 12: Major projects

Project	CCI	Status of MP	Total investments	Total eligible costs	Planned notification / submission date	Date of tacit agreement / approval by Commission	Planned start of implementation (year, quarter)	Planned completion date	Priority Axis / Investment priorities	Current state of realisation — financial progress (% of expenditure certified to Commission compared to total eligible cost)	Current state of realisation — physical progress Main implementation stage of the project	Main outputs	Date of signature of first works contract	Observations

Significant problems encountered in implementing major projects and measures taken to overcome them

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Any change planned in the list of major projects in the operational programme

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10.2. Joint action plans

Progress in the implementation of different stages of joint action plans

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Table 13: Joint action plans (JAP)

Title of the JAP	CCI	Stage of implementation of JAP	Total eligible costs	Total public support	OP contribution to JAP	Priority axis	Type of JAP	[Planned] submission to the Commission	[Planned] start of implementation	[Planned] completion	Main outputs and results	Total eligible expenditure certified to the Commission	Observations
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Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them

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PART B
REPORTING SUBMITTED IN YEARS 2017, 2019 AND FINAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
(Article 50(4), 111(3) and (4) of regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

11. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME
(ARTICLES 50(4) AND 111(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

11.1. Information in Part A and achieving objectives of the programme (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Priority axis	1 - Access to Employment
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The Northern Ireland ESF Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme addresses the needs and challenges highlighted for Northern Ireland through interventions under Thematic Objectives 8, 9 and 10 and five associated specific investment priorities.

A list of all ESF priority 1 operations supported under the first call is available for download at:

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/economy/DfE%20ESF%20List%20of%20Operations.pdf>

Priority 1: Access to Employment – Thematic Objective 8 (Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility)

In line with the thematic concentration requirements for a transition region, the Commission recommendation for concentration, and the funding priorities identified, for the NI ESF Programme, priority 1 has been allocated 28.5% (€146,314,077) of the total ESF funding allocation. Union support is consistent with the co-financing rate for the Operational Programme (OP) at 40% (€58,525,631).

There are two specific investment priorities under this priority axis:

8 i) Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people, including the long term unemployed and people far from the labour market, also through local employment initiatives and support for labour market mobility.

Investment Priority 8 i) funds operations to support participants to enhance their job skills, improve confidence and acquire the necessary skills to access sustainable employment. The specific objectives associated with the investment priority are: -

- To reduce unemployment by assisting those furthest from the labour market to overcome their barriers to accessing and sustaining employment; and
- To combat economic inactivity by helping individuals to make the transition towards the labour market.

The results that the NI ESF Programme aims to achieve with Union support are noted under the section entitled "Results".

For this investment priority, under the first call, 23 of 24 operations accepted offers of financial assistance for the period 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018. As at 31 December 2016, 20 of these

operations continue to deliver their ESF supported provision. A total of €28.87 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) has been committed towards €44.42 million total project costs. To date beneficiaries have claimed €8.35 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) of total project costs of €12.85 million.

For the investment priority, progress to date against the key performance indicators (output and immediate result) for which a target value has been set in the Operational Programme is detailed in the section entitled "Results".

The programme has made steady progress towards meeting, and in some instances, exceeding the set targets to date. It should be noted that due to the completeness requirement, a substantial amount of participant data (35.5%) has been omitted at this time.

8 ii) Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), 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.

Investment Priority 8 ii) focuses on meeting the specific needs of young people who are not in employment, education or training, which was identified as a priority for the Northern Ireland Executive. The objective of the investment priority is to reduce the number of 16-24 year olds who are not in employment, education or training, and to this end the targeted results for the IP are noted under the section entitled "Results".

For this investment priority, under the first call, all 13 operations that were successful in their application, accepted offers of financial assistance for the period 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018. As at 31 December 2016, all of these operations continue to deliver their ESF supported provision. A total of €15.27 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) has been committed towards €23.49 million total project costs. To date beneficiaries have claimed €5.91 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) of total project costs of €9.09 million.

For the investment priority, progress to date against the key performance indicators (output and immediate result) for which a target value has been set in the Operational Programme is detailed in the section entitled "Results".

It is however important to note that a significant majority of the participant data (66.46%) has not been included in the return at this time – again due to issues with data completeness. This has had a significant adverse impact on the performance monitoring for the IP and the intermediary body is continuing to work closely with operations in order to improve the data provided. The Managing Authority is currently reviewing the target for this investment priority 8 (ii) as the target set represents close to 100% of the overall NEET population and this may be invalid given that IP 8 (i) and IP 9 (i) (b) will include some of this population.

RESULTS

Investment Priority 8(i)(a) Unemployed

2018 Milestone target is 10,500

2023 Target - Support 28,000 unemployed participants including long-term unemployed

2018 Milestone target is 10,500

2016 target is 6,090

4,973 achieved representing 81.66% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 3,850 Unemployed participants in employment upon leaving

2016 Target is 838

1,196 achieved representing 142.72% achievement towards 2016 target

Investment Priority 8(i)(b) Economically Inactive

2018 Milestone – Support 4,500 inactive participants

2023 Target – Support 12,000 inactive participants

2018 Milestone target is 4,500

2016 target is 2,610

2,577 achieved representing 98.74% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 1,650 Inactive participants in employment upon leaving

2016 target is 359

592 achieved representing 164.9% achievement towards 2016 target

Investment Priority 8(ii)(a) Young people aged 16-24 not in employment, education or training

2018 Milestone - Support 9,350 young people not in employment, education or training

2023 Target – 25,000 participants not in education, training or employment aged 16-24

2018 Milestone target 9,350

2016 target is 5,423

1,712 achieved representing 31.57% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 target – 8,750 participants in education, training upon leaving aged 16-24

2016 target is 1,898

494 achieved representing 26.03% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 target – 3,000 participants in employment, including self-employment upon leaving aged 16-24

2016 target is 651

378 achieved representing 58.06% achievement towards 2016 target

Priority axis

2 - Social Inclusion

A list of all ESF priority 2 operations supported under the first call is available for download at:

<https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/economy/DfE%20ESF%20List%20of%20Operations.pdf>

Priority 2: Social Inclusion – Thematic Objective 9 (Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any discrimination)

In line with the thematic concentration requirements for a transition region; the Commission recommendation for concentration; and the funding priorities identified, for the NI ESF Programme, priority 2 has been allocated 30% (€154,014,817) of the total ESF funding allocation. Union support is consistent with the co-financing rate for the Operational Programme (OP) at 40% (€61,605,927).

For this priority axis, a total of €36.82 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) has been committed towards €56.65 million total projects costs. To date beneficiaries have claimed €15.76 million (40% ESF and 25% Departmental match) of total project costs of €24.25 million.

There are two specific investment priorities supported under this priority axis:

9 (i) Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability: (a) People with a disability

Actions under investment priority 9 (i) (a) offer support through specialist, tailored training and employment support projects where the specific needs of the individual will be addressed. The specific objective of the investment priority is:

- To enhance social inclusion by reducing unemployment in people with a disability.

To this end, the results that the NI ESF Programme aims to achieve with Union support are under the section entitled "Results".

For this investment priority, under the first call, 24 operations were successful in their application and all accepted offers of financial assistance for the period 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018. As at 31 December 2016, all 24 operations continue to deliver their ESF supported provision.

For the investment priority, progress to date against the key performance indicators (output and immediate result) for which a target value has been set in the Operational Programme is detailed in the section entitled "Results".

The programme has exceeded its output target to date in providing support to over 3,300 participants as at December 2016. Against the December 2016 target of progressing 281 participants into employment, this has virtually been achieved with 279 participants having progressed into employment upon leaving. Once again, there is underreporting at this time as only 72.5% of the total participants can be reported on due to the data completeness requirement.

9 (i) Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability: (b) Community Family Support

The objective of this intervention is to reduce the number of participants aged 16 and over who are not in employment, education or training within families receiving Community Family Support (CFSP). Action supported under this intervention include:

- Engagements with parents of children and young people to promote early intervention to identify solutions to address specific needs;
- Support to tackle a range of issues to improve parenting skills;
- Assistance with development of skills to find work;
- One to one employment advice and mentoring;
- Engagement in a wide range of activities such as stress management, confidence building, motivational and life coaching classes;
- Working closely and in partnership with stakeholders to ensure families receive the support they need and if appropriate help from specialist organisations.

The target results that the Member State seeks to achieve with Union support are under the section entitled "Results".

For this investment priority, 5 operations were successful under the first call, and all accepted offers of financial assistance for the period 1 April 2015 – 31 March 2018. As at 31 December 2016, all five operations continue to deliver their ESF supported provision.

For the investment priority, progress to date against the key performance indicators (output and immediate result) for which a target value has been set in the Operational Programme is detailed in the section entitled "Results".

As iterated previously, IP 9 (i) (b) continues to experience issues in terms of delivery against the original targets, with progress towards both programme output indicators and all four programme specific result indicators lagging significantly behind. Experience of delivering the CFSP to date has highlighted that the average eligible participants per family is much closer to 1.2 participants per family, and not the 3 as originally estimated in the Operational Programme. Accordingly, this investment priority is currently subject to scrutiny and consideration by the Managing Authority.

Data for this IP has again been impacted by data completeness with 56.18% of the participant data not included in the report at this juncture.

RESULTS

Investment Priority 9(ii)(a) Disability

2018 Milestone – Support 4,850 participants with disabilities

2023 Target – 13,000 Participants with disabilities

2018 Milestone target is 4,850

2016 Target is 2,813

3,315 achieved representing 117.85% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 1,950 participants with a disability in education/training upon leaving

2016 Target is 422

291 achieved representing 68.96% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 target – 1,300 Participants with a disability in employment upon leaving

2016 target is 281

279 achieved representing 99.29% achievement towards 2016 target

9(i)(b) Community Family Support

2018 Milestone targets - Support 1,550 targeted families and Support 4,700 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving CFSP

2023 Target – 4200 targeted Families to receive Community Family Support

2018 Milestone is 1,550

2016 target is 899

580 achieved representing 64.52% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 12,600 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving Community Family Support

Milestone target is 4,700

2016 target is 2,726

681 achieved representing 24.98% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 2,520 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving CFSP engaged in education/training

2016 target is 545

143 achieved representing 26.24% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 6,300 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving CFSP engaged in job searching

2016 target is 1,363

47 achieved representing 3.45% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 2,520 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving CFSP engaged in gaining a qualification

2016 target is 545

31 achieved representing 5.68% achievement towards 2016 target

2023 Target – 1,260 NEET participants aged 16+ within families receiving CFSP engaged in employment upon leaving

2016 target is 273

88 achieved representing 32.23% achievement towards 2016 target

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Priority axis	3 - Skills for Growth
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Priority 3: Skills for Growth – Thematic Objective 10 (Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning)

In line with the thematic concentration requirements for a transition region; the Commission recommendation for concentration; and the funding priorities identified, for the NI ESF Programme, priority 3 has been allocated the largest proportion of funding at 40% (€205,353,090) of the total ESF funding allocation. Union support is consistent with the co-financing rate for the Operational Programme (OP) at 40% (€82,141,236) and the Department provides the additional 60% match funding in full for this priority, with no financial input required from other bodies.

This intervention aims to increase the proportion of people in employment skilled at levels 2 and 3-8 through apprenticeships and youth training. This reflects the importance attached to upskilling the workforce, and ensuring the future skills needs of the Northern Ireland economy are met.

The target results that the Member State seeks to achieve with Union support are under the section entitled "Results".

This intervention currently supports one operation, the government programme ApprenticeshipsNI. ApprenticeshipsNI specifically aims to improve the skills level of the workforce and provides participants with the opportunity to take part in a level 2/level 3 apprenticeship where the participant, in paid employment from day one, works towards achieving an industry approved level 2/level 3 apprenticeship framework.

The ApprenticeshipsNI programme aims to:

- Provide participants with the knowledge, understanding, and competence to work at a high level in their chosen occupation;
- Offer quality training to fulfil the requirements of an appropriate apprenticeship framework;
- Contribute to raising the skills level of the NI workforce;
- Provide opportunities for progression to further and higher education and training; and
- Support the direct involvement of employers in training key personnel.

ApprenticeshipsNI offers young people the opportunity to gain essential skills as they are incorporated into the framework and vocationally related qualifications that help them progress up the skills ladder. The programme enables employers to up-skill their future workforce and/or invest in young people to produce the skilled workers they will need to grow their business and increase the pool of skilled labour in Northern Ireland. Training is focused on the areas where skills are most in demand, in order to both maximise the opportunity of sustainable employment for participants and to ensure that the skill needs of the Northern Ireland economy are being met.

ApprenticeshipsNI has an offer of financial assistance for the period 1 September 2015 – 31 March 2017 worth a total value of €35.6 million, comprising of €14.24 million ESF (40%) and €21.36 million (60% Departmental match).

For this intervention, progress to date against the key performance indicators (output and immediate result) for which a target value has been set in the Operational Programme, is detailed in the section entitled "Results".

The target year for achievement of a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification is 2 years after a participant starts on a programme, whilst for Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications it is 4 years after a participant starts on a programme. This can be illustrated by examination of the statistical bulletin published by the Department of the Economy that provide statistical analysis of the performance of ApprenticeshipsNI.

46% of those participants working towards the Level 2 from 2015/2016 are still on the ApprenticeshipsNI programme, whilst 64% of those working towards Level 3, and 66% of those working towards Level 2 en route to the Level 3 remain on the programme. Accordingly the programme continues to make good progress against its targets and the Managing Authority has no concerns to report at this point.

RESULTS

Investment Priority 10 (iv) Apprenticeships NI

Milestone target is 15,750

2023 Target – 42,000 employed participants aged 16 and over working towards an apprenticeship

2018 Milestone target 15,750

Progress achieved towards milestone 12,213 representing 77.54%

2023 Target – 56% of participants to achieve target level 2 qualifications

6,566 achieved towards milestone

2023 Target – 53% of participants to achieve target level 3 qualifications

4,647 achieved towards milestone

Performance targets for FY 2015/16 for Apprenticeships NI

Level 2

Participants completed four weeks - 2,733

Still on programme - 1,245 (46%)

Left without NVQ - 650

Achieved level 2 or 3 - 1,086 (40%)

Level 2 and 3

Participants completed four weeks - 833

Still on programme – 546 (66%)

Left without NVQ - 178

Achieved level 2 or 3 – 245 (29%)

Level 3

Participants completed four weeks – 2,560

Still on programme – 1,648 (64%)

Left without NVQ - 564

Achieved level 2 or 3 – 507 (20%)

Priority axis

4 - The technical assistance budget will support the effective management and implementation of the Northern Ireland ESF programme structures and achievement of the Programme's aim and objectives.

In accordance with Regulation EU No 1303/2013, the programme's technical assistance is funded under Priority Axis 4. The technical assistance budget supports the capacity

of programme management bodies and the effective management and implementation and achievement of the Programme's aims and objectives.

Technical assistance also supports quality assurance processes for the Programme. Building on the evaluation activity carried out in the 2007-2013 ESF Programme, the Department has funded two Inspector posts within the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) to undertake quality inspection activity for the 2014-2020 programme. All baseline assessments for each project were completed by October 2016 with ETI producing 'summary of main findings' documents for the Department and each project, identifying key strengths and areas for improvement. The baseline assessments were supportive in nature to prepare projects for their graded inspection. The graded inspections commenced in October 2016 and are ongoing.

All supplier organisations of ApprenticeshipsNI are inspected regularly by ETI and the purpose of inspection visits is to ensure the highest possible standards of training and learning in Northern Ireland (NI). Inspections inform the Department and other stakeholders how well the supplier organisations in NI have performed and what needs to be changed in order for them to improve.

11.2. Specific actions taken to promote equality between men and women and to prevent discrimination, in particular accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the operational programme and operations (Articles 50(4) and 111(4), second subparagraph, (e) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

The principle of equality in Northern Ireland is embedded in NI law and policy and is set out in Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. Section 75 requires public authorities to comply with two statutory duties, one of which is the Equality of Opportunity duty. This requires public authorities to carry out their functions relating to Northern Ireland with due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between the nine equality categories - persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation; men and women generally; persons with a disability and persons without; and persons with dependants and persons without.

The Section 75 statutory duties make equality and good relations central to the whole range of public policy decision-making. Section 75 is part of the public policy agenda which is ultimately aimed at developing policies and services that address the needs of all people, especially those experiencing inequalities. The Section 75 statutory duties require more than the avoidance of discrimination. Public authorities should actively seek ways to encourage greater equality of opportunity and good relations through their policy development, for example, the kind of measures permitted under sex discrimination, race relations, and disability discrimination legislation.

The Equality Commission for NI is an independent public body established under the Northern Ireland Act 1998. All NI Departments are required to publish their Equality policies and to report annually to the Equality Commission on their implementation. The Equality Commission is represented on the Monitoring Committee for the Programme.

The ESF programme has been developed in line with the Section 75 requirements. The ESF programme has been screened for equality implications and is compliant with the requirements of the Section 75 legislation. The programme complies with the Women's Charter (2010) and contributes to a number of thematic priorities contained in the Strategy for Equality between Men and Women 2010-2015. Of particular relevance in this strategy is priority one: equal economic independence. Through the ESF programme we help and support more women to access the labour market, thereby addressing economic independence.

The Programme has adopted a dual approach to gender equality and promoting equal opportunities. The Programme funds specific activities which target women and other disadvantaged groups such as people with a disability and lone parents.

The implementation and delivery of the ESF Programme is monitored and reviewed ensuring the Department's Section 75 duties and commitment to mainstream equality are met. The ESF Programme's participation or take-up rates are monitored annually to identify any participation or take-up rates which are lower than expected, and their causes.

The Department plans and oversees a rolling programme of evaluations (updated annually) which ensures that labour market programmes and services are evaluated every five years. Equality issues are treated as an integral part of each evaluation. The ESF Programme is included in the Department's rolling programme as well as having its own evaluation strategy that includes at least two evaluations during its lifespan. Equal opportunities, non discrimination and equality between men and women will be examined as part of the evaluation work, which is set out in the Programme's Evaluation Strategy.

11.3. Sustainable development (Articles 50(4) and 111(4), second subparagraph, (f) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

The principle of sustainable development, as set out in Article 8 of (EU) No.1303/2013, aligns with the Northern Ireland Draft Programme for Government (PfG) Framework (2016-2021) which sets out the ambition the Northern Ireland Executive (NIE) has regarding sustainability. The total green house gas (GHG) emissions for Northern Ireland show an increase of less than 1% between 2012 and 2013. The 2012 to 2013 trend was predominantly driven by a shift from natural gas to coal in the Energy Supply sector and the forest fires that occurred in 2012. GHG emissions have fallen 16% since 1990. The last Programme for Government targeted a reduction of 35% on 1990 levels by 2025.

The Climate Change Act sets a target of 80% reductions, again against 1990 levels, for achievement by the UK as a whole. Measures taken to reduce GHG emissions will make a contribution to mitigating the effects of climate change globally, and will also reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, and increase resource and energy efficiency. Therefore, 'Increase in Environmental Sustainability' is one of the indicators against which the NIE will measure its success under the PfG by monitoring the reduction in GHG. Measures taken to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions will make a contribution to

mitigating the effects of climate change globally, and will also reduce dependence on fossil fuels, and increase resource and energy efficiency.

A determination of whether the Northern Ireland ESF Programme was likely to have significant environmental effects was conducted and the ESF Programme was screened out as there are no significant effects on the environment and therefore a full environmental assessment was not therefore required.

The Northern Ireland ESF Programme operates within the context of the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy and also takes into account the commitments contained in the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy. The Northern Ireland ESF Programme is targeted and implemented in a manner that promotes sustainable development and creates sustainable communities and it observes the guiding principles of the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy. Project providers must demonstrate at the application stage how the project will support the principles of the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy, which in turn support the shift to a low carbon, resource efficient economy.

11.4. Reporting on support used for climate change objectives (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Priority axis	Amount of support to be used for climate change objectives (EUR)	Proportion of total allocation to the operational programme (%)
Total	0.00	0.00%

Figures calculated automatically by SFC2014 based on optimisation data. Optional: clarification on the given values

This section is not applicable to the Investment for Growth and Jobs NI ESF Programme 2014-2020.

11.5. Role of partners in the implementation of the programme

The Operational Programme was developed in partnership with Government Departments in Northern Ireland and a wide range of regional stakeholders from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. Ongoing engagement was facilitated through a Consultative Partnership Group which was established in September 2012 with representatives of local government, Environment Bodies, Equality Commission, Education, Higher Education, Voluntary and Community sector, Trades Unions, Business, the Agri-Rural sector and the Energy sector. In addition representatives from the European Commission (DG REGIO, EMPLOY and AGRI) were invited to attend as observers as are representatives of the Northern Ireland MEPs.

The group met 8 times during the preparation of the Programme and input provided by members was taken on board and reflected where possible in this Programme. In addition to considering potential content for the ESF Programme, the Consultative

Partnership Group provided input on Northern Ireland's contribution to the United Kingdom Partnership Agreement for the 2014-2020 programming period. It also provided input on what form a local government dimension of the new Structural Funds programmes might take and how it might be delivered to ensure the most efficient and effective use of resources available.

DfE officials and Local Government representatives discussed how Councils could be more involved in the selection of projects, taking account of their understanding of local needs and their potential to be match funders of individual projects.

In considering proposed activity for inclusion in the Programme the Department also engaged directly with a wide range of stakeholders. Informal consultation took place between the Department and local government representatives as part of a broader process led by DoF involving all prospective managing authorities for the next round of EU Structural Funds. In addition, informal and formal consultation also took place with Community and Voluntary sector representatives and feedback was received from the sector with regard to how future ESF funding could best be utilised, within the constraints of EU regulations. In developing the Programme, the views of partners were taken into account and changes were made which included greater local government involvement and a more strategic approach to project selection, as well as agreement to allocate funding for combating poverty and enhancing social inclusion to thematic objective 9 put forward by representatives of the Community and Voluntary sector. Support for this approach was evident in feedback to the consultation exercise and was endorsed by the Consultative partnership group.

A 12 week public consultation process in July 2013 ensured that as broad a spectrum as possible of opinion could be taken into account in finalising the ESF programme.

Partnership arrangements continue as Programme activity is implemented, monitored and evaluated. At Programme level, partnership is embodied in the Programme Monitoring Committee, which is responsible for monitoring implementation of the programme. Reflecting the principle of partnership, its membership is drawn from representatives reflecting the regional and sectoral interests in the programme, including the economic and social partners.

12. OBLIGATORY INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 111(4), FIRST SUBPARAGRAPH, (A) AND (B), OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013

12.1. Progress in implementation of the evaluation plan and the follow-up given to the findings of evaluations

The Programme Monitoring Committee (PMC) has overall responsibility for overseeing Programme evaluation and the MA has overall responsibility for reporting evaluation results to PMC throughout the Programming period. The MA monitors the delivery of the evaluation plan to ensure evaluations progress in line with the plan and that each evaluation is subject to appropriate follow-up in accordance with the Fund specific rules. The evaluation schedule outlines the evaluations planned for the Programme. Each of the investment priorities is scheduled to be evaluated during the programming period to assess the extent to which the Programme has achieved and contributed to the associated objectives of the investment priority. Results of evaluations will be included, once available, in the Annual Implementation Reports which are approved by PMC and submitted to the European Commission.

All evaluation results will be presented to the PMC, accompanied where relevant, by a response or comment from the Managing Authority. Following PMC, evaluations will be sent to the Commission and published on the Programme's webpage.

The suite of performance indicators for the Programme are used for on-going monitoring to track the implementation and delivery of the OP and highlight any changes due to external factors that may impact on deliverables (results, targets). This enables the MA to react to any changes identified by taking corrective action if necessary as well as complement monitoring activity and aid decision making.

The first evaluation for the Programme is scheduled for 2018.

12.2. The results of the information and publicity measures of the Funds carried out under the communication strategy

The ESF Managing Authority's Communication Plan was approved by PMC by written procedure on 3rd January 2017 and then submitted to the Commission. The MA plans to take forward a number of the main actions in early 2017, aimed at raising awareness of the ESF Programme. These actions involve working in conjunction with the Department's Communications Branch and NI Direct.

A major activity is currently in progress to develop a distinct ESF section on the 'nidirect' website. 'nidirect' is the official government website for Northern Ireland citizens and aims to make it easier to access government information and services. It does this by working closely with Northern Ireland departments and other public bodies to collate key information based on users' needs. Whilst development has currently started it is anticipated that the ESF pages will 'go live' in 2017.

The planned new pages will provide information on the ESF programme as well as a comprehensive list of all current ESF operations across Northern Ireland detailing:

- where ESF support is delivered;
- an overview of the ESF supported services provided by each operation;
- the target audience of the operation;

- contact details.

To support the establishment of the new ESF web pages, the Managing Authority has commissioned the design and production of new posters and leaflets for the programme. Whilst these will be available as an electronic resource, it is intended to commission a limited print run for distribution across all of the Jobs and Benefits Offices/Jobcentre network and the Careers Resource Centres. The MA also intends to engage with the Department's Press Office in order to conduct co-ordinated social media activity around the launch of the ESF pages.

Following the change in NI Government Departments, the MA is now part of the Department for the Economy and details of the ESF Programme can now be found on the Department's own website at <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/esf>. During 2016, the Minister or senior Departmental officials attended a number of ESF events such as graduation and awards ceremonies, which were accompanied by Departmental press releases.

13. ACTIONS TAKEN TO FULFILL EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013) (MAY BE INCLUDED IN REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED IN 2016 (SEE POINT 9 ABOVE). REQUIRED IN REPORT SUBMITTED IN 2017) OPTION: PROGRESS REPORT

14. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE ADDED DEPENDING ON THE CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 111(4), SECOND SUBPARAGRAPH, (A), (B), (C), (D), (G) AND (H), OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

14.1. Progress in the implementation of the integrated approach to territorial development, including development of regions facing demographic challenges and permanent or natural handicaps, sustainable urban development, and community led local development under the operational programme

Northern Ireland's Economic Strategy recognises Belfast and Londonderry as key drivers of regional growth. The ESF Managing Authority continues to engage with the ERDF Managing Authority to ensure ESI funds are used to support local activity in these and other areas. ESF investment will focus on promoting access to employment, social inclusion and skills for growth to encourage growth and jobs throughout Northern Ireland.

The Partnership Agreement established that the Community-led local development model was not directly relevant to the ESF Operational Programme.

14.2. Progress in the implementation of actions to reinforce the capacity of Member State authorities and beneficiaries to administer and use the Funds

In Northern Ireland European Union Division, Department of Finance (EUD DoF) has overall responsibility for fulfilling the role of Member State. EUD DoF has designated the Department for the Economy (DfE) as the Managing Authority (MA) and Certifying Authority (CA) for the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2014-20 (the Programme) co financed by the European Social Fund (ESF). The designation process is in the latter stages with full designation to be achieved when the programme database is operational.

To ensure proper division of duties and sufficient independence of action, the Programme MA and CA have been established in separate Directorates within DfE. The MA function sits within European Fund Management Division and the CA is part of Finance Division. The officers in overall charge of each Directorate are Senior Civil Servants of the same grade (Grade 5) within the Department's management hierarchy, with sufficient discretion and authority to act independently of, and if necessary challenge, the decisions of the other Directorate.

The Audit Authority (AA) has been established within the Department's Corporate Governance and Planning Division which is functionally independent of the MA and CA. The AA reports directly to the European Commission (EC) with internal reporting to the Departmental Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (by an independent Board Member), for information purposes.

14.3. Progress in the implementation of any interregional and transnational actions

The benefits of transnational working are promoted by the Managing Authority to encourage those who wish to participate. The advantages of participation were highlighted in a review commissioned by the Managing Authority and undertaken by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in October 2010. The review highlighted potential barriers to projects engaging in transnational working and amongst these was the lack of awareness of what transnational working actually involved, identification of potential partners and how the activity is funded within the Programme. Taking into consideration the key issues identified in the review, the Managing Authority has instituted affirmative action. This includes awareness raising activities led by projects with expertise and experience in transnational working and provision of a tool for the identification of potential partners with appropriate resources and support in place. Actions around transnational working are targeted towards addressing specific needs within the programme area while maximising the added value that can be delivered. Focus is placed on actions which offer significant opportunity to develop common solutions to common and emerging issues and which strengthen capacities to innovate, modernise and adapt to new socio-economic challenges and to promote and share information and good practice.

The ESF Managing Authority is proactively involved in the transnational network on simplification and the Head of the Managing Authority has delivered a number of presentations on the subject of simplification across Europe.

14.4. Where appropriate, the contribution to macro-regional and sea basin strategies

As stipulated by the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013, article 27(3) on the "content of programmes", article 96(3)(e) on the "content, adoption and amendment of operational programmes under the Investment for growth and jobs goal", article 111(3), article (4)(d) on "implementation reports for the Investment for growth and jobs goal", and Annex 1, section 7.3 on "contribution of mainstream programmes to macro-regional and sea-basin strategies, this programme contributes to MRS(s) and/or SBS:

This section is not applicable to the Investment for Growth and Jobs NI ESF Programme 2014-2020.

- EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR)
- EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR)
- EU Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP)
- Atlantic Sea Basin Strategy (ATLSBS)

14.5. Progress in the implementation of actions in the field of social innovation, where appropriate

Social innovation aims to develop the capabilities of individuals enabling them to meet their needs over the longer term. The benefits of adopting a social innovation approach continue to be promoted and encouraged by the Managing Authority. At the application stage, applicants were expected to demonstrate how their project would apply innovative approaches to engaging with those most at risk of disadvantage who are furthest from the labour market or who experience multiple barriers to accessing employment. This may involve:

- Exploring alternative delivery models
- Targeting specific groups with a view to creating new and better ways of tackling social challenges
- Developing sustainable exit strategies through testing of new delivery models

This evidence-based approach is aligned to the Delivering Social Change Framework which is rolling out the use of outcomes based accountability in developing and evaluating new policies and programmes.

Opportunities for social innovation may develop as projects progress. Actions will be subject to monitoring and evaluation by the Managing Authority with lessons learnt being disseminated both within projects and across Northern Ireland. Innovative approaches will be reflected in the new apprenticeships model to be implemented in 2017.

14.6. Progress in the implementation of measures to address the specific needs of geographical areas most affected by poverty or of target groups at highest risk of poverty discrimination or social exclusion, with special regard to marginalised communities and persons with disabilities, long term unemployment and young people not in employment including, where appropriate, the financial resources used

Promoting access to sustainable employment is seen in Northern Ireland as the best route for tackling poverty and social exclusion. By focusing on actions that encourage people to overcome barriers to employment, the programme aims to make a valuable contribution to reducing both poverty and social isolation.

The main groups of individuals being supported with ESF funding are those furthest from the labour market and with significant barriers to entering employment.

Priority Axis 1 provides support for the unemployed (including long-term unemployed) and economically inactive as well as targeting young people aged 16-24 not in employment, education or training.

Under Priority 2 there is support for families, where at least one family member is NEET or in danger of falling into the NEET category. The Community Family Support Programme focuses on helping young people to overcome their barriers to entering employment, training or education. People with a disability are also a key target group for support under this priority.

Operations supported under Priorities 1 and 2 were commissioned on a Northern Ireland wide basis as it is recognised that there are a number of people in need of support who do not live in an area of multiple deprivation.

Under Priority 3 investment in apprenticeships continues to ensure progression in employment thus helping reduce in-work poverty. The Programme promotes sustained employment and social inclusion by improving the skills level of the workforce, promoting sustained employment and social inclusion. The Programme also improves the qualifications of low skilled and low paid female workers, thereby helping to promote gender equality and reduce gender gaps in the workforce.

The ESF Programme continues to be targeted to support the needs of groups most at risk of, or affected by poverty and exclusion, and those facing disadvantage through disability, unemployment or economic activity. Activity funded through the ESF Programme assists those furthest from the labour market to overcome their barriers to employment.

The ESF Programme continues to support relevant policies in strategy to increase labour market participation and eliminate child poverty by helping to increase access to the labour market for parents.

15. FINANCIAL INFORMATION AT PRIORITY AXIS AND PROGRAMME LEVEL (ARTICLES 21(2) AND 22(7) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

16. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH (OPTION PROGRESS REPORT) SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH (OPTION PROGRESS REPORT)

Information on and assessment of the programme contribution to achieving the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Information on and assessment of the programme contribution to achieving the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

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17. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEASURES TAKEN — PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)

Where the assessment of progress made with regard to the milestones and targets set out in the performance framework demonstrates that certain milestones and targets have not been achieved, Member States should outline the underlying reasons for failure to achieve these milestones in the report of 2019 (for milestones) and in the final implementation report (for targets).

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Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
ESF AIR 2016 Citizens Summary	Citizens' summary	29-Jun-2017		Ares(2017)32945 10	ESF AIR 2016 Citizens Summary	30-Jun-2017	nmnusjoh