

Estonia 2020 Action Plan for 2011-2015

Updated in April 2013

Action plan and timing of implementation of measures by challenges

* marks measures also covered in the government coalition agreement

Challenge/Measure	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Responsibility
WELL EDUCATED PEOPLE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY						
1. Improvement of the quality of the educational system and adaptation to demographic changes.						
I Ensuring high-quality education at all education levels						
Guaranteeing high-level basic and in-service training for teachers, which would ensure the implementation of the ideology of new national curricula and increased motivation and creativity of teachers. *	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
The development of the principles of general education funding to improve the quality of education and teacher enhancement		x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
Continuing the payment of the start-up grant to young teachers *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Paying a 30% bonus to teachers teaching in Estonian language in Ida-Viru County *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Preparation and implementation of Estonian Language Training Programme 2014-2020*			x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Implementation of teaching subjects (history, geography from 5th grade) in Estonian in Russian-speaking basic schools in order to ensure Estonian language skills at level B1, enabling further studies.					x	Ministry of Education and Research
Ensuring internationally acknowledged English language school education via developing European School in Estonia and supporting International Baccalaureate (IB) studies*			x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Implementation of higher education reform		x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
Implementing new national curricula for basic schools and upper secondary schools*	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
Changing pre-school childcare institutions act in order to improve access to childcare services according to family needs.*			x			Ministry of Education and Research
II Improving the organisation of the network of schools						

a.	Integral planning of study places after basic school at the general and vocational education level (including clearer separation of basic school and upper secondary school levels)	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Implementation of upper secondary school system reform and launch of the investment programme to improve the quality of schools network.		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Reviewing the proportion of financing for different types of education, with emphasis on effectiveness	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
2. Bringing labour qualification into conformity with the needs of the modern labour market (including making better use of the possibilities of the EU internal market and other policies) and increasing the proportion of people with specialized education at the vocational or higher education level.							
I Ensuring the availability of education and skilled labour corresponding to the modern labour market							
a.	Development of outcome-based vocational curricula and connecting general education of upper secondary level vocational education to key competencies*			x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Accreditation of vocational education schools and improving the quality of management in cooperation with experts in the field.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Developing a competence-based system of forecasting labour needs, including improved forecasting of needs for foreign labour and taking into account the possible impacts.	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Development of inter-services cooperation model and process description for monitoring and analyses of the qualitative changes in the labour-market			x	x		Government Office (Skills Task Force)
e.	Preparation of the competence register for the competence catalogue and development of the competence-based self-evaluation web environment			x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Developing professional qualification system aimed to improve linkages between education and work realms		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
g.	Expanding and improving the availability of further training and retraining opportunities for adults *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
h.	Supporting the low-skilled unemployed in beginning vocational education studies				x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
i.	Simplifying and shortening the process of issuing residence and work permits, with the aim to improve the access of qualified foreign labour to the Estonian labour market	x	x	x			Ministry of the Interior

j.	Continuing the TULE and KUTSE programmes to ensure that people who have interrupted their higher or vocational studies could resume their education *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
k.	Creation of additional positions for work-place based learning format in formal studies or renewal of qualification					x	Ministry of Education and Research
II Supporting the educational path of young people and better supporting the professional choices, with the aim to increase the students' awareness of the working world and reduce the number of school dropouts							
a.	Development of youth guarantee measures for young people from 16-29 for work, education and training opportunities ("First job" support scheme combined with training, Involvement and activation of youth not in education or employment)*			x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Ensuring career services for youth at general and higher education levels *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Providing the career counsellors and pupils with up-to-date labour market information (salaries, labour market trends, job profiles etc)	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
d.	Increasing the awareness of parents of further study opportunities and career planning for young people	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
III Developing entrepreneurship and other key competences							
a.	Systematically promoting enterprizing initiative and entrepreneurship studies or subjects at all education levels *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	More actively involving entrepreneurs in developing training objectives and defining study outcomes	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Continuing the implementation of joint curricula in higher educational institutions, with the aim to allow students of different specialities to obtain the basic knowledge and skills of another speciality, with emphasis on providing entrepreneurship knowledge and skills to students of non-economic specialities *	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
3. Increasing the international competitiveness of higher education							
a.	Continued facilitation of the creation of international joint curricula	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Creating support measures for the preferential development of internationally strong areas (including ensuring the continued financing of master's study curricula successfully launched under special measures)	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

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a.	Increasing the volume of regular health checks and various health monitoring and screening programmes, with the aim to detect possible health disorders in an early stage.*		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
A COMPETITIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT							
6. Shaping a policy that promotes long-term growth in the international competitiveness of companies.							
I Modern business environment							
a.	Increasing the share of creditors recognized claims that are satisfied in bankruptcy proceedings *		x	x	x		Ministry of Justice
b.	Assessing and systematically reducing the administrative burden.*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Implementing the performance agreement with Tartu University for improvement of entrepreneurship study in Estonia			x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Developing the organisation of public services (The Green Paper of public services provision)*		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II Consolidating and simplifying entrepreneurship subsidies and developing and implementing new financing models.							
a.	Drawing up support format for entrepreneurs complete development model and implementation			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Developing and implementing a system for the regular assessment of the impacts of entrepreneurship subsidies.		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Continuing the KredEx measures aimed at the development of entrepreneurship (start-up loan, loan guarantees, subordinated bank loans, technology loan).	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Continuing the Enterprise Estonia measures for start-up entrepreneurs (basic training, mentoring, incubation).	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Ministry of Interior
e.	Continuing supporting the development of knowledge and skills.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
III Providing support measures to entrepreneurs to facilitate the growth of export capabilities and the use of export potential.							
a.	Continuing the offering of medium- and long-term export guarantees in order to increase the competitiveness of Estonian enterprises.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

a.	Creation and implementation of support measures to integrate foreign labor to Estonian society				x	x	Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Increasing availability of adaptation and support services for new migrants	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture Ministry of Interior
c.	Improving the accessibility of labour related information in foreign languages in Estonia.*	x	x	x			Ministry of Social Affairs
8. Creating preconditions for increasing the volumes of research and development in the private sector and raising the number and quality of innovation outputs.							
I Stimulating demand-based research and development and innovation							
a.	Analysis of experience and best practices in joint public procurement			x			Ministry of Finance
b.	Creation and implementation of support measure for use of ICT in general economy		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Action plan for developing innovative and green public procurement			x			Ministry of Finance
II Improving the effectiveness of subsidies granted by the state and developing new financing solutions							
a.	Developing the financing model for incubation services, with the aim to provide a higher quality incubation service more in conformity with the needs of enterprises (tailor-made).*		x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Analyzing the possibilities of developing R&D and innovation policies through cross-border support programmes, particularly in order to facilitate the cross-use of financing programmes between countries in the Baltic Sea region.*		x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
III Developing environments facilitating research and development and innovation							
a.	Developing a longer term and more strategic model of cooperation for technology development centres and (industrial) clusters, linking both formats to smart specialisation. *				x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

b.	Developing a measure aimed at enterprises to encourage the use of R&D infrastructure, with the aim to increase the interest and possibilities of entrepreneurs in using the R&D infrastructure in the product development process.*				x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Balanced development of R&D system and introduction of measures for sustainability of R&D system and quality				x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
d.	Supporting the internationalization of Estonian science			x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
e.	Continuing the product development grants and the 'innovation voucher' grant measure.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
IV Improving the availability of early-stage venture capital in order to support the development of innovative enterprises with high growth potential							
a.	Improving the availability of early-stage venture capital			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Developing measures in cooperation with the Baltic Sea countries, which would help integrate the Estonian venture capital with the regional venture capital market in a mutually beneficial manner, thereby improving the international investment capabilities of Estonian investors and the access of young innovative Estonian enterprises to international venture capital.*		x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Implementing the Start-up Estonia programme in order to improve the attractiveness and investment readiness of Estonian start-up enterprises, with the aim to increase foreign capital investments in innovative Estonian enterprises with high growth potential.*			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
V Developing challenge-based research and development and innovation							
a.	Developing challenge-based research and development and innovation coordination mechanisms with focus on the socio-economic challenges of Estonia (e.g. energy independence, the ageing population, internal and external security).		x	x			Ministry of Education and Research Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Ministry of Social Affairs Ministry of Environment Ministry of Defense Ministry of Agriculture

b.	Continuing the development of infrastructure of research and higher education and opening the use of infrastructure for entrepreneurs, implementing measures for sustainability and modernisation of R&D infrastructure	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication Ministry of Interior
VI Integration into the European Research Area							
a.	Participation in the joint EU R&D initiatives and in the joint infrastructures. Contributing to the creation of European research area via corresponding national policies		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
9. The broader use of the potential of the creative industries, ICT and other key technologies for raising the value added of other sectors.							
I Developing measures for supporting creative industries more effectively							
a.	Expanding the 'innovation voucher' measure, with the aim to facilitate cooperation between ordinary and creative enterprises.*		x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Developing and implementing a grant measure for supporting the participation of creative people in foreign procurement tenders (e.g. architectural tenders).*			x	x	x	Ministry of Culture
c.	Creating possibilities for creative industry enterprises for implementing their export plans.*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Developing the measure for supporting the creative industry support structure.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II Facilitating an integrated approach in order to increase the impact of the interaction of creative industries, ICT and other key technologies							
a.	Creating possibilities for developing space technologies (Earth-based applications), improving the public sector services through the introduction of Earth-based applications of space technology.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Continuing and ensuring the achievement of set goals of the R&D programmes for ICT, energy technologies, biotechnology, green technologies, health technologies and material technologies as key technologies.			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Social Affairs
c.	Improving the R&D capacity of the public sector, based on the socio-economic needs and challenges of the country				x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

d.	Working out the Open Data Re-Use Strategy and promoting the re-use and access of public sector data, incl. creating appropriate infrastructure.		x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	Developing a measure for facilitating the development of services by service sector enterprises (e.g. service design).*				x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	Creating long-term roadmaps for the development and implementation of ICT in focal areas (education, healthcare, industry etc).*		x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
g.	Developing innovative ICT products and services in strategically important areas (incl. through Norway Grant scheme).		x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
h.	Implementing support measure for design consulting to value role of design in development of products, services and business models.*			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
i.	Further development the IT Academy*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
III Increasing human capital capabilities in order to achieve cross-sectoral objectives							
a.	Improving the quality of management training for entrepreneurs via central provision of international training competence			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Continuing supporting the creative economy support structures and export potential and improvement of the awareness of creative industries through the development of the 'Creative Estonia' platform	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
10. Developing human capital in the area of research and ensuring the increment of engineers and key specialists.							
a.	Increasing the income of doctoral students together with improving the efficiency of doctoral studies.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Developing a research instruction system and implementing measures for improving the quality and effectiveness of instruction, with the aim to increase the number of good and effective supervisors	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Continually supporting schools with doctoral programmes and further developing research centres of excellence	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
d.	Establishing a career model for scientists *	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research
11. Bringing transportation, ICT and other public infrastructure and institutions that support business to an international level.							
I Improving air traffic connections							
a.	Supporting the security and rescue services of Tallinn Airport and regional airports	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Developing air traffic connections with all major European business centres*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Lengthening of the Tallinn Airport runway and ensuring ILS II-category					x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

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a.	Continually increasing the diversity of the portfolio of energy sources in order to maintain energy independence, including increasing the share of renewable energy sources and reducing the share of carbon-intensive energy sources. Amending the Development Plan of the Estonian Energy Sector in line with the developments of recent years.*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Preparation and implementation of energy infrastructure projects to improve energy internal market (Estlink 2, BalticConnector, third connection with Latvia)*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Establishing common EU energy market rules, including measures implemented at the border of EU for avoiding carbon leakage			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Development of regional gas market and additional gas supply sources (regional LNG terminal). Liberalizing the gas market in the most appropriate manner, which is in accordance with the results of the analysis and forecast of the sustainability of gas as an internal and regional fuel.*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	Development of electricity support scheme for electricity produced from renewable resources and via joint production of heat and electricity		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	Creation and implementation of auditing and investment support scheme for heating districts to improve their efficiency or replacement with alternative solutions)*				x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
13. Reducing the general resource- and energy intensity of the economy							
I Energy efficiency							
a.	Implementing stricter energy efficiency requirements for new and reconstructed buildings starting from 2013. The state will lead by example, constructing new public sector buildings energy-efficiently. *			x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Completion of the first stage of investments into energy conservation for public sector and local government buildings, apartment buildings and small residences.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of the Environment
c.	Implementing an environmentally friendly public transport investment programme		x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Increasing the use of vehicles using alternative fuels (incl biogas) by developing and implementing set of measures.				x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

e.	Development of electromobility including an Estonian-wide electric cars charging network and support measure for acquiring electric cars by private consumers	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	Introducing energy class labels for vehicles (in accordance with European common labeling system) in order to increase the awareness of consumers, including the creation of search options by CO2 emission figures in car sales portals.	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Environment
g.	Improving the urban (moving)environment by better planning of urban areas and re-use of areas				x	x	Ministry of Interior Ministry of the Environment Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
h.	Measure for promoting the wider use of renewable energy sources in the production of energy*	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
i.	Supporting the investments of energy producers that use wind as an energy source*	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II Resource economy							
a.	Continuing implementation of ecological tax reform through increase of environmental taxes and reduction of labour taxes in public sector incomes	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
b.	Development and implementation of energy and resource saving measures for industrial enterprises and SMEs			x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Measures for decreasing the production, re-use and recycling of industrial waste (including oil shale waste) in companies.		x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
d.	Supporting innovative technologies incl PVT, improvement of final cleaning methods and technologies for reduction of environmental burden from industry				x	x	Ministry of the Environment
e.	Development of evaluation methodology for ecosystem services to create business opportunities that take into account their economic value			x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
f.	Development of accounting and mining permits system of natural mineral resources in order to increase sufficient availability, economical use and security of supply of raw materials		x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
A SUSTAINABLE AND ADAPTIVE PUBLIC SECTOR							
14. Reaching a government sector budget surplus by 2014 and maintaining that position in the long-term perspective.							
a.	Maintaining structural surplus in government sector budget*	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance

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a.	Analysis of further reduction of the upper limit of the income tax incentive in order to harmonise and simplify the tax system, by reducing, inter alia, the impact of tax refunds on interest of housing loans on macro-economic imbalances related to real estate prices and inflation*	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
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