

Spain

Key elements envisaged for transnational cooperation in the framework of ESF 2007 – 2013

In the programming period 2007 – 2013 Spain will have 22 ESF operational programmes of which 19 will be regional programmes.

For the moment the Managing Authority is still assessing all the draft programmes from the Spanish regions. The ones already assessed, include under Priority 4 transnational and interregional cooperation.

The 3 national operational programmes are:

- I. Employment and adaptability**
- II. Fighting against discrimination**
- III. Technical Assistance**

I. The Employment and Adaptability operational programme aims at strengthening employment stability, improve the adaptability of all workers and enhance the job creation spirit integrating the gender perspective. This programme intends to create better living conditions for workers by means of facilitating the access, the development and the stability in the labour market by considering the needs of both men and women and by the elimination of the still existing inequalities. It will also be orientated to improve the training programmes and to foster R+D+i.

This programme will include the following 5 priorities:

Priority 1: To foster entrepreneurship and improve the adaptability of workers, employers and enterprises.

Priority 2: To enhance employability, social inclusion and equal opportunities for men and women.

Priority 3: Increase and improve human capital (resources)

Priority 4: Promote transnational and interregional cooperation.

Priority 5: Technical assistance.

II. The Fighting against Discrimination programme pretends to eliminate discrimination in both senses : discrimination related to gender factors and discrimination related to specific groups of people that are excluded or in risk of exclusion due to their specific characteristics (ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, ...etc). As regards to the gender discrimination not only positive actions for women are foreseen but also for men and women, private and public institutions and NGO's. As for the other exclusion factors, specific actions will be addressed to those groups who are excluded or in risk of exclusion (disabled people, migrants, ex-offenders, roma people,..etc)

These actions will be implemented following a thematic and holistic approach, all over the 19 regions, favouring a wider impact and multiplying effect in terms of innovative methodologies, assessments and results.

Furthermore this programme will reinforce the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the public and private sector.

This programme will include the following 3 priorities:

Priority 2: Fostering employability, social inclusion and equal opportunities between men and women.

Priority 4: Promote transnational and interregional cooperation.

Priority 5: Technical Assistance

III. The Technical Assistance operational programme will design adequate measures to support the right management of all the operations programmes to be implemented. This programme is focussed in the elaboration of studies, public campaigns, and seminar in relation to the labour market, training programmes, equal opportunities between men and women and environment protection amongst other in order to strengthen the contribution of the ESF programmes to the objectives of the European Union in relation to employment and social inclusion.

Main objectives pursued in transnationality for the 2007-2013 programming period:

- Mutual learning of new approaches and schemes
- Taking advantages of experiences and good results validated in other contexts
- Establishing new ways for communication and common understanding
- Consolidate cooperation and exchange networks
- European platforms for common developments of services, products and methodologies.
- Fostering new managing and collaboration models through exchange of experts and key agents.

Some of the activities envisaged for transnational work according to the topics to be discussed in the seminar

a) Identification of Themes:

- The employment growth, equal opportunities, migrant people, school leavers, the relocation of companies, and the development of local context are some topics included in the spanish NSFR as themes to be dealt at transnational level by means of joint activities, exchange of final beneficiaries and public authorities and the creation of thematic networks.
- Guidance on implementing the principle of gender equality in transnational activities. Follow-up and evaluation of its implementation.
- Thematic studies on transnational results related to: adaptability, employment training, fight against discrimination, gender equality, business creation, and so on. Publication and dissemination of results.
- Collaboration network gathering European institutions with recognized experience in working with roma people.

b) Eligible activities and forms of cooperation

- Dissemination seminars of good practices developed in a transnational context.
- On the ground visits to transnational activities.
- Thematic studies on transnational collaboration..
- Development of a Transnationality Guide for Operational Programmes and other tools for facilitating the correct development of transnational work
- Transnational website as practical tool to compile and disseminate products, events, potential partners and networks implementing transnational work.

- Active participation in the European Community of Practice on Transnationality, lead by Sweden
- Cooperation and exchanges with other European Platforms and Communities of Practice
- Twinning Programmes for providing support and assistance to new Member States
- Common development of thematic activities related to relevant issues according to the labour market's context

c) Support in partner search

- Establishing a Transnationality Coordination Team with experts
- Providing technical assistance to all Operation Programmes that have programmed transnational activities. Follow-up and evaluation of transnational activities.
- Technical assistance and creation of an electronic tool for partner search

d) Indicators for monitoring and evaluating

- Periodical assessments of transnational activities' quality and impact.
- Number of networks or collaborations created to work transnationally.

e) Validation or results

- Mainstreaming: fostering the transfer of transnational results and experiences into mainstream policies and practices.