

Eurostat

Labour market policy statistics

Qualitative report

Latvia, 2017

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A - Introduction

Introduction

The Eurostat Labour Market Policy (LMP) database collects information on labour market interventions implemented by each of the EU Member States and Norway. Data are collected according to a comprehensive methodology, which classifies interventions into three main types – services, measures and supports – and into nine detailed categories according to the type of action (see below). Readers are recommended to refer to the LMP methodology ¹ for details of this classification scheme and definitions of terms used in this report.

The LMP database collects quantitative data on expenditure and participants for each intervention. These are published annually and are available online from the Eurostat website ². The quantitative data are complemented by a set of qualitative information describing each intervention. This represents an invaluable source of reference to support a harmonised approach to the classification of national interventions and to help interpret the detailed figures on expenditure and participants. These qualitative data are compiled into a series of **Labour market policy statistics: Qualitative Reports** and produced as separate volumes for each country/year.

The reports all have the same structure:

- Part A Introduction
- Part B Inventory of interventions - a list of all interventions reported for the relevant year, grouped by type of action and including a national language version of the intervention name.
- Part C Qualitative information by intervention - presents the available information about each intervention in three sections: *Identification*, *Description*, and *Supplementary information*. The *Description* contains seven sub-sections: Aim, Beneficiaries/participants, Action/instrument, Financing/support, Eligibility, Legal basis, and Recent changes. The *Supplementary information* contains eight sub-sections describing the breakdown of expenditure, target groups, the treatment of unemployment spells, receipt of benefits, planned duration and other characteristics of the intervention. Together, these items summarise the qualitative information collected through the LMP questionnaire.
- Part D Reference data - provides a description of the populations considered as reference data within the LMP database, giving national definitions of those considered as registered unemployed and other groups registered with the public employment services (PES).
- Part E Abbreviations

The qualitative information in the LMP database is updated annually with the contribution of delegates from each country and Eurostat cannot take responsibility for the validity of the content. The reports are published annually by Eurostat in English and reports for other years that are not currently in the online library can be produced on request.

Classification of interventions by type of action

LMP services

1. Labour market services

LMP measures

2. Training
4. Employment incentives
5. Supported employment and rehabilitation
6. Direct job creation
7. Start-up incentives

LMP supports

- 8. Out-of-work income maintenance and support
- 9. Early retirement

¹

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-GQ-13-002

² http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/labour_market/labour_market_policy

B - Inventory of interventions

Category, intervention number and name (English/National language)

1	Labour market services	
1	Vocational counselling and career guidance	Konsultācijas profesionālajā orientācijā un karjeras plānošanā
2	Competitivity promotion measure	Konkurētspējas paaugstināšanas pasākumi (KPP)
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Competitivity promotion measure	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākumi - Konkurētspējas paaugstināšanas pasākumi
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Vocational counselling and career guidance	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākumi - Karjeras konsultācijas
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Emotional Stress Therapy (Coding)	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Emocionālā stresa terapija (kodēšana)
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Health checks	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Veselības pārbaudes
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Individual and group psychologist, psychotherapist consultations	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Psihologu un psihoterapeitu individuālās un grupas konsultācijas
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Information and publicity measures on project implementation	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Informācijas un publicitātes pasākumi par projekta īstenošanu
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Motivational program for job search and mentor services	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Motivācijas programma darba meklēšanai un mentora pakalpojumi
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Patient Fee for receiving narcologist conclusion	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Pacienta nodeva par narkologa atzinuma saņemšanu
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Project implementation personnel training	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Projekta īstenošanas personāla apmācība
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Transportation to the medical institution and back	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Transporta izdevumu nokļūšana līdz ārstniecības iestādei un atpakaļ
57	[Component] Services for long-term unemployed - Vocational counselling and career guidance	[Component] Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem - Karjeras konsultācijas
57	Services for long-term unemployed	Atbalsta pasākumi ilgstošajiem bezdarbniekiem
17	Administrative expenditure of the State Employment Agency	Nodarbinātības valsts aģentūras administratīvie izdevumi

2	Training	
3	Occupational training, re-training and improvement of the qualifications of the unemployed	Bezdarbnieku profesionālā apmācība, pārkvalifikācija un kvalifikācijas paaugstināšana
4	Non-formal education	Neformālā izglītība
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Non-formal education	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Neformālās izglītības ieguve
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Occupational training, re-training and improvement of the qualifications of the unemployed	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Profesionālās tālākizglītības un profesionālās pilnveides
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Workshops for Youth	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Darbnīcas jauniešiem
4	Employment incentives	
24	Skill development for secondary school or secondary occupational school students during their summer holidays	Darba prasmju apguve vasaras brīvlaikā personām, kuras iegūst izglītību vispārējās vidējās vai profesionālās vidējās izglītības iestādēs
41	Measure for special target groups	Pasākums noteiktām personu grupām
52	Promoting regional mobility of persons employed by commercial enterprises	Komersantu nodarbināto personu reģionālās mobilitātes veicināšana
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - First Work Experience for the Youth	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Pirmā darba pieredze jauniešiem
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Regional mobility within measures	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Reģionālā mobilitāte pasākuma ietvaros
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Subsidised Work Places for the Unemployed Youth	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Subsidētā darba vieta jauniešiem bezdarbniekiem
54	Practical training with the employer	Apmācība pie darba devēja
55	Regional mobility within measures	Reģionālā mobilitāte pasākumu ietvaros
5	Supported employment and rehabilitation	
56	Assistance for unemployed persons with alcoholic or drug addiction	Atbalsta pasākums bezdarbniekiem ar atkarības problēmām
6	Direct job creation	
13	Paid temporary public works (PTPW)	Algotie pagaidu darbi (APD)
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Developing the Required Skills in Non-Governmental Sector	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Darbam nepieciešamo iemaņu attīstība nevalstiskajā sektorā -

7	Start-up incentives	
39	Measures for starting a business or self-employment	Pasākumi komercdarbībai vai pašnodarbinātībai uzsākšanai
53	[Component] Youth Guarantee measures - Measures for starting a business or self-employment	[Component] Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum - Atbalsts pašnodarbinātības un uzņēmējdarbības uzsākšanai
8	Out-of-work income maintenance and support	
15	[Component] Full unemployment benefit - All benefits	[Component] Bezdarbnieka pabalsts - All benefits
16	Satisfaction of employees' claims from the employee claims guarantee fund	Darbinieku prasījuma apmierināšana no darbinieku prasījumu garantiju fonda
9	Early retirement	
Mixed	\$\$353	
53	Youth Guarantee measures	Jauniešu garantijas atbalsta pasākum

Number of measures: **63**

C - Qualitative information by intervention

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 1 Vocational counselling and career guidance
Type of action: 1.1.1 - Information services

Description

Aim:

To promote employment of the inhabitants through independent and deliberate decision making in the field of occupation and education choice and career planning.

Beneficiaries:

All inhabitants of Latvia, i.e. young people, employed persons, unemployed registered with State Employment Agency of Latvia (SEA), unemployed who are not registered with SEA, people with disabilities, pre-retirement age persons, persons after maternity leave, persons released from imprisonment.

Action/Instrument:

Vocational counselling and career planning are services available for all job-seekers and students of educational institutions.

Client guidance provides:

- research of one's own professional interests as well as life and work values and needs;
- awareness of one's own potential, skills and individual psychological characteristics;
- possibility to get acquainted with some particular profession's contents and demands as well as training opportunities and situation in the labour market.

In the end a client learns how to choose the most appropriate vocational field that fits his/her personality, values and aims best. Besides, independent and deliberate career decision making is promoted.

Affiliates inform clients about opportunities to receive individual or group consultation. Duration of career services is different

- Individual career consultations 60 minutes, Individual career diagnostics consultation – 120 minutes, Group career consultations – 180 minutes, Group information career consultation – 60 minutes.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government budget

Eligibility:

All inhabitants of Latvia irrespective of their age, sex and status.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002 with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013.,03.12.2015.23.11.2016.).

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Not registered (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 1 <1 day, Maximum: 3 <1 day

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 1987 Year Ended: Ongoing

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 2 Competitiveness promotion measure
Type of action: 1.1.1 - Information services

Description

Aim:

To improve the initiative of job-seekers and unemployed persons in finding a permanent job and carrying out self-promotion in the labour market; to provide assistance to unemployed persons by encouraging them to raise their professional qualification and competitiveness; to promote the integration of job-seekers and unemployed persons into the labour market.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed, registered job-seekers

Action/Instrument:

Competitiveness promoting measure is a set of different courses (not more than 36 academic hours), seminars (not more than 8 academic hours), lectures (not more than 5 academic hours) and individual consultations (1 academic hour) aimed at vocational orientation, acquisition of job-seeking methods, psychological support and acquisition of the skills needed in the labour market. These can also be other classes designed to promote integration of the unemployed persons and job-seekers into the labour market and improve their competitiveness.

Courses duration is not more than 36 hours

Financing/Support:

Social security funds, central government budget

Eligibility:

Registered unemployed, registered job-seekers

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005 and 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

2) Public purchase law (06.04.2006, with amendments made on 08.01.2007 and 08.02.2007, 16.07.2009, 19.04.2010, 20.05.2010, 03.11.2011, 02.02.2012, 21.06.2012, 20.06.2013, 05.09.2013, 19.09.2013, 04.09.2014, 02.10.2014, 14.05.2015, 03.12.2015, 03.03.2016, 12.05.2016, 15.12.2016.expired). In 15.12.2016. adopted new Public purchase law.

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous
Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Unemployment benefit), Non-cash benefits
Planned duration: Typical: 1 <1 day, Maximum: 36 <1 day
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: Year started: 1996 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 1 - Labour market services

Intervention n°/name 57 Services for long-term unemployed

Type of action: 1.1.2 - Individual case-management

Description

Aim:

To encourage the integration of long-term unemployed into society and to fit into a suitable permanent job or suitable education / training, reducing the risks of social exclusion.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

Support measures, including:

- Individual expert counseling and group counseling (including counseling for career counselors, psychologists, psychotherapists);
- health examinations at an occupational doctor;
- determination of professional suitability;
- motivation program for job search and mentor services;
- assistance for unemployed persons with alcoholic or drug addiction.

Financing/Support:

ESF

Eligibility:

- unemployed for at least 12 months (the person has not been regarded as a worker or a self-employed person in accordance with the Law "On State Social Insurance" for more than two months without interruption);
- unemployed for at least 12 months (a person has not been regarded as a worker or a self-employed person in accordance with the Law "On State Social Insurance" for more than two months without interruption) and who have at least one refusal from suitable job offerings or refused to participate in accordance with the unemployed person The active employment measures offered in the Individual Job Search Plan (hereinafter - IDMP) and the refusal are not based on a doctor's opinion or disability;
- a disabled person or a predicted disability who has been unemployed for at least 12 months (a person has not been considered a worker or a self-employed person in accordance with the Law "On State Social Insurance" for more than two months without interruption) and who have at least one time abandoned a suitable job offer Or refuse to engage in active employment measures offered by the unemployed IDMP and the refusal is based on a disability;
- according to the narcologist's opinion, the dependence of alcohol, narcotic or psychotropic substances;
- who may be addicted to alcohol, narcotic or psychotropic substances, but have not received the narcologist's opinion.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002 with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.).

2) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No.75 (29.06.2011 with amendments made on 16.12.2011, 26.07.2012, 07.03.2013, 01.08.2013, 03.10.2013, 13.12.2013, 28.05.2014, 14.08.2014, 15.06.2015, 07.01.2016, 31.03.2016, 02.03.2017., 07.09.2017.)

3) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No 468 (with amendments made on 29.03.2016, 28.02.2017., 05.09.2017., 06.03.2018.)

Recent changes:

Activities started, that were not in 2016:

Patient Fee for receiving narcologist conclusion

Emotional Stress Therapy (Coding)

Motivational program for job search and mentor services

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Target groups:	Registered unemployed (LTU)
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Continuous/Continuous
Receipt of benefits:	None
Planned duration:	Variable
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services
Area of application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 2016 <i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 17 Administrative expenditure of the State Employment Agency
Type of action: 1.2 - Other activities of the PES

Description

Aim:

To become a bridge connecting employer and employee reducing unemployment and stimulating employment situation in Latvia.

Beneficiaries:

All inhabitants of Latvia, i.e. young people, employed persons, unemployed registered with State Employment Agency of Latvia (SEA), unemployed who are not registered with SEA, people with disabilities, pre-retirement age persons, persons after maternity leave, persons released from imprisonment.

Action/Instrument:

State Employment Agency is a governmental institution under the Ministry of Welfare.

Administrative expenditure of the State Employment Agency includes those of the head office and 28 affiliates, employees' salaries, building investments, State investment programme and other administrative costs.

State Employment Agency performs the following functions:

1. in conformity with its competence prepare proposals for the development and implementation of State policy in the field of employment;
2. perform short-term forecasts of the labour market;
3. register and record unemployed and job-seekers;
4. assist unemployed and job-seekers as well as economically inactive inhabitants to become involved in the labour market;
5. organize co-operation and mutual information exchange between the State Employment Agency and employers as well as list vacant workplaces submitted by employers;
6. inform for free regarding to vacant workplaces submitted by employers as well as regarding to unemployed and job-seekers rights and duties;
7. organize dialogue among unemployed, job-seekers and employers in order to decrease unemployment;
8. organize and implement active employment measures and preventative measures in order to decrease unemployment;
9. provide for free career consultations to unemployed, persons seeking employment and other persons, and at the same time assist in process of orientation in occupational suitability and retraining issues;
10. compile necessary information for career consultations as well as information regarding to educational opportunities;
11. develop new and improve existing career consultation methods as well as provide assistance in the implementation thereof;
12. approve work invitations for employment according to the procedures specified in regulatory enactments;
13. license and supervise businessmen, who provide work placement services (except work placement of persons on ships);
14. ensure the preparation and provision of information conforming to the requirements of European Union regulatory enactments reflecting the situation of unemployment in the State;
15. collaborate with the State and local government institutions, non-governmental organizations, as well as with physical and legal persons;
16. participate in a draft development and implementation of international collaboration agreements as well as other collaboration projects in order to decrease unemployment, employment promotion, career consultation and movement of workforce;
17. perform other tasks provided according to regulatory enactments.
18. insure LR NVA EURES activities

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

All inhabitants of Latvia irrespective of their age, sex and status.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

2) Labour Law (20.06.2001, with amendments made on 12.12.2002, 22.01.2004, 22.04.2004, 05.04.2005, 13.10.2005, 21.09.2006, 12.06.2009, 01.12.2009, 04.03.2010, 31.03.2011, 16.06.2011, 21.06.2012, 23.10.2014, 12.05.2016, 27.07.2017);

3) Common agency Law (01.12.2009.)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers		
Target groups:	Registered unemployed (All) Other registered jobseekers (All) Not registered (All) Employed (All)		
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Not relevant		
Receipt of benefits:	None		
Planned duration:	Not relevant		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	1991	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country	Latvia	2017	Category	2 - Training
Intervention n°/name	3	Occupational training, re-training and improvement of the qualifications of the unemployed		
Type of action:	2.1 - Institutional training			

Description

Aim:

To ensure occupational training of the employees wanted by the labour market at the occupational training, re-training and raising of qualification courses for the unemployed persons, promote job placement of the unemployed persons, reducing social risk and promote harmonization of family and professional life.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

The unemployed have an opportunity to receive a training coupon and get involved in:

Acquisition of vocational continuing education programmes thus obtaining professional qualification. After acquiring the respective programme, the unemployed shall take professional qualification examination. The unemployed who has successfully passed the professional qualification examination receives a certificate of professional qualification;

Acquisition of professional development education programmes thus improving the professional competence and obtaining systematic professional knowledge and skills in order to keep up with the changing demands of the labour market. The unemployed who has accomplished the requirements of the development programme receives a certificate of professional development education.

Training areas and professions that require training of the unemployed and job seekers according to the labour market demands and the development forecasts of economic sectors are determined by a commission established by the Ministry of Welfare. The unemployed has a chance to select the education programme from the List of training areas and professions approved by the Ministry of Welfare, as well as the educational institution.

The unemployed has an opportunity to choose the vocational continuing education programme and educational institution independently or from the NVA offered list or professional development education programme from the list of development programmes and educational institution.

A disabled unemployed may acquire certain vocational education programmes in form of electronic learning.

Duration of training: up to 8 months.

During the training the unemployed receives a grant of EUR 5 per training day (previously was EUR 99.60 per calendar month).

Financing/Support:

Social security funds, Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

An unemployed having no previous professional qualification;

An unemployed having previously obtained professional qualification or professional experience that does not meet the demands of the labour market;

An unemployed having previously obtained professional qualification that fails to meet the requirements for a particular profession, for example, the unemployed has no document of professional development (certificate) under the legislation confirming the right to continue working in the previously obtained profession;

An unemployed having lost professional skills because she/he has not been working in the obtained profession for at least three years or she/he no longer is able to work in the obtained profession due to a health condition.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005 and 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

2) Education Law (29.10.1998, with amendments made on 05.08.1999, 11.11.1999, 11.05.2000, 10.05.2001, 05.07.2001, 20.09.2001, 12.08.2003, 05.02.2004, 19.12.2006, 13.11.2008, 12.12.2008, 16.06.2009, 01.12.2009, 04.03.2010, 16.12.2010, 15.12.2011, 19.04.2012, 05.07.2012, 15.11.2012, 09.07.2013, 17.12.2014, 18.06.2015, 03.12.2015, 05.05.2016, 23.11.2016., 27.07.2017., 22.11.2017., 27.11.2017.);

3) Professional Education Law (10.06.1999), with amendments made on 05.07.2001, 19.08.2003, 21.09.2006, 07.06.2007, 12.12.2008, 29.01.2009, 12.06.2009, 10.06.2010, 16.12.2010, 15.12.2011, 19.04.2012, 15.11.2012, 23.04.2015.,

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

22.12.2016, 22.06.2017).

4) Public purchase law (06.04.2006, with amendments made on 08.01.2007 and 08.02.2007, 16.07.2009, 19.04.2010, 20.05.2010, 03.11.2011, 02.02.2012, 21.06.2012, 20.06.2013, 05.09.2013, 19.09.2013, 04.09.2014, 02.10.2014, 14.05.2015, 03.12.2015, 03.03.2016, 12.05.2016, , 15.12.2016..expired). In 15.12.2016. adopted new Public purchase law.

Recent changes:

During the training, an unemployed receives a grant of EUR 5 per training day, previously was EUR 99.60 per calendar month.

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers		
Target groups:	Registered unemployed (All)		
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Continuous/Continuous		
Receipt of benefits:	Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)		
Planned duration:	Maximum: 8 Months		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	1992	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 4 Non-formal education
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

To train unemployed persons and job-seekers for the integration into the labour market by providing them the acquisition of the necessary skills.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed, registered job-seekers

Action/Instrument:

Training is implemented by using the coupon method. An unemployed and job seeker has an opportunity to choose the following programmes from the list of basic social and professional skills approved by the Ministry of Welfare:

- The programme and education institution for the informal education programme "Acquisition of the national language",
- The programme and education institution for the informal education programme "Training of vehicle/tractor machinery driver",
- Informal education programme and education institution.

An unemployed and job seeker has an opportunity to receive training coupon and get involved in informal education programme, as well as a document confirming obtained knowledge after passing the final test.

Duration of the training – up to 2 months.

During the training the unemployed receives a grant of EUR 5 per training day (previously was EUR 99.60 per calendar month).

Financing/Support:

Social security funds, Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

Non-formal education programmes are available for both unemployed and job seekers with inadequate, insufficient skills for the changing labour market demands resulting in difficulty to find a job.

Legal basis:

- 1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005 and 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);
- 2) Education Law (29.10.1998, with amendments made on 05.08.1999, 11.11.1999, 11.05.2000, 10.05.2001, 05.07.2001, 20.09.2001, 12.08.2003, 05.02.2004, 19.12.2006, 13.11.2008, 12.12.2008, 16.06.2009, 01.12.2009, 04.03.2010, 16.12.2010, 15.12.2011, 19.04.2012, 05.07.2012, 15.11.2012, 09.07.2013, 17.12.2014, 18.06.2015, 03.12.2015, 05.05.2016, 23.11.2016., 27.07.2017., 22.11.2017., 27.11.2017.);
- 3) Public purchase law (06.04.2006, with amendments made on 08.01.2007 and 08.02.2007, 16.07.2009, 19.04.2010, 20.05.2010, 03.11.2011, 02.02.2012, 21.06.2012, 20.06.2013, 05.09.2013, 19.09.2013, 04.09.2014, 02.10.2014, 14.05.2015, 03.12.2015, 03.03.2016, 12.05.2016, 15.12.2016.).

Recent changes:

During the training, an unemployed receives a grant of EUR 5 per training day, previously was EUR 99.60 per calendar month.

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits:	Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)		
Planned duration:	Typical: 1 Months, Maximum: 2 Months		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 2003	<i>Year Ended:</i>	Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 55 Regional mobility within measures
Type of action: 4.1 - Recruitment incentives

Description

Aim:

Activate and integrate in the labor market unemployed, who are unable to attend the measures of financial considerations

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

Compensate the transportation costs to regularly commute from the declared place of residence to the education or work place and back, and to compensate the costs for the rent or hostel
Receive a financial aid up to 100 per month

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

Compensate the costs if:

- education or work place is located no closer than 20 km from the Employee's declared place of residence;
- unemployed person has lived in the declared place of residence at least six months.

Legal basis:

- 1) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr.75 (29.06.2011 with amendments made on 16.12.2011, 26.07.2012, 07.03.2013, 01.08.2013, 03.10.2013, 13.12.2013, 28.05.2014, 14.08.2014, 15.06.2015, 07.01.2016, 31.03.2016, 28.02.2017., 05.09.2017.)
- 2) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr.835 (05.03.2015 with amendments made on 03.03.2015., 16.06.2015., 29.03.2016., 30.08.2016., 07.03.2017.)
- 3) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr.207 (28.04.2015. with amendments made on 13.10.2015., 05.01.2016., 29.03.2016., 15.07.2016., 28.02.2017., 29.08.2017)
- 4) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr.836 (23.12.2014. with amendments made on 26.05.2015., 01.09.2015., 22.12.2015., 26.04.2016., 30.08.2016., 28.02.2017., 12.09.2017.)
- 5) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005 and 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous
Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)
Planned duration: Variable
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 2015 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 52 Promoting regional mobility of persons employed by commercial enterprises
Type of action: 4.1.1 - Permanent

Description

Aim:

The aim of the Measure is to promote regional mobility of persons employed by merchants by providing financial aid to cover the transport and apartment rent costs during the first four months of the employment legal relationship.

Beneficiaries:

Others persons.

Action/Instrument:

The Measure is implemented in the workplaces in the administrative territory of the Republic of Latvia, with the exception of Riga where there is sufficient demand for particular employees with specific education and professional experience.

Merchants in Riga can take part in the Measure only if the employer simultaneously offers to establish employment legal relationship with at least 25 unemployed persons registered at the Agency.

The State Employment Agency provides financial aid to the Employee not exceeding EUR 400.00:

- to compensate the transport costs for regular commute from the declared place of residence to the work and back;

or

- to compensate the costs for the rent of an apartment and transport costs for one trip per month from the declared place of residence to the work and back.

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

Others persons if:

- the person has maintained the status of an unemployed for at least 2 months before the commencement of employment legal relationship with the particular employer;
- the person has established employment legal relationship with an employer who has registered a vacancy at the Agency for the profession or position now filled by the Employee at least one week before the establishment of employment legal relationship with the Employee;
- the intended job is located at least 20 kilometres from the declared place of residence and the transport and rent costs of the Employee are not covered by the employer within the employment legal relationship;
- the person has been living in the declared place of residence for at least one year;
- the employment legal relationship is established for an indefinite period of time, standard working hours are specified for the Employee, and the wage constitutes at least the amount of the national minimum monthly wage, but does not exceed the amount of two national minimum monthly wages;
- the employment legal relationship has been established not earlier than ten business days before applying for the financial aid.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004., 03.03.2005., 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

Recent changes:

The State Employment Agency provides financial aid to the Employee not exceeding EUR 400.00. Previous was EUR 398.40.

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Other registered jobseekers (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)
Planned duration: Typical: 4 Months, Maximum: 4 Months
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 2013 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country	Latvia	2017	Category	4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name	24	Skill development for secondary school or secondary occupational school students during their summer holidays		
Type of action:	4.1.2 - Temporary			

Description

Aim:

To promote the short time (till one month) employment during the summer vocation on workplaces, financed by state, and insure the possibility to obtain work experience.

Beneficiaries:

Registered job-seekers from 15 till 20 years old.

Action/Instrument

The measure duration is till one month. An employer appoints a mentor for each unemployed person involved in the measure. The mentor helps to acquire basic skills and work skills.

If a teenager is younger than 18 y.o., the duration of a full daily shift is 7 hours, thus ½ of a daily shift makes up 3.5 hours and not more than 35 hours per week. If a teenager is 18, the duration of a full daily shift is 8 hours with ½ of a shift making 4 hours.

During the measure teenager receives up to 50% from minimum monthly wage established in the country which is transferred from SEA to the employer (the monthly wage shall not be less than the set of the minimum monthly/per hour wage. In 2017 the minimum monthly wage established in the Republic of Latvia made up 380.00 EUR before discharging of taxes) . The employers also have to pay the social contributions and make other payments envisaged by the law.

If the adolescent age is below 18 years of full-time working hours of 7 hours and 35 hours per week.

The Agency shall identify and choose employers and awarding events. Employers, on the basis of the concluded agreement, by signing employment contracts with the students.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government budget

Eligibility:

Teenagers - job-seekers form 15 till 20 years old studying at general, special or profesional educational institutions, including persons with special needs.

Participation in the event interrupts when the student reaching the age of 21.

Participants involved in the event for a period of up to 1 month.If employer set up the workplace can not find a suitable student, the workplace can re-engage students who work for a particular employer has already worked, setting that one student can participating no more than two months;

The student has the right to recommend particular employer, if the employer has previously agreed to the opportunity to work and the employer is declared vacancy for this measure.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

2) Labour Law (20.06.2001, with amendments made on 12.12.2002, 22.01.2004, 22.04.2004, 05.04.2005, 13.10.2005, 21.09.2006, 12.06.2009, 01.12.2009, 04.03.2010, 31.03.2011, 16.06.2011, 21.06.2012, 23.10.2014, 12.05.2016, 27.07.2017);

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Other registered jobseekers (Youth)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 1 Months, Maximum: 2 Months

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2004 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 41 Measure for special target groups
Type of action: 4.1.2 - Temporary

Description

Aim:

To give possibility for unemployed persons from special target groups to work on workplaces refinanced by state, to help them understand the labour market demands and to promote their involvement into the labour market.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

According to the employer's requirements (education and work experience), unemployed persons of working-age from special target groups can work on subsidised workplaces. The duration for one unemployed person from special target group (including annual leave) at the subsidised workplace is:

-12 months if involved in the event

- Person who has been unemployed for at least 12 months;
- Person aged 55 or over;
- A person who has acquired refugee or alternative status;

- 24 months if involved in the event

- A person who has been unemployed for at least 24 months
- A person who has been unemployed for at least 12 months is an adult with one or more dependents
- A person who has been unemployed for at least 12 months and over 55 years of age

- 24 months if involved in the event

- Person with disabilities

An employer appoints a mentor for each unemployed person involved in the measure. The mentor helps to acquire basic professional skills. The mentor must have education as well as work experience not less than 2 years.

An employer appoints a mentor to each unemployed person every day:

- for disadvantaged employees:

-- during the first month of work, if a disadvantaged worker is employed in the profession, which has obtained education or work experience or during the measure is employed in the profession of group 9 of the Profession Classifier of the Republic of Latvia;

-- during the first two months of work, if a disadvantaged worker is employed in the profession, in which he/she has not acquired education and work experience.

- for unemployed persons with disabilities:

-- during the first month, if unemployed person with disability is employed in the profession of group 9 of the Profession Classifier of the Republic of Latvia;

-- during the first three months if unemployed person with disability is employed in the profession, in which he/she has acquired education or work experience;

-- during six months if unemployed person with disability is employed in the profession, in which he/she has not acquired education and work experience.

The mentor helps each unemployed person to acquire necessary professional skills and to raise their qualification. One mentor can monitor not more than two unemployed persons.

Agency concludes a contract with ergotherapists or interpreter services for deaf-mute persons if it is necessary.

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

Disadvantaged workers (persons, who during preceding six months do not have regularly paid work; persons, who have not acquired secondary education or vocational qualification; persons, who are older than 50 years old; lone parent with one or more children; ethnic minorities who have needs to improve language, vocational or professional skills);

- specially disadvantaged employees (persons, who are without work 24 months or longer)
- unemployed persons with disabilities;
- representatives of other target groups, if a corresponding decision of SEA is made.

Legal basis:

- 1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);
- 2) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials (25.04.2002 with amendments made on 08.05.2003, 15.12.2005, 14.09.2006, 07.06.2007, 13.11.2008, 26.03.2009, 12.11.2009, 27.05.2010, 30.09.2010, 28.04.2011, 14.06.2012, 20.12.2012, 30.01.2014,13.02.2014,30.10.2014, 30.10.2014, 21.05.2015,10.09.2015, 29.06.2016.).

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements), Transfers to service providers		
Target groups:	Registered unemployed (All)		
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Continuous/Continuous		
Receipt of benefits:	None		
Planned duration:	Variable		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	2008	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 54 Practical training with the employer
Type of action: 4.1.2 - Temporary

Description

Aim:

Training in the employer's facilities

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

The main conditions of the Practical training:

Length of participation is 6 months in practical training, an employment contract is signed and after that the employment legal relationships with the employer continue at least 6 months;

Practical training is not organised for works requiring low or no qualification (Simple professions in accordance to the ninth basic group of the Classification of occupations);

Practical training includes acquiring professional competencies corresponding to professional competencies of first, second and third level of professional qualification;

the employer provides a newly created job (the job is newly created or has been vacant at least 4 months before the beginning of the Practical training and the particular unemployed person has not been employed by the respective employer at least 12 months before participation in the Practical training).

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, ESF

Eligibility:

Target group for the practical training: unemployed persons registered in the State Employment Agency (hereinafter Agency) who have expressed a wish to participate in the Practical training and comply with the criteria for participation:

are not involved in other measures organized by the Agency;

have not been employed by the respective employer at least 12 months before engaging in the practical training;

have completed the previous practical training (incl. Practical training in the priority sectors) at least two years ago; this restriction does not apply to cases when participation in the Practical training was interrupted due to reasons beyond the unemployed person's control and was shorter than a half of the planned time of participation;

have not learned the professional competencies to be taught in this Practical training during the previous Practical training (including practical training in priority sectors);

comply with the qualification requirements set by the employer;

have refunded to the Agency the training and the received grant as well as the financial compensation for regional mobility of young people if participation was terminated without proper justification.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

2) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials (25.04.2002 with amendments made on 08.05.2003, 15.12.2005, 14.09.2006, 07.06.2007, 13.11.2008, 26.03.2009, 12.11.2009, 27.05.2010, 30.09.2010, 28.04.2011, 14.06.2012, 20.12.2012, 30.01.2014, 13.02.2014, 30.10.2014, 30.10.2014, 21.05.2015, 10.09.2015, 04.02.2016., 09.06.2016.).

Recent changes:

Length of participation is 6 months in practical training, an employment contract is signed and after that the employment legal relationships with the employer continue at least 3 months;

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Treatment of unemployment spells:	Continuous/Continuous		
Receipt of benefits:	None		
Planned duration:	Maximum: 12 Months		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	2015	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 5 - Supported employment and rehabilitation

Intervention n°/name 56 Assistance for unemployed persons with alcoholic or drug addiction

Type of action: 5.2 - Rehabilitation

Description

Aim:

Encourage the unemployed into society and facilitate finding a suitable permanent job or suitable training (suitable for acquiring education), reducing the risks of social exclusion.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

Treat the dependence on alcohol, narcotic or psychotropic drugs through Minnesota 12 Step Programme
The Minnesota program lasts for 28 days. It is a team work involving doctors - narcologists, psychotherapists and psychologists. The program provides knowledge of addictive illness, its course, symptoms and recovery process, it helps to discover the regularities between the course of the illness and the patient's behavior, the types of emotional reactions and behavior. The treatment process is organized as group lessons and individual work. The group therapy process develops the ability of patients to cooperate, understand their difficulty in building relationships and how it affects the use of intoxicants and the passion for gambling. A 7-14 day motivation course is also offered, during which the patient acquires an understanding of the reasons for the illness denial and protective mechanisms.

Finanacina/Support:

ESF

Eligibility:

Unemployed persons aged 18 and up that have received a narcologist's conclusion for alcohol, narcotic or psychotropic drug dependence and comply with at least one of the following conditions:

- have been without employments at least six months before registering as unemployed;
- have been registered as unemployed at least three months.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002 with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.).

2) Law On Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials (25.04.2002 with amendments made on 08.05.2003, 15.12.2005, 14.09.2006, 07.06.2007, 13.11.2008, 26.03.2009, 12.11.2009, 27.05.2010, 30.09.2010, 28.04.2011, 14.06.2012, 20.12.2012, 30.01.2014, 13.02.2014, 30.10.2014, 30.10.2014, 21.05.2015, 10.09.2015, 23.11.2015, 21.12.2015, 04.02.2016, 09.06.2016, 27.06.2016.).

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 28 Days, Maximum: 30 Days, Maximum extended: 30 Days

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Implementation:

Year started: 2015

Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 6 - Direct job creation
Intervention n°/name 13 Paid temporary public works (PTPW)
Type of action: 6 - Direct job creation

Description

Aim:

To involve less competitive unemployed persons, who wish to work but due to some reasons cannot find the appropriate permanent job into the paid temporary public works

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

Temporary works are mostly low qualification works that require no professional qualification. Temporary works are organised and carried out by municipalities, associations or foundations without the aim to get a profit.

An unemployed person, who has unemployed person's status at least six months and doesn't receive unemployment benefit, can be involved in the measure.

An unemployed person can be involved in the measure no longer than 4 months during the year.

The measure is financed from Central government budget only from 2015 (before the intervention was also financed by ESF).

Financial resources can be used for covering expenditure on:

- monthly compensation for each unemployed person EUR 150.00 (previously it was stated at EUR 142.29);
- social contribution for pension insurance;
- monthly grant for coordinator EUR 128.06 (one coordinator for each municipality);
- compensation for health examination of unemployed persons;
- amount for insurance (if an accident happens during the measure) of unemployed person.

Financing/Support:

Central government budget

Eligibility:

An unemployed person, who has unemployed person's status at least six months and doesn't receive unemployment benefit, can be involved in the measure.

Legal basis:

- 1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005 and 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);
- 2) Law On State Social Insurance (01.10.1997 with amendments made on 10.06.1998, 25.11.1999, 13.03.2001, 20.06.2001, 27.07.2001, 06.06.2002, 03.04.2003, 22.01.2004, 17.03.2005, 27.10.2005, 15.06.2006, 19.12.2006, 26.04.2007, 08.11.2007, 19.06.2008, 11.12.2008, 16.06.2009, 01.12.2009, 03.12.2009, 27.05.2010, 09.08.2010, 20.12.2010, 08.07.2011, 15.12.2011, 20.12.2012, 06.11.2013, 13.03.2014, 17.12.2014, 12.03.2015, 30.11.2015, 22.09.2016., 23.11.2016, 20.12.2016., 27.07.2017., 22.11.2017.);
- 3) Law On Personal Income Tax (11.05.1993 with amendments made on 14.01.1994, 27.10.1994, 01.03.1995, 31.05.1995, 29.02.1996, 19.12.1996, 02.10.1997, 20.11.1997, 25.11.1999, 27.01.2000, 30.11.2000, 22.11.2001, 21.02.2002, 19.06.2003, 11.12.2003, 22.04.2004, 20.12.2004, 10.03.2005, 20.10.2005, 08.06.2006, 28.09.2006, 19.12.2006, 17.04.2007, 17.05.2007, 08.11.2007, 24.04.2008, 14.11.2008, 12.12.2008, 16.06.2009, 16.07.2009, 01.12.2009, 13.05.2010, 09.08.2010, 21.10.2010, 28.10.2010, 16.06.2011, 08.09.2011, 22.09.2011, 15.12.2011, 08.03.2012, 24.05.2012, 31.05.2012, 15.11.2012, 19.09.2013, 06.11.2013, 28.11.2013, 20.02.2014, 06.03.2014, 17.12.2014, 19.02.2015, 30.04.2015, 29.10.2015, 30.11.2015, 16.06.2016, 23.11.2016, 28.07.2017., 22.11.2017.).

Recent changes:

Participant receives a monthly salary of EUR 150.00, previously it was stated at EUR 142.29.

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Reduced social contributions), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups:	Registered unemployed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Continuous/Continuous
Receipt of benefits:	None
Planned duration:	Typical: 3 Months, Maximum: 4 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services
Area of application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1992 <i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 7 - Start-up incentives
Intervention n°/name 39 Measures for starting a business or self-employment
Type of action: 7 - Start-up incentives

Description

Aim:

To offer a special support for unemployed persons for the beginning of their own business or self-employment and to give assistance during the first year and to insure evaluation of business plan implementation with accordance of realisation plan during 24 months from the first day.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

During the measure State Employment Agency insures individual consultations as follows:

- consultations for business plan preparation - overall consultations (laws and regulations, accounting, taxes, marketing, financial planning and other questions related with business and self-employment launching);
- consultations for business plan implementation during the first year for those beneficiaries, who have received accept from experts with regard to their business plan viability.

Consultants, who offer consultations, are chosen by Agency in accordance with Public Purchase Law. Agency determines order (rules of procedures) and selection criteria.

Beneficiaries can receive not more than 20 consultations (duration of one consultation is 60 minutes) for business plan preparing and output during the six weeks and not more than 20 consultations for business plan implementation during the first self-employment or business year.

Agency chooses a provider of expert services and signs a contract. According to signed contract an expert undertakes:

- to evaluate the Beneficiary's business plans and the estimates and to take a positive or negative decision on the viability of a business plan. In case of positive decision (according to the procurement of technical specification and business plan evaluation methodology), expert has to indicate which business plan will be provided with the Agency's support;
- to evaluate the approved business plan for the implementation of compliance every three months during 24-month period and to submit to Agency a quarterly report with results and resolution (at the end of period).

If an expert has taken a positive decision on the viability of the business plan and the Agency provides with support the business plan implementation, the Agency signs a contract with Beneficiary, grants and pays to Beneficiary (after the self-employment or business documents (copy) and bills submission) financial support as following:

- business grant for necessary acquisitions, which are mentioned for one business plan implementation - no more than 3000.00 eur;
- monthly grant for the initial phase (first six months) implementation - minimum monthly wage established in the country.

Measure is implemented in accordance with LR existing laws and regulations, contracts between the Agency and consultants, providers of expert service, as well as in accordance with contract requirements with Beneficiary, taking into account budget funds and expert opinions concerning business plan viability.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government budget

Eligibility:

Unemployed persons who would like to start their own business or to be a self-employed should conveyed it in written form and should answer at list one of the following requirements:

- acquired Professional or higher education on entrepreneur, business management or similar field;
- within the framework of unemployed vocational training, received the necessary knowledge of business or project management field;
- received higher or secondary vocational education and within the framework of Measures for promotion of competitiveness completed the non-formal education programs related with business or project management.

Legal basis:

1) Support for Unemployed Persons and Persons Seeking Employment Law (09.05.2002, with amendments made on 22.04.2004, 03.03.2005, 25.05.2006, 21.06.2007, 05.02.2009, 18.06.2009, 11.03.2010, 09.06.2011, 24.11.2011, 13.06.2013, 03.12.2015, 23.11.2016.);

2) Public purchase law (06.04.2006, with amendments made on 08.01.2007 and 08.02.2007, 16.07.2009, 19.04.2010,

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

20.05.2010, 03.11.2011, 02.02.2012, 21.06.2012, 20.06.2013, 05.09.2013, 19.09.2013, 04.09.2014, 02.10.2014, 14.05.2015, 03.12.2015, 03.03.2016, 12.05.2016, 15.12.2016.expired). In 15.12.2016. adopted new Public purchase law.

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Reimbursements), Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Typical: 40 <1 day, Maximum: 40 <1 day

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2008 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 16 Satisfaction of employees' claims from the employee claims guarantee fund

Type of action: 8.5 - Bankruptcy compensation

Description

Aim:

To satisfy claims of employees in case of employer's insolvency

Beneficiaries:

Employees, who have been proved to be unsecured creditors

Action/Instrument:

Debts of an insolvent employer to an employee are paid out from the employee claims guarantee fund's resources. Co-operation partners and self-employed are not considered to be employees. In case of employee's death the right to apply for the satisfaction of this employee's claim is passed over to his/her spouse or dependants. Employee's claims are satisfied in the following categories:

- 1) work pay;
- 2) compensation for the paid annual leave;
- 3) compensation for any other kind of paid absence;
- 4) redundancy compensation due to the termination of legal employment relations;
- 5) damage compensation caused by an accident at work or occupational disease;
- 6) part of those compulsory state social security payments made by an employer and connected with the expenditures mentioned above.

Financing/Support:

Financing comes from the employee claims guarantee fund that belongs to the State Agency of Insolvency Administration. The fund is funded by the state duty that is paid for every employee who is involved in legal employment relations (ear-marked taxes).

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

The Law on Protection of Employees in case of Insolvency of Employer (20.12.2001 with amendments made on 16.10.2003, 18.12.2003, 26.01.2006, 19.12.2006, 13.12.2007, 18.06.2009, 10.06.2011, 15.12.2011, 14.06.2012, 12.09.2013., 22.11.2017.).

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Lump-sum payments)

Target groups: Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: One-off

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 2003 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Latvia 2017 Category Mixed

Intervention n°/name 53 Youth Guarantee measures

Type of action: 1.1.1 - Information services
1.1.2 - Individual case-management
2.1 - Institutional training
4.1 - Recruitment incentives
4.1.2 - Temporary
6 - Direct job creation
7 - Start-up incentives

Description

Aim:

The aim of Youth Guarantee measure is to promote the unemployed youths' (hereafter – youth) entrance into labour market, especially by implementing measures that improve the skills and abilities corresponding to the labour market demand, and acquiring practical experience at work place.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed between ages 15 and 29

Action/Instrument:

Agency provides the youth with career consultations, measures to increase competitiveness and assistance in employment seeking. The required vocational or employment services for increasing the youth's competitiveness in the labour market are determined using the profiling method. For the more ambitious youth Agency provides support in launching business activities or self-employment. Also the youth may acquire work experience by participating in support measures "First Work Experience for the Youth", "Developing the Required Skills in Non-Governmental Sector", "Subsidised Work Places for the Unemployed Youth (Measures for Unemployed Representing Disadvantaged Groups)" or use other Agency's services.

Financing/Support:

ESF

Eligibility:

Measures have different criteria such as age, education, work experience and others.

Legal basis:

1) Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No.75 (29.06.2011 with amendments made on 16.12.2011, 26.07.2012, 07.03.2013, 01.08.2013, 03.10.2013, 13.12.2013, 28.05.2014, 14.08.2014, 15.06.2015, 07.01.2016, 31.03.2016, 02.03.2017., 07.09.2017.)

2) Minister Cabinet meeting on December 17, 2013, supported by the information report "The European Union funds operational program" Growth and Employment "objective of the aid 7.2.1 specifiskā" Promoting employment, education or training young people not involved in youth employment warranty "1st and 2nd stage of implementation "(with the changes approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of May 20, 2014 protocol No. 29 24.š);

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements), Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Youth)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Variable

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

Implementation:

Year started: 2014

Year Ended: Ongoing

D - Reference data

R.1 Registered jobseekers (total)

22 Total registered jobseekers

A person has the right to unemployment status after registration with the State Employment Agency if the person:

- 1)
 - is a citizen or non-citizen of Latvia or he or she has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia or mentioned person's spouse, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;
 - European Union member state or European Economic zone state or citizen of Swiss Confederation or mentioned person's family member, who has received European Union residence permit or European Union citizen permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning alternative status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a temporary residence permit;
 - a person, who has received a permanent residence permit in accordance with assigning refugee status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received European Union permanent residence permit in Latvia or family member, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning a temporary protection in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with scientific work accomplishing in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning human trade sacrifice status in Latvia;
- 2) does not work (is not considered to be an employee or a self-employed person in accordance with the Law On State Social Insurance);
- 3) is seeking employment;
- 4) is able to work and ready to enter into labour relations immediately;
- 5) has reached 15 years of age;
- 6) has not reached the age necessary for the granting of the State old age pension;
- 7) is not acquiring an education by being present at a general secondary or vocational secondary education institution excluding evening school;
- 8) does not perform commercial activities or his or her commercial activities have been suspended in accordance with regulatory enactments;
- 9) is not completely State supported.

Within the meaning of this Law, a person for whom invalidity has been determined shall also be considered to be able to work except in cases where the Medical Commission for Expert-examination of Health and Working Ability has determined a loss of ability to work of 100 per cent.

If at the day of registration a person has a temporary sick-list than State Employment agency confers RU status when a temporary sick-list is ended.

A person seeking employment is a person who has registered with the State Employment Agency and:

- 1)
 - is a citizen or non-citizen of Latvia or he or she has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia or mentioned person's spouse, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;
 - European Union member state or European Economic zone state or citizen of Swiss Confederation or mentioned person's family member, who has received European Union residence permit or European Union citizen permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning alternative status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a temporary residence permit;
 - a person, who has received a permanent residence permit in accordance with assigning refugee status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received European Union permanent residence permit in Latvia or family member, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning a temporary protection in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with scientific work accomplishing in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning human trade sacrifice status in Latvia;
- 2) does not work (is not considered to be an employee or a self-employed person) in accordance with the Law On State Social Insurance);
- 3) is seeking employment;
- 4) is able to work and ready to enter into labour relations immediately;
- 5) has reached 15 years of age;

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

6) does not perform commercial activities or his or her commercial activities have been suspended in accordance with regulatory enactments;

7) is not fulltime student who acquires basic education.

If at the day of registration a person has a temporary sick-list than State Employment agency confers RU status when a temporary sick-list is ended.

20 Registered unemployed

Overview:

A person has the right to unemployment status after registration with the State Employment Agency if the person:

1)

- is a citizen or non-citizen of Latvia or he or she has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia or mentioned person's spouse, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;

- European Union member state or European Economic zone state or citizen of Swiss Confederation or mentioned person's family member, who has received European Union residence permit or European Union citizen permanent residence permit in Latvia;

- a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning alternative status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a temporary residence permit;

- a person, who has received a permanent residence permit in accordance with assigning refugee status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia;

- a person, who has received European Union permanent residence permit in Latvia or family member, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;

- a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning a temporary protection in Latvia;

- a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with scientific work accomplishing in Latvia;

- a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning human trade sacrifice status in Latvia;

2) does not work (is not considered to be an employee or a self-employed person in accordance with the Law On State Social Insurance);

3) is seeking employment;

4) is able to work and ready to enter into labour relations immediately;

5) has reached 15 years of age;

6) has not reached the age necessary for the granting of the State old age pension;

7) is not acquiring an education by being present at a general secondary or vocational secondary education institution excluding evening school;

8) does not perform commercial activities or his or her commercial activities have been suspended in accordance with regulatory enactments;

9) is not completely State supported.

Within the meaning of this Law, a person for whom invalidity has been determined shall also be considered to be able to work except in cases where the Medical Commission for Expert-examination of Health and Working Ability has determined a loss of ability to work of 100 per cent.

If at the day of registration a person has a temporary sick-list than State Employment agency confers RU status when a temporary sick-list is ended.

Minimum age to be registered unemployed: 15

- School leaving age: 15. Minimum employment age: 15.

- Students cannot be RU, except those following evening classes. Students can be registered during holidays but only as jobseekers (jobseekers are not entitled to UB). Young people can be RU as soon as they leave school, but they will not receive UB.

Maximum age to be registered unemployed: 61

- Retirement age: 62

- Persons reaching retirement age are no longer counted as RU.

Registered unemployed are allowed to work? YES

- One of the reasons for losing the RU-status is to become employee or self-employed for an indefinite period of time or for more than 2 months. However, any fixed-term contract of less than 2 months is allowed (RU then do not receive UB).

- RU participating to active LMP measures are still counted as RU.

RU have to be immediately available for work? YES

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 23 January 2019

- One of the requisites for obtaining and holding the status of RU is to be ready to engage in labour relations immediately.

Restrictions on the type of work sought (full/part-time, permanent/temporary, etc.)? NO

- There are no restrictions on the type or duration of work sought.

Notes: -

The following groups cannot be RU:

- persons in education (general/vocational secondary education, excluding evening classes)
- retirees
- people not able to work.

RU and UBR - Are all UBR counted as RU? YES

- It is obligatory to register as unemployed in order to claim UB.

RU and UBR - Do all RU receive benefits? NO

- UB are subject to an adequate contribution history (unemployed must have been insured for at least 1 year and whose compulsory insurance contributions in case of unemployment have been made for not less than 9 months during the preceding 12-month period).

Treatment of periods of activation during unemployment. Is the unemployment spell:

Continuous:

Always. According to Latvian legislation, being RU is a precondition to be eligible for participating in active labour market measures. The same refers to registered jobseekers.

21 Other registered jobseekers

A person seeking employment is a person who has registered with the State Employment Agency and:

1)

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 - European Union member state or European Economic zone state or citizen of Swiss Confederation or mentioned person's family member, who has received European Union residence permit or European Union citizen permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning alternative status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a temporary residence permit;
 - a person, who has received a permanent residence permit in accordance with assigning refugee status in Latvia or mentioned person's family member, who has received a permanent residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received European Union permanent residence permit in Latvia or family member, who has received a temporary residence permit in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning a temporary protection in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with scientific work accomplishing in Latvia;
 - a person, who has received a temporary residence permit in accordance with assigning human trade sacrifice status in Latvia;
- 2) does not work (is not considered to be an employee or a self-employed person) in accordance with the Law On State Social Insurance);
- 3) is seeking employment;
- 4) is able to work and ready to enter into labour relations immediately;
- 5) has reached 15 years of age;
- 6) does not perform commercial activities or his or her commercial activities have been suspended in accordance with regulatory enactments;
- 7) is not fulltime student who acquires basic education.

If at the day of registration a person has a temporary sick-list than State Employment agency confers RU status when a temporary sick-list is ended.

50 Individual Action Plans

All inhabitants of Latvia irrespective of their age, sex and status.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation, Description