



III TRANSNATIONAL PARTNER FORUM

*Poland, Sweden, Finland, Germany,
Czech Republic, Spain, Estonia*

Warsaw, 15th-16th of June 2011

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Cooperating with ESF across countries and regions: current situation and future challenges





- Part 1. EU overview (10')**
 - Current situation
 - Future context
- Part 2. Zoom across countries (15')**
 - Calendars
 - Funding arrangements
- Part 3. Questions and answers (30')**
 - Table discussions
 - Plenary debate
- Part 4. Conclusions (5')**





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Part 1. EU overview





**Cooperating with ESF
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Legal basis: EC Regulation 1086/2006

ESF Committee

> ad hoc group on Transnational Cooperation and Innovation

Flexibility: each Member State had 3 Programming options:

- dedicated approach
- transversal approach
- mixed approach

✓ Only 47 Operational Programmes in 7 Member States have a priority axis on transnationality.

✓ Only 6 Member States include dedicated measures in at least one of their Operational Programmes.

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Additional support and incentives for transnationality and innovation at European level > 13 LEARNING NETWORKS working on the following themes:

- Inclusive Entrepreneurship
- Social Economy
- Empowerment and Inclusion
- Youth Employment
- Migrants and Ethnic Minorities
- Ex-offenders
- Partnership
- Transnational Cooperation > <http://www.transnationality.eu/>
- Public Administration Reforms
- Results-based Management
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Age Management
- Asylum Seekers.

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What can be done with Transnational Cooperation?

- ✓ Exchange of information and experiences, e.g. study trips;
- ✓ Joint activities such as training, stocktaking and analyses;
- ✓ Transferring, incorporating and/or adapting models and products;
- ✓ Development of new products and tools;
- ✓ Exchange of experts, key personnel, staff and participants;
- ✓ Organisation of international seminars and conferences.

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Main barriers to transnational cooperation

- at the EU level
 - > lack of coordination
- at the national level
 - > limited political understanding and commitment
 - > difficulties in showing benefits of transnational cooperation.

Current experience suggests the need for improved thematic focus and better coordination.

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Added value of transnational cooperation

> Improvement of ESF interventions that support the 6 Ps:

People
Policy
Procedures
Practice
Programmes
Partnerships



<source: Lloyd Broad – Working Paper « Evaluation and Added value of Transnationality » May 2011>

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Part 2. Zoom across countries





Poland

- ✓ **Up to EUR 548 million for TNC (!)** – 85% ESF + 15% national input
- ✓ **No co-financing needed**
- ✓ **Over 100 calls for TNC in 2011 (!)**
employment, education, social integration, adaptability of employees and enterprises, good governance, info on www.kiw-pokl.org.pl
 - stand-alone projects (TNC = 100% of budget)
 - TNC components in projects (no budget limits for TNC)
- ✓ **TNC components introduced to projects under implementation**
(additional up to 30% of budget for TNC)





Poland

- ✓ **TNC projects = added value + real partnerships**
- ✓ **Reciprocity principle** = each Partner pays its own cost recommended
→ Partners' costs eligible if justified - reimbursement
- ✓ **Letter of intent + TNC Agreement**
in EN, DE, FR or PL, based on models, to be modified, if necessary
- ✓ **Extra support for TNC projects** – IBs, II level IBs, Regional Centers of ESF, Contact points at IB level, Thematic Networks, NSI.

www.kiw-pokl.org.pl

www.efs.gov.pl



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Sweden

- **600 MIO EURO, 250 MIO EURO 2011-2012!**
- APPROX 50/50 - CO-FINANCING A PROBLEM...
- AXIS 1: EMPLOYED/SKILLS SUPPLY 30%
- **AXIS 2: UNEMPLOYED/LABOUR SUPPLY 70%**
- NATIONAL/HORIZONTAL PRIOS:
 - 1. Skills development: anti-discrimination, long-term sick leave
 - 2. Counter exclusion: migrants, youth
- SPECIFIC REGIONAL/NATIONAL PRIOS IN CALLS:
- **COMBAT POVERTY, ROMA, SOCIAL INNOVATION, EU BALTIC SEA STRATEGY, EY 2012**
- **EIGHT REGIONS** – STRUCTURAL FUND PARTNERSHIPS DECIDES
- TNC 5 - 20 % OF TOTAL BUDGET OR 100% SPECIFIC CALLS

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Sweden

- **PROJECT SUPPORT CONSULTANTS + ACCESSABILITY AND GENDER**
- **NATIONAL THEMATIC NETWORKS:** YOUTH, INTEGRATION, WORK PLACE LEARNING, SOCIAL FIRMS/ENTREPRENEURSHIP, EQUAL TREATMENT/OPPs
- **RECIPROCITY – EACH PARTNER PAYS ITS OWN COSTS**
- **COSTS RELATED TO THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TNC**
- **EXPERTS FROM OTHER MSs CAN BE PAYED FROM TNC BUDGET**
- **APPLICATION – TNC BUDGET, PRELIMINARY TNC WORKPLAN**
- *TRANSNATIONAL AGREEMENT DOC*
- **IMPLEMENTATION PHASE APPLICATION – WORK AND TIMEPLAN**
- **CONTINUOUS CALLS FOR PROPOSALS**
- **APPLICATION, PREPARATION, IMPLEMENTATION PHASE - TNC CAN BE ADDED**

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Czech Republic

OP Human Resources and Employment

- TNC allocation – circa 41 mil EUR, 60% still available

Calls:

- 2 calls for proposals – 70 projects running
- 3rd call for proposals just published

Thematic areas:

- social integration, equal opportunities, active labor market policies, public administration, public services

www.esfcr.cz www.transnationality.eu



OPERAČNÍ PROGRAM
LIDSKÉ ZDROJE
A ZAMĚSTNANOST

PODPORUJEME
VAŠI BUDOUCNOST
www.esfcr.cz



Czech Republic

Current Call for Proposals - basic rules

Activities:

- transfer of knowledge, innovations
- networking, local partnerships

- at least one transnational partner in project
- min 25% TNC expenditures within the budget
- transnational partner pays their expenditures
- expenditures of Czech organizations abroad are eligible
- transnational experts may be hired by Czech beneficiaries
- no co-financing needed – projects receive 100% expenditures
- special attention to gender mainstreaming



Finland

- Total funding in the Finnish ESF Programme 2007-2013 is 1 414 M€.
- Separate priority 4 for transnationality is divided into two parts:
 1. Labour based immigration
 2. Transnationality for seeking and mainstreaming good practices (4,3 M€)
- Transnationality is also horizontal in the OP
- ESF Programme is divided into national and regional parts (50/50) – it is implemented through open calls on national and regional level separately.





Finland

Calendar

- 2nd call just closed (26th May 2011)

Funding arrangements

- The Finnish partners should cover their own costs and transnational partners are expected to cover their costs (wages, travel etc)
- Foreign partners are expected to find financing from their own sources
- Proving the mutual benefit and added value is important
- Financing rate (ESF+state) is up to 85%

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Part 3. Questions and answers

- Table discussions (10')**
- Plenary debate (20')**





Part 4. Conclusions





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Future policy context

- **Europe 2020 strategy**
 - ✓ Flagship initiatives for 'New Skills and New Jobs,' 'the Platform against Poverty' and 'Youth on the Move.'
- **Limited number of priorities**
- **Increased focus on innovation**

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• **Common Strategic Framework (CSF)**

Proposals made by the ad hoc group (March 2011)

- ✓ A greater thematic focus
- ✓ Implementation arrangements such as training structures for individuals who will be involved in implementing innovation and transnational cooperation
- ✓ The types of activities that could be financed
- ✓ The methodological approaches to be adopted
- ✓ The scope of monitoring and evaluation
- ✓ The timing - for example establishing synchronised calls for proposals.
- ✓ Still under negotiation, a Community programme on social innovation, implemented at transnational level, coordinated by EC.

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Thank you for your attention

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