



CITIZENS' SUMMARY



GIBRALTAR EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF) INVESTMENT FOR GROWTH AND JOBS GOAL 2014-2020

The new Gibraltar Operational Programme for the European Social Fund (ESF) for 2014-2020 has now been approved. A total of €4,841,342 has been allocated by the EU Commission.

WHAT IS ESF?

ESF is one of the five European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF). They are the main source of investment at EU level to help Member States to restore and increase growth and ensure a job rich recovery while ensuring sustainable development, in line with the Europe 2020 objectives.

Activity will be focussed around, and combine: Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility together with investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning.

WHY APPLY FOR FUNDING?

The EU makes funds available to reduce the large regional disparities across the EU in terms of levels of development (per capita GDP), productivity, employment, educational attainment and poverty, and to meet its ambitious Europe 2020 objectives.

WHO WILL BENEFIT AND HOW?

- Unemployed people – especially the young and long-term unemployed –and disadvantaged groups will have more options for training and individual assistance.
- Businesses, non-profit organisations and public authorities may receive support to help them adapt to technological change, shift towards a low-carbon economy, keep up with global competition and implement reforms.
- Funding will be channelled through bodies entrusted with the implementation of ESF in Gibraltar.

HOW WILL THE PROGRAMME WORK?

All training programmes have to be sector-wide and therefore need to be channelled through the Government Training Officer. All employment support schemes will be channelled through the Employment Service. These are the recognised bodies entrusted with implementing ESF in Gibraltar. They will submit the appropriate application for funding assistance.

Unsuccessful applicants may direct their queries/complaints to the Director European Programmes at director@eufunding.gi.

WHEN WILL THE PROGRAMME COMMENCE?

The Gibraltar ESF Programme was approved by the EU Commission on 29 May 2015. The Programme will end on 31 December 2020.