

European Social Fund

Programming period 2000 – 2006

Supporting Innovation ESF Article 6

**Unit C.4 “Article 6 ESF and Readaptation”
European Commission, DG Employment & Social Affairs**

Liesbet De Letter

Final Symposium Art 6 project "int.unity"
Brussels, 27-28 January 2004

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Wider political context

- **Crucial phase of history for EU**
- **Enlargement**
- **European constitution**



Milestones/challenges:

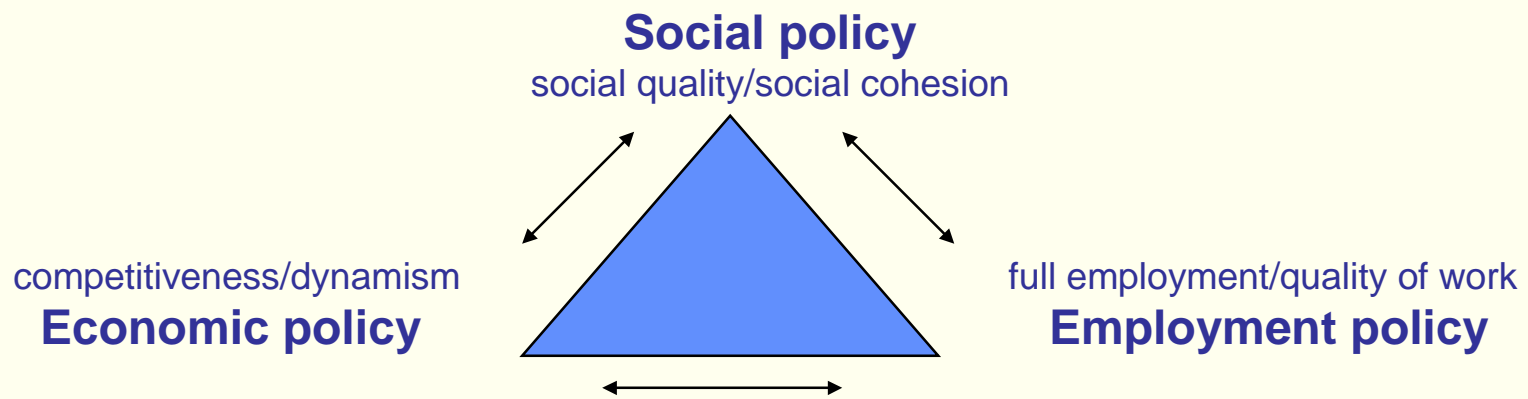
- **European Employment Strategy**
- **Good governance**
- **Partnership**

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European Employment Strategy 1

- **Created in 1997**
- **Lisbon European Council 2000:**
“The most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.”



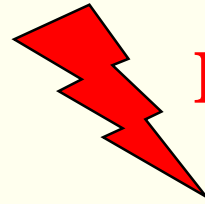
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European Employment Strategy 2

Results so far

- **10 Mio. Jobs created**
- **Unemployment reduced by 1/3**
- **Long-term unemployment reduced by 40%**



Employment challenges

- **Globalisation**
- **On-going economic and social restructuring**
- **Rapid ageing of the population**
- **Emergence of bottlenecks**
- **Regional differences in performance**

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European Employment Strategy ₃

Lisbon employment targets

- **Overall: 67% by 2005; 70 % by 2010 (now: 64,3 %)**
- **Women: 57% by 2005; 60 % by 2010 (now: 55,6 %)**
- **Older workers: 50 % by 2010 (now: 40,0 %)**

The revised European Employment Strategy

- **Simple, result-oriented structure**
- **3 overarching objectives**
- **10 specific guidelines**
- **Quantified targets**
- **Governance**
- **Recommendations**

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European Employment Strategy 4

New EES - specific guidelines

- **Active and preventative measures for the unemployed and inactive**
- **Job creation and entrepreneurship**
- **Address change and promote adaptability and mobility**
- **Promote development of human capital and lifelong learning**
- **Increase labour supply and promote active ageing**
- **Gender equality**
- **Promote the integration of and combat the discrimination against people at a disadvantage in the labour market**
- **Make work pay through incentives to enhance work attractiveness**
- **Transform undeclared work into regular employment**
- **Address regional employment disparities**

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European Employment Strategy 5

Financial tools

- **Mainstream ESF**
- **EQUAL**
- **Article 6 measures**
- **Best practice**

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Good governance and Partnership

Improved co-operation / intensified participation

- **Institutions, authorities and social partners**
- **European, national, regional, local level**
- **Different units of national, regional and local administrations**

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More information on EES

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/employment_strategy/index_en.htm

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ESF Article 6: aim

- ⇒ **promote new approaches**
- ⇒ **identify examples of good practice**

that may subsequently help improve ESF mainstream operations

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ESF Article 6: framework for implementation

Communication of the Commission

on the implementation of Innovative Measures under Article 6 of the European Social Fund Regulation for the programming period 2000-2006

- COM(2000) 894 of 12 January 2001 -

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ESF Article 6: general principles

- ⇒ **innovation & experimentation**
- ⇒ **partnership**
- ⇒ **thematic approach**
- ⇒ **on-going and ex-post evaluation**
- ⇒ **open calls for proposals**

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ESF Article 6: calls for proposals 2001-2003

- ⇒ **Adaptation to the new economy within the framework of social dialogue**
- ⇒ **Local employment strategies and innovation**

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ESF Article 6: call for proposals 2004-2006

One overarching theme to

- ⇒ **strengthen coherence of innovative actions**
- ⇒ **enable different actors to contribute to same theme with their respective expertise and to co-operate more closely**

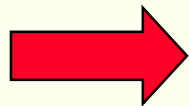
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ESF Article 6: call for proposals 2004-2006

Innovative approaches to the management of change

Management of
demographic change



- promote active ageing
- raise employment rate of older workers

Management of
restructuring



- enhance capacity for adaptation and anticipation of
- workers
 - enterprises
 - public authorities

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Innovative approaches to the management of change

Management of demographic change

Changing age management practices:

- ⇒ **maintaining and investing in the continued employability and productivity of older workers**
- ⇒ **adapting work processes and making working arrangements more flexible**

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Management of demographic change

Priority issues to be addressed:

- anticipation of ageing and employment trends in a specific context
- development of strategies for age management and investment in human resources
- development and piloting of alternative working arrangements at enterprise level
- development and testing of new ways of delivering training to older workers
- raising the awareness of the potential of older workers
- development of alternative strategies to change the practice of using early retirement as a solution to corporate restructuring

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Innovative approaches to the management of change

Management of restructuring

**Addressing the impact of economic change
and restructuring from different perspectives:**

- ⇒ **industrial relations**
- ⇒ **territorial**
- ⇒ **corporate**

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Management of restructuring

Priority issues to be addressed:

- development of anticipation mechanisms and systems at territorial level
- development of anticipation mechanisms and systems to better manage restructuring in a specific context
- development of integrated approaches to confronting the implications of restructuring processes
- development and piloting of specific systems and tools for supporting restructuring processes in SMEs
- capacity building for the stakeholders concerned

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: eligible actions

⇒ **types of actions**

- peer review
- transfer and adaptation
- development and piloting of new model approaches

⇒ **transnationality**

- partners from at least two EU15 Member States
- participation of acceding countries / new Member States encouraged but limited

⇒ **dissemination measures**

- separate call for proposals

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: eligible applicants

- ⇒ **Social Partner organisations**
- ⇒ **companies**
- ⇒ **non-profit organisations**
- ⇒ **education and training institutions**
- ⇒ **public authorities and administrations operating at NUTS level 3**

located in the EU15 Member States

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: key elements

- ⇒ **partnership**
- ⇒ **monitoring and evaluation**
- ⇒ **dissemination and mainstreaming**
- ⇒ **sustainability**

must be specifically addressed

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: EU co-financing

⇒ **EU contribution of max. 75% of eligible costs**

⇒ **applicant must provide min. 25% financial (cash) contribution**

- no in-kind contribution

⇒ **EU grant of min. €300.000**

⇒ **EU grant of max. €3 million**

} over two-year period

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: application deadlines

⇒ **FIRST round: 18.02.2004**

- grant agreements to be signed October 2004
- project start between 01.11 and 31.12 2004
- max. duration 24 months

⇒ **SECOND round: 26.01.2005**

- grant agreements to be signed September 2005
- project start between 01.10 and 30.11 2005
- max. duration 24 months

⇒ **THIRD round: 25.01.2006**

- grant agreements to be signed September 2006
- project start between 01.10 and 30.11 2006
- max. duration 24 months

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Call for proposals 2004-2006: documentation

⇒ **Published in the OJ C262 on 31.10.2003**

⇒ **Website with all relevant documents**

http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/empl/vp_2003_021/library

⇒ **Email address**

empl-article6MC@cec.eu.int

⇒ **More information on ESF Article 6**

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/esf2000/index-en.htm