

17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Milan

TCA International - **Synergy of funds**

# **ESF+ in Flanders**

## **Overview of the new ESF+ Program '21-'27**

**Sofie Bogaerts** – Project Advisor for ESF+ in Flanders

**Goedele Swillens** – Lifelong Learning Department of Education and Training

**Carl Lamote** – Policy advisor Department of Education and Training Belgium Flemish

EUROPA  
WERK &  
SOCIALE  
ECONOMIE

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIlgQvt6V3Wk&t=2s>



Medegefinancierd door  
de Europese Unie



# Five Key Priorities with Six Specific Objectives

**1) Access to Employment – 16% (via public employment service)**

**2) Social Inclusion – 26%**

**3) Lifelong Learning – 40%**

Strengthening participation in training and skills development 30%

☒ jobseekers

☒ employees

Inclusive Education 10% (via Department of Education)

**4) Sustainable and Inclusive Employment – 10%**

**5) Social Innovation – 8%**

→ **Total Budget: €415 million ESF+**

## Priority 1 – Access to Employment

- **This priority is broader than just job seekers and includes non-active groups, career transitions, reintegration after illness, ...**
- **Actions by the public employment service (VDAB):**
  - Identify, raise awareness, motivate
  - Leading and guiding
  - Estimating and orienting. Needs analysis
  - Broad living environment – broad thresholds and levers to the labor market
  - Closing generic skills and attitude gaps
  - Job hunting and mediation
  - Aftercare initiatives – intake and retention

## Priority 2 – Social Inclusion

- **Targeting vulnerable groups with significant barriers to employment, poverty, and underrepresentation**
- **Actions:**
  - Both labor market participation and social integration
  - Integrated: access to work, education, housing, mobility, childcare, healthcare, ..
  - Focus on basic conditions for participation
  - Intensive process guidance: demand and tailor-made, chain approach
  - Location oriented – clinging
  - Both actions with direct impact on the participant and systemic improvements

# Priority 3 – Lifelong Learning SO Participation in Training

- **Applicable to all workforce members**
- **Actions:**
  - Increasing the employability of people directly and indirectly
  - Retraining, further training
  - Basic literacy, 21st century, STEM, digital skills, ..
  - Strengthening learning ability, desire to learn, learning culture, ..
  - Competencies of the future
  - Competencies and mobility – transitions
  - Thresholds on training participation
  - Labor market-oriented competence policy
  - Vulnerable groups, inclusion and lifelong learning
  - Workplace learning – Dual Learning...

## **Priority 3 – Lifelong Learning SO Inclusive Education**

- **Covers the entire educational journey, from early education to secondary, higher education, and youth transitions to the labor market**
- **Actions: see further**

## Priority 4 – Sustainable Jobs and an Inclusive Labor Market

- **Targeted at workplaces**

- **Actions:**

- CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) from a labor market and employment perspective
- Future-oriented deployment of human capital
- Social transitions and impact on companies and deployment of human capital: migration, aging, digitalization, climate, ..
- Inclusive employment practices: talent, competence, diversity
- Employee welfare as a foundation of HR policy
- Workable jobs and workable environment

## Priority 5 – Social Innovative Actions

- **Focused on supporting social innovation**
  - Social challenges and innovative solutions
  - Experiment, test, pilot, scale up, embed.
  - Investing in social innovation capacity
- 
- **Transition experiments (cf. Vision 2050: Living, learning and working in 2050)**

Creating more value with fewer people and realizing people-oriented productivity  
 = **context for development and productivity in SME**

Local partnerships for the vulnerable	Partnerships for prisoners	Inclusive workplaces	Learning organizations	Intersectoral partnerships competence	Learning ecosystems
PRIO 2	PRIO 2 PRIO 5	PRIO 4	PRIO 3 PRIO 4	PRIO 3	PRIO 3 PRIO 5
<p>Getting more people to work and keeping them in work sustainably and offering opportunities for inclusion                      = <b>more opportunities on the labor market for those who are (very) far away</b></p>			<p>Create an active learning culture with retraining and further training throughout your career                      = <b>from talent to proactively competent</b></p>		

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# Focus on Education

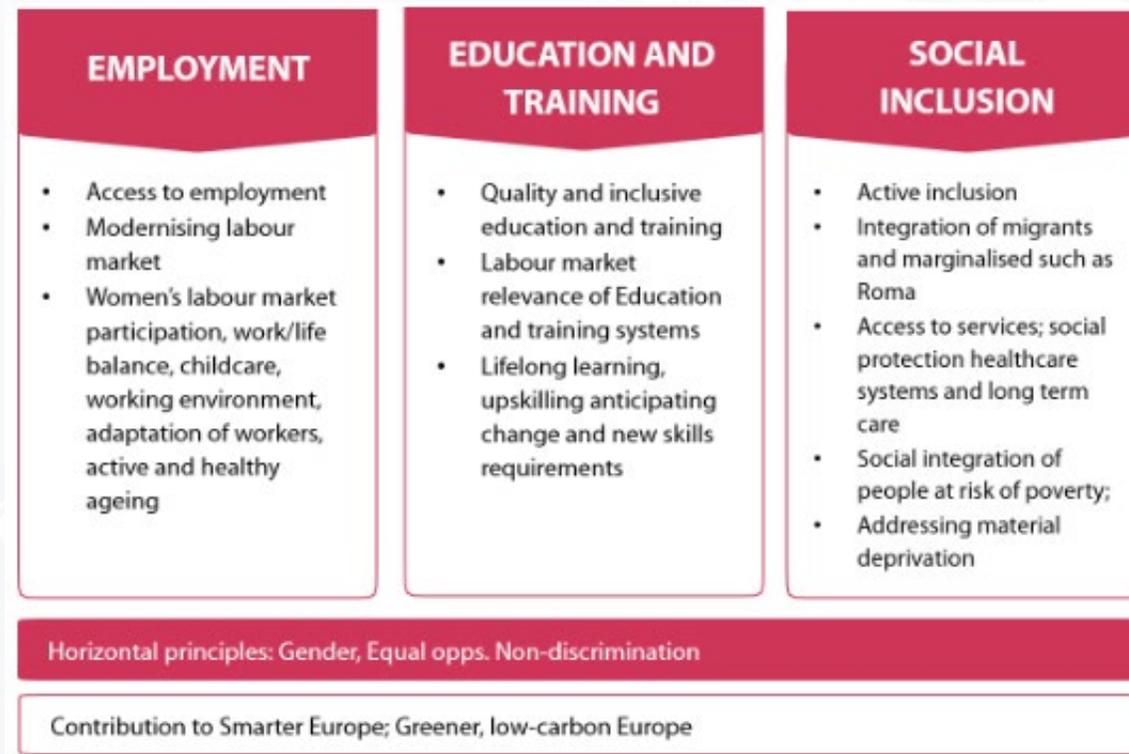
# ESF-funding in **education**

- Long tradition;
- Funding in education:
- Already for a long time within the ESF framework, own operation and priority
- Allows to address challenges within education specifically
- Long-standing choice for the intersection of education-labor market and vulnerable students.

## 2014–2020

- **ESF funds almost entirely self-managed: intermediary body**
  - Allows for more targeted focus.
  - Focus on vulnerable students in the dual learning system
  - Strengthening dual learning
  - Early school leaving
- **In addition to these self-managed funds**
  - Support for the development of dual learning in close cooperation with sectoral partners
  - Focus on well-being at school

# Establishment of ESF 2021–2027



# Establishment of ESF 2021–2027

- **Focus on education in a broad sense (from early childhood education to adult education)**
  - With a specific focus on education–labor market;
  - Linked to country–specific recommendations;
- **Flanders: continuation of priorities from the previous program period:**
  - Education–labor market;
  - Early school leaving;
  - Vulnerable students;
  - Development of dual learning.

# Program 2021–2027: result

- **Covers the entire educational journey, from early education to secondary, higher education, and youth transitions to the labor market**
- **Actions:**
  - Preventing early school leaving
  - Equal educational participation and outcomes
  - Inclusive education – child poverty – socio-economic position
  - Relationship young person – environment – education
  - Responding to the entire chain: role and position of actors in young people's school career
  - Prevention: orientation, guidance, language, skills, ...
  - Transition education – labor market

# Synergy between funds?

- **ESF+ in education as a policy instrument;**
  - Projects strongly linked to the policy priorities of the Flemish Government;
  - Strategic focus depending on priority.
- **No formal linkage in priorities between ESF+ and Erasmus+ in Flanders, but:**
  - Complementary objectives: development of skills and competencies
  - ESF+ via education-employment;
  - Erasmus+ via vocational education
  - Collaborative culture on administrative level.

# Synergy between funds

*programmes*



**Thank You!**  
**Questions?**