
EASI

EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation

The Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) programme is a financing instrument at EU level to promote a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions.

For the period 2021 – 2027 the EaSI programme will become a strand under the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

Structure and funding

EaSI is managed directly by the European Commission. It brings together three EU programmes managed separately between 2007 and 2013: PROGRESS, EURES and Progress Microfinance.

As of January 2014, these programmes form the three axes of EaSI. They support:

- The modernisation of employment and social policies with the PROGRESS axis (61% of the total budget);
- Job mobility with the EURES axis (18% of the total budget);
- Access to micro-finance and social entrepreneurship with the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis (21% of the total budget).

The total budget for 2014-2020 is 919,469,000 EUR in 2013 prices.

Objectives:

- Strengthen ownership of EU objectives and coordination of action at EU and national level in the areas of employment, social affairs and inclusion.
- Support the development of adequate social protection systems and labour market policies.
- Modernise EU legislation and ensure its effective application.
- Promote geographical mobility and boost employment opportunities by developing an open labour market.
- Increase the availability and accessibility of microfinance for vulnerable groups and micro-enterprises, and increase access to finance for social enterprises.

In pursuing these objectives, EaSI will:

- Pay particular attention to vulnerable groups, such as young people
- Promote equality between women and men
- Combat discriminations
- Promote a high level of quality and sustainable employment
- Guarantee adequate and decent social protection
- Combat long-term unemployment
- Fight against poverty and social exclusion

The contact in the Czech Republic is Ing. Jitka Zukalová from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs .