

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

"HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT 2007-2013"

INTRODUCTION

Operational Programme 'Human Resources Development 2007-2013' is among the Sectoral Programmes of the National Strategic Reference Framework (ESPA) 2007-2013. It is co-funded by the European Social Fund and constitutes a multifaceted programme, which covers all 13 Regions of the country.

FUNDING

The Total amount of co-funding by the E.U. is EUR 2.825,333,333, of which EUR 2,260,000,000 is derived from Community Resources (from the European Social Fund) and EUR 565,333,333 from National Resources. In addition to this amount, it is estimated that a total of EUR 188,000,000 of National Resources will also be earmarked to cover the cost of projects that are not co-funded by the E.U. (such as anticipated earnings, etc). Private Funding amounting to EUR 50,000,000 is also expected to be earmarked for the implementation of these projects.

The total of the above amounts is estimated to reach EUR 3,013,333,333.

GOAL AND STRATEGY

The Primary Objective of the OP's development strategy is the utilisation of all human resources as a moving force for the country's growth and the reinforcement of social cohesion.

PRIORITY AXES

The Programme's Priority Axes are the following:

Priority Axis 1 'Systemic Interventions'

It includes an entire set of systemic interventions, which contribute to the **reform and operational integration of the institutions, bodies and mechanisms**, involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Thematic Priority Axes 2, 3 and 4.

Thematic Priority Axis 2 'Supporting Adaptability of Human Resources and Enterprises'

The Primary Objectives of this Axis are:

1. Development of an integrated framework of Continuing Vocational Training (CVT) for employees, employers and the self-employed, to improve the quality of CVT and increase participation in training actions.
2. Improvement of the quality of Continuing Vocational Training and increase in the participation in training actions for employees, especially in Small and Medium enterprises.
3. Design and implementation of programmes related to sectors of the European Social Fund by socioeconomic bodies, including social partners, representative Non-Governmental Organisations and professional organisations.
4. Development of policies and services in order to forecast and positively manage economic changes.

Thematic Priority Axis 3 'Facilitating Access to Employment'

The 3rd Priority Axis of the Programme aims at:

1. Supporting youth employment, through active employment policies.
2. Supporting employment of women, through active employment policies.
3. Activating the long-term unemployed and individuals of socially vulnerable groups, which are threatened with exclusion from the labour market, through the implementation of specially targeted actions.
4. Improving the effectiveness of employment policies.

Thematic Priority Axis 4 'Complete Integration of all Human Resources into a Society of Equal Opportunities'

The Primary Objectives of this Axis are:

1. Promotion of social and professional integration of Socially Vulnerable Groups (immigrants, people with special needs, individuals with cultural and religious differences, the long-term unemployed, etc).
2. Utilisation of social entrepreneurship towards the integration of Socially Vulnerable Groups in the labor market.
3. Improvement of welfare for those in need of aid.

Thematic Priority Axis 5 'Establishment of Reform in the Mental Health Sector - Development of Primary Healthcare and Promotion of Public Health'

Primary Objectives:

1. Upgrading of the mental health services provided in accordance with National planning, and completion of psychiatric reform.
2. Promotion of a new working model for Primary Healthcare and improvement of public health by precluding the causes of disease and mortality, promoting health and disseminating information to the public.
3. Restructuring and modernisation of public health bodies and services.