

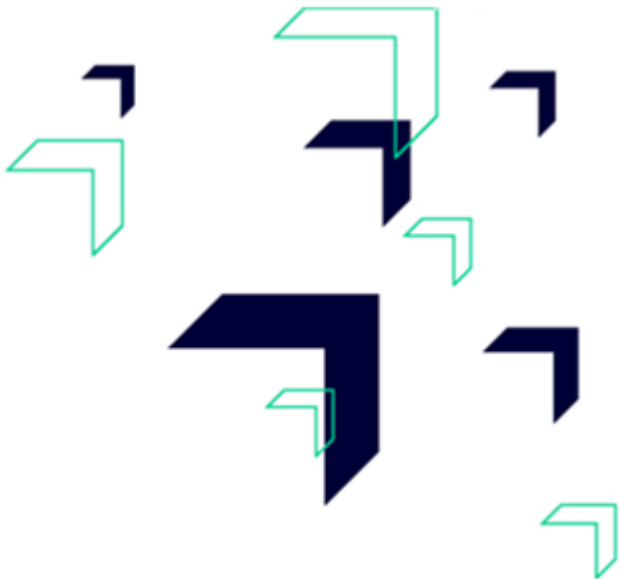


**GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA**



FONDI.eu

Changes to Appendix 1 of the ESF+ Programme 2021-2027



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

Appendix 1 - Proposed change

The proposed changes under Appendix 1 - Union contribution based on unit costs, lump sums and flat rate focus on the introduction of a new simplified cost option (SCO) to be adopted under the ESF+.01.S1 Access to Employment Scheme.

Simplified Cost Option (SCO) A2E Scheme wage subsidies

Background - Access to Employment (A2E) Scheme

- The **Access to Employment (A2E) Scheme** provides employment aid to enterprises in Malta and Gozo to promote the recruitment of the more challenged amongst jobseekers and inactive persons, with the ultimate aim of retaining the participants in employment once the subsidy period is over.
- The scheme is administered by Jobsplus as the national entity for employment and training, with a budget of €12M.
- The objective of the proposed change is to establish a **new** SCO that will cover the **subsidy of wages incurred by employers** under the ESF+ 2021-2027 Programme under the ESF Aid Schemes 'Access to Employment' in line with Article 94(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 (CPR), which outlines the basis for the relationship between the Commission and the Member State on the use of simplified cost options.

Proposed SCO: Access to Employment (A2E) Scheme

- Following the successful implementation of the Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) adopted during the 2014-2020 Programming Period, a study to establish SCOs covering the subsidy of wages for the private sector 2021-2027 Programming Period was undertaken by the Managing Authority in collaboration with Jobsplus.
- The research carried out was based on official statistical data that is collated by the National Statistics Office as part of its Labour Force survey on a quarterly basis.
- A formal assessment was also carried out by the national Audit Authority, to obtain the necessary assurance to include SCOs in the ESF+ Programme in line with Article 94(2).

SCO Rate: Access to Employment (A2E) Scheme

- The wage subsidy is based on the average monthly basic salary received by employees as per the Labour Force Survey. A separate unit cost was also computed to cater for part-time cases.
- Employers applying for Disadvantaged and Severely Disadvantaged Group will receive a subsidy of €186 (fulltime) / € 93 (part time) per week per new recruit engaged, for a period of 52 weeks or 104 weeks, depending on the target group.
- In the case of registered disabled persons, a subsidy of €278 (fulltime) / €139 (part time) per week for a maximum of 156 weeks is provided.
- An adjustment methodology may be applied by the Managing Authority/Intermediate Body to update the unit cost established on a yearly basis in line with the latest figures available.

Proposed SCO: Access to Employment (A2E) Scheme

- The following changes were proposed by the Commission following circulation of documents to MC members for the approval of this new SCO:
 - **Point 3 Indicator triggering the reimbursement:** to be reworded as '*Total number of participants employed per week*'.
 - **Point 4 Unit of measurement:** to be reworded as '*Unit cost per participant (employed) per week*'.

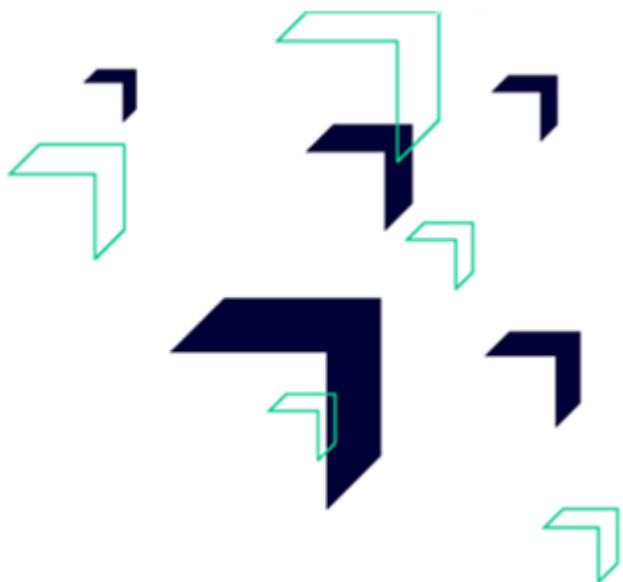


**GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA**



FONDI.eu

Thank You



**Co-funded by
the European Union**