Gender budgeting

Who is this toolkit for?

This step-by-step toolkit on gender budgeting in the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) is designed to be used by managing authorities in European Union Member States. Thus, civil servants and managers involved in ESIF programming at the national and sub-national levels are the toolkit’s main target group. However, the toolkit should also be used by intermediate bodies working on ESIF project implementation at the sub-national or local levels, as well as by national gender equality bodies and staff working at the EU level with the ESIFs. The European Commission’s Directorate-General for Employment, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, and the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers can also make use of the toolkit for their overall monitoring and evaluation (M&E) work.

This toolkit is structured in such a way that each target group is guided to when and where they would need to apply gender budgeting tools in the ESIF process. By clicking on the relevant step of the process, you will access a variety of tools and promising practices from different Member States on how the tools can be used.

What are the ESIFs?

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) comprise five individual funds embedded in a common framework. The five funds and their budgets for 2014-2020 are:

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) – approx. EUR 280 billion
- European Social Fund (ESF) – approx. EUR 120 billion
- Cohesion Fund (CF) – approx. EUR 75 billion
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) – approx. EUR 8 billion
The purpose of these funds is to invest in job creation and a sustainable, healthy European economy and environment.

The following chart shows the total ESIF budget by theme (real-time statistics):

Source: [European Structural and Investment Funds: EU Overview Finances: Planned](#)

**Footnotes**

[1] The Draft Common Provisions Regulation (CPR), Article 2(7), defines an 'intermediate body' as any public or private legal body which acts under the responsibility of a managing authority or which carries out functions or tasks on behalf of such an authority.