



International cooperation in sharing best practices

Transnational cooperation can help in the finding of new perspectives and operating models related to entrepreneurship, combating unemployment and developing competences, for example. Through transnational cooperation, Finland can benefit from other countries' experiences and existing innovations. Networking between authorities and ESF actors of member states must therefore be promoted.

TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION AIMS to identify best practices and solution options for Finnish labour, economic and education policies. The development programme for transnational cooperation in finding and mainstreaming good practices was created for this purpose. Its aim is to bring other member states' best practices to Finland, while disseminating innovations developed in connection with Finnish projects. In addition, certain areas of the ESF administration require development. At public administration level too, this will require networking, the exchange of information and experiences, and other forms of cooperation.

The Ministry of Employment and the Economy administers a coordination project under the development programme. This project enables participation in the activities of various thematic networks, with the aim of exchanging best practices among member states. Finland has participated in network activities on themes such as Social Economy, Baltic Sea and ESF CoNet. The aim is to enable various bodies to continue making use of network activities, even after the actual project work has ended.

In particular, the coordination project is being used to support the internationalisation activities of nationwide development programmes. This project allows actors to take part in various international events, such as seminars or training sessions. It also provides funding for field trips, excursions or other forms of transnational collaboration. The development programme for transnational cooperation can also include, for example, various types of surveys, evaluations and assessments, conducted among member states, on a variety of themes.

Call for project proposals on demographic and structural change

In the summer of 2010, the coordination project organised a call for project proposals on the themes 'Abrupt structural change' and 'Demographic change'. The selected projects are scheduled to start at the beginning of 2011. The aim of these projects is to identify existing operating models, methods and best practices from various countries. These will be used, for example, to control structural changes or changes due to the demographic structure.

The development programme for transnational cooperation for finding and mainstreaming good practices

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