

# ESF+ Capacity Building:

ESF+ Capacity Building: How to influence EU funds used for the Youth Guarantee and for combatting youth homelessness

April 26<sup>th</sup> 2021 – 15.00 – 16.30 CET.

[Register Here](#)

## Background to the European Social Fund

The European Social Fund+ (ESF) comprises a fund of approximately EUR88billion that is to be used between 2021-2027.

The priorities for the ESF+ include investing in young people and supporting the most vulnerable. For countries where young people not in education, employment or training (NEETS) exceeds the 2017-2019 European average there will be a requirement to use a minimum of 12.5% of their countries' allocation of the funds towards investing in young people - in particular in the context of implementing Youth Guarantee schemes.

These countries include Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, and Spain.

## Influencing EU Funds for Youth Homelessness in Your Country

The European Union has reached a political agreement for the funds and are currently in the process of adopting the regulation that will bring the funds into force. However in **2021 each member state must put together their national programmes for ESF+**. These are generally agreed by the Ministry for Social Protection, Social Welfare or Labour. While there is no specific deadline for these programmes to be submitted to the European Commission, they are expected to be submitted by the end of the summer, countries cannot use the funds without their programmes. These national programmes will specify how your country will distribute the funds between 2021-2027, if youth homelessness is not included as a priority for investing in youth it will restrict use of the funds in the coming years.

This training aims to:

- Promote an understanding about the ESF+ and Youth Guarantee
- Provide a practical framework and tips on how to lobby the ESF+ process in your country.
- Share inspirational practices which could be funded under the Youth Guarantee in your country.
- Share challenges your organisation might face in the weeks and months ahead around influencing the ESF+ programmes so FEANTSA and the Youth Forum can provide additional resources and supports where relevant.

## Agenda

Time	Session	Description	Speakers
15.00	Introduction	Overview of this training session & tour de table/introduction via chat who is on the call	Robbie Stakelum, FEANTSA María Rodríguez Alcázar, European Youth Forum

15.10	Introducing the ESF+	General Overview of how the ESF+ works	Michele Calandrino, European Commission
15.20	Connecting the ESF+ with the Youth Guarantee	What have been the key policy reforms around the Youth Guarantee, particularly around disadvantaged and vulnerable youth.	William Hayward, European Youth Forum
15.30	Practicalities for using the funds	How can you lobby at national level on the funding of the Youth Guarantee from EU level that can be used to support youth homelessness? Who should you target? How can you get started? What is the timeline?	Réka Tunyogi, Interim Deputy Director, FEANTSA
15.40	Question & Answers	A moment to ask questions to the European Commission & Réka Tunyogi about the Youth Guarantee and ESF+	Robbie Stakelum
15.50	Coffee Break		
16.00	Inspirational Practices - Overview of three practices that fit the framework of the Youth Guarantee and ESF+ that can support youth experiencing or at risk of becoming homelessness	PETE (Preparing for Education, Training & Employment), Focus Ireland, Ireland	Lisa O'Brien, Manager, Focus Ireland
		Upstream, Llamau, Wales	Hugh Russell, Llamau, Wales
		Make It Work, Belgium	Tom Gréant, Make It Work, Belgium
16.30	Q&A	Opportunity for participants to ask questions about the practices presented	Robbie Stakelum
16.40	Mapping Challenges Thinking of the national context.	Opportunity for participants to share challenges or obstacles they may encounter around influencing their national authorities.	Robbie Stakelum
17.00	End of Training		