

The ESPRIT and ESPRIT3 Global Grant in Tuscany

*ESF-supported projects
promoting social inclusion and labour market
insertion of disadvantaged people*

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What is a «Global Grant»?

- A funding instrument within the Structural Funds
- Preferably used for the assistance of local development initiatives
- In the case of ESF interventions actions are carried out by local and regional Intermediary Organisations
 - ✓ *Reg(CE)1260/99 amended by Reg(CE)1083/06*

The regional context

- Interest of the **Tuscany** regional government
 - ✓ *Since the late 1990's – still top priority*
 - ✓ *Using European Social Fund's resources to address and handle social issues*
 - ✓ *Fight against social marginalisation and exclusion*
- During the **2000-2006** programming period
 - ✓ *the Global Grant "Small Grants"*
- During the **2007-2013** programming period
 - ✓ *the Global Grant for the labour market insertion and social inclusion of disadvantaged people*

The 2000-2006 Global Grant «Small Grants» - 1/2

- **Esprit** submitted its proposal ...
 - ✓ ...which was successfully assessed
- **Overall objective:** to increase disadvantaged people's employability
- **General action framework:**
With the full involvement of **third sector organisations**
 - ✓ Promotion of labour market insertion paths
 - ✓ Support to creation of new enterprises

The Global Grant «Small Grants» - 2/2

- **Activities:**

1. Calls for projects aimed at
 - ✓ Promoting labour market insertion paths
 - ✓ Supporting the creation of new enterprises
 - ✓ Strengthening the regional third sector
2. Individual funding opportunities to support self-entrepreneurship
3. Awareness raising, social communication, research at regional scale

The Global Grant «Small Grants» - Quantitative Results

- Used **budget**: € 5.787.602,55
- Funded **projects**: 142
 - 255 actions
- Involved **final beneficiaries**
 - ✓ 829
 - 573 within the B1 Measure
 - 250 within the E1 Measure
- **Start-ups**: 109
- **Labour market insertion programmes**: 160
- **Consolidated** third sector organisations: 122

The 2007-2013 Global Grant «**ESPRIT3**»

- The temporary joint venture called **ESPRIT3** submitted its proposal ...
 - ✓ ...which was successfully assessed
 - ✓ Esprit with Cooperfidi Toscana and Confictur – consortia for credit guarantees

The «ESPRIT3» Global Grant

- **Overall objective:**
To fight against the causes of poverty and deprivation by supporting projects focused on disadvantaged people's personalised development plans
- **General action framework:**
With the full involvement of **third sector organisations**
 - ✓ Promotion of labour market insertion paths
 - ✓ Support to creation of new enterprises

The «ESPRIT3» Global Grant – 1/2

- **Actions:**

1. Calls for projects aimed at
 - ✓ Promoting labour market insertion paths
 - ✓ Supporting the creation of new enterprises or **new business lines**
 - ✓ Strengthening the regional third sector
2. Individual funding opportunities to support self-entrepreneurship

The «ESPRIT3» Global Grant – 2/2

- **Actions:**

3. **Procurement contracts** for the management of accompanying services aimed at labour market insertion
4. Awareness raising, social communication, research at regional scale

The «ESPRIT3» Global Grant – Methodology

- **Guiding principles**
 - ✓ Accountability
 - ✓ Subsidiarity
 - ✓ Relationship and proximity
 - ✓ Person-centric
- **Approach**
 - ✓ Flexibility and accommodation of evolving demands and changing needs
 - ✓ Integration among actions

The ESPRIT3 Global Grant - Quantitative Results

- Used **budget**: € 7.501.329,00 (=100%)
- Funded **projects**: 167
- Involved **final beneficiaries**: 549
 - ✓ 42% people with disabilities
 - ✓ 17% «new poors»
 - ✓ 13% substance addicts
 - ✓ 10% low-income and low-schooling women
- **Start-ups**: 28
- New business lines: 13
- **Labour market insertion programmes**: 130

The ESPRIT3 Global Grant – Criticalities

- Entrepreneurial culture
- Project-based culture (!)
- Relationships with the «profit market»
- Support to early start-ups
- Integration of non-material and material investments

- Need for tailor-made programmes
- Risk of marginalisation of most vulnerable target groups

The ESPRIT3 Global Grant – Innovative deeds

- **Qualitative evaluation**

- ✓ Complementing quantitative measurements
- ✓ Based on biographical approach
- ✓ Aimed at appreciating what impact the ESPRIT3-funded projects have generated with
 - the final beneficiaries
 - the third sector organisations that promoted such projects
- ✓ Work in progress
 - Photo-book: http://www.esprit3.it/attachments/165_Fotolibro_web.pdf
 - Publication soon available (in Italian)



Thank you!

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