# The European Structural and Investment Fund

## Survey result

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*ESF Transnational Platform June 2017*

# The survey

June-September 2016

1. **Internal survey** to collect information from our European members' members at national, regional and local level about the use of ESIF (ESF & ERDF)

1. **Public survey** to gather additional inputs from beneficiary *(disseminated via our communication channels)*

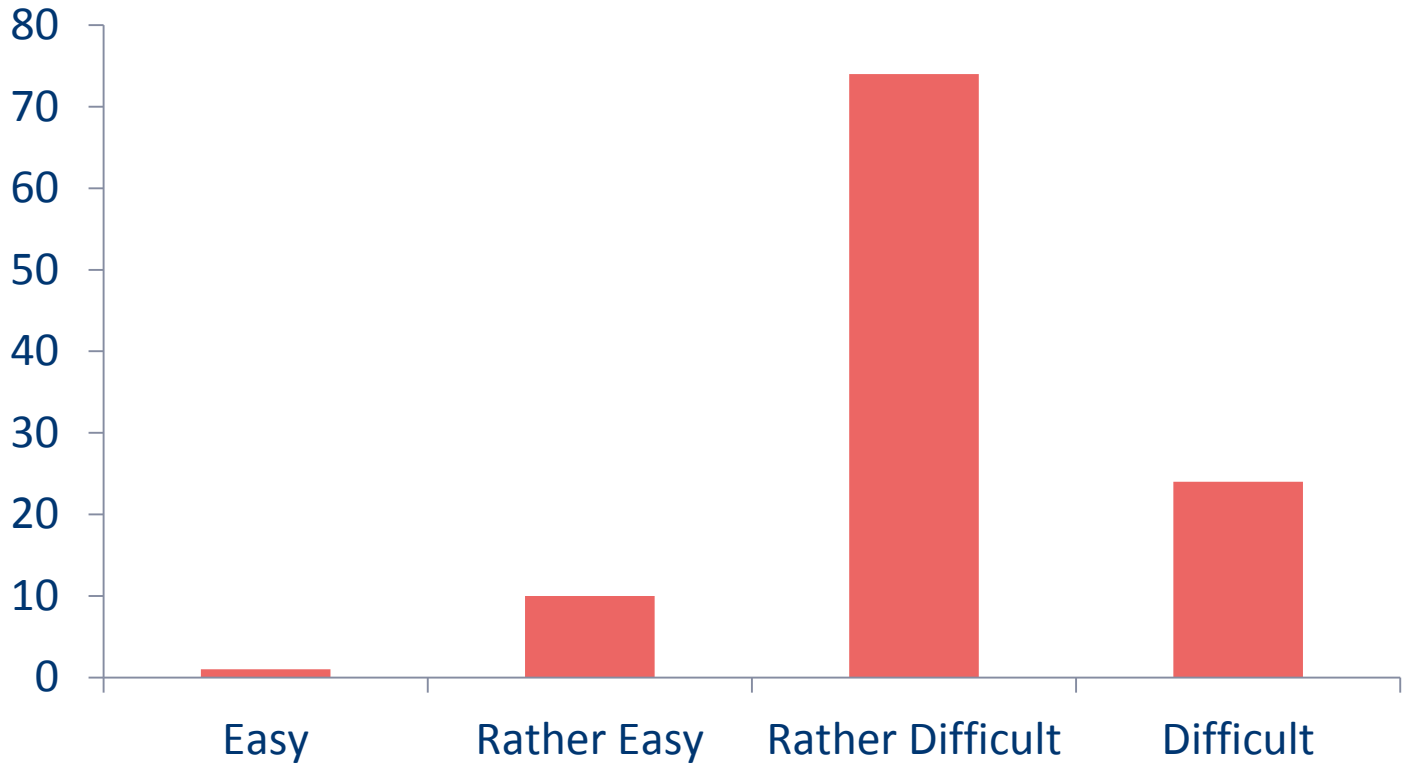


# Internal survey

| EU members | National members |
|---|---|
| EAPN | 16 national networks |
| Housing Europe | 17 members |
| European Disability Forum | 1 member (CZ) |
| Eurochild | 8 members |
| Caritas Europa | 4 members |
| European Women's Lobby | 4 members |
| PICUM | 25 members |
| ENSIE | 6 members |
| **Total** | **81 organisations** |

**Public survey: 27 respondents** (16 national NGOs, 4 Regional NGOs, 1 Local NGO, 3 Company/consultancy, and 2 Universities)

# *How do you consider access to ESIF?*



# *What are difficulties in access to ESIF?*

- Administrative burden of applications (87)
- Politicians influencing the decisions (57)
- Getting right information (54)
- Lack of technical capacity to develop applications (43)
- Difficulties in raising co-funding (42)
- Administrative burden of reporting systems (41)

# *What are difficulties in access to ESIF?*

- Too short time for applications (40)
- Too difficult bureaucratic language (38)
- Anticipation of funds (34)
- Delays in payment (23)
- Understanding the bodies involved in ESIF (14)

*Have you been involved in the development of…*



# Other questions about ESIF

**Has your organisation benefitted from technical assistance or capacity building?**

- Yes: 17
- No: 73

**Are you aware of projects in which financial instruments have been used?**

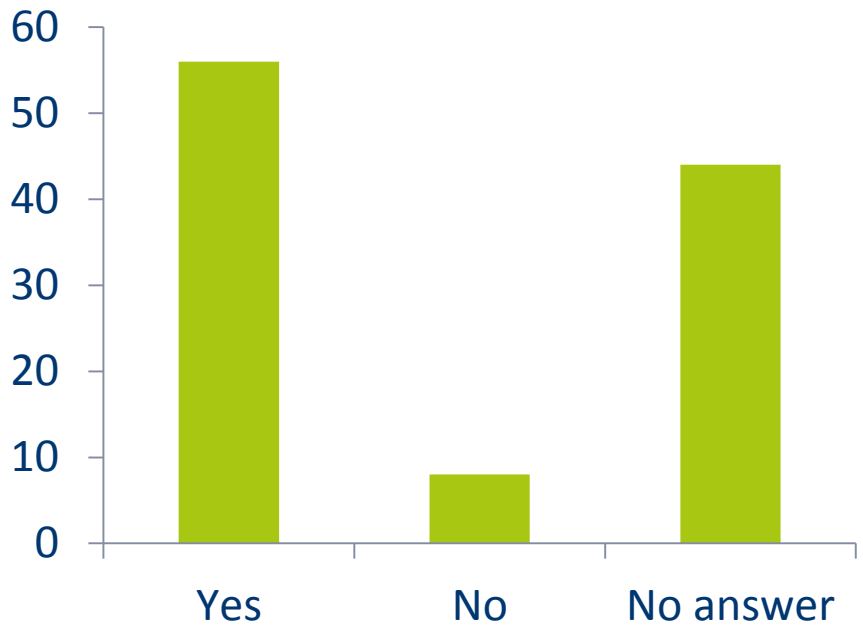
- Yes: 23
- No: 55

**Is your organisations involved in projects funded by two different ESIF?**

- Yes: 25
- No: 54

- Lack of understanding by Managing Authorities of what social inclusion and fight against poverty mean
- Focus on employment and activation, general lack of active inclusion policies

## *Are you aware that 20% of ESF must be allocated to fight poverty?*



# Use of 20%

- **Where civil society organisations have been involved** in Partnership Agreements, Operational Programs and Monitoring Committees there has been **more programming and allocation of funds to fight poverty and social exclusion** (beyond employment)
- Variation in quality and implementation of ex-ante conditionalities
- Little involvement of members working on anti-discrimination

# Key recommendations

1. Simplify access to EU funds
2. Allocate funds for active inclusion and fight against poverty
3. Involve civil society organisations

# Contact us

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