

ESF THEMATIC NETWORK ON SIMPLIFICATION

REPORT ON SCO PRACTICES

(Draft for the 6th Meeting of the Thematic Network - The Hague – 8-9 June, 2017)

References:

<u>Member State / Region</u>	<u>BULGARIA</u>
<u>Reference number (TN's map of SCO practices)</u>	<u>4</u>

Contact details:

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<u>Type of SCO reported</u> <i>(Please choose one of these types of SCO: flat rate financing, standard scale of unit costs, lump sum).</i>	Standard scale of unit costs
<u>Type of activities covered by the SCO</u> <i>(Please indicate what type of activities is targeted by the SCO).</i>	- Provision of training for improving and/or acquiring vocational qualification; - Provision of training for acquiring key competencies.

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A1. Description of the type of operation *(Please describe in brief what types of operations are covered by SCO)*

Operations towards improving and/or acquiring vocational qualification and/or key competencies of unemployed, employed and inactive people. There are 3 degrees of vocational training, vocational qualification for a part of profession, and 7 degrees for training for acquisition of key competences, in compliance to Council of Ministers decree 280/2015 and European Qualifications Framework. Distance learning is not allowed on OP operations.

A2. Definition of outputs/results *(Please give a short definition of outputs and/or results)*

The condition is that all person-hours (periods) of a given participant in total reach not less than 80% of the length of the course set out in the documentation of the training course content and that participant has received a certificate of completion. The output indicator is “number of participants gained qualification upon leaving”.

A3. Beneficiaries *(please indicate the types of beneficiaries involved in the operations covered by SCO)*

Employers and training organizations.

A4. Target group(s) *(Please list target groups within projects covered by SCO)*

Unemployed, employed and inactive people.

B. METHODOLOGY AND CALCULATION METHOD

B.1 Methodology *(please indicate which methodology/ies has/have been used: Fair, equitable and verifiable method / use of existing EU schemes for similar types of operation and beneficiary / Use of existing own national schemes for similar types of operations and beneficiaries / use of rates and specific methods enshrined in the regulation or in a delegated act / use of a draft budget /combination of methodologies). Please indicate if the concerned SCO has been covered by Art. 14(1) ESF)*

The standard scale of unit costs has been defined by using a fair, equitable and verifiable method according to Art. 67.(5).(a). and Art. 67.(5).(c) of the CPR.

Links to national legislation have been used to determine the rates for trainings for vocational qualification, vocational qualification for a part of profession and key competencies – National Employment Action Plan (NEAP) and Council of Ministers Decree (CMD) 280/15.10.2015.

B.2 Calculation Methods *(please describe how the calculations have been made)*

Pursuant to CMD 280/15.10.2015 and NEAP 2016, the applicable rates for training for acquiring vocational qualification and training for acquiring key competencies are as follows:

1. Training for acquiring vocational qualification:

- a) for first degree, with duration of not less than 300 training hours – BGN 600;
- b) for second degree, with duration of not less than 660 training hours–BGN 1200;
- c) for third degree, with duration of not less than 960 training hours– BGN 1800;
- d) for part of a profession on first qualification degree, with duration of not less than 200 training hours–BGN 400;
- e) for part of a profession on second qualification degree, with duration of not less than 300 training hours–BGN 600;
- f) for part of a profession on third qualification degree, with duration of not less than 600 training hours–BGN 1,125;

2. Training for acquiring key competencies:

- a) for training in key competence 1 – communication in native language, with duration of not less than 16 training hours–BGN 70;
- b) for training in key competence 2 – communication in foreign language, with duration of not less than 300 training hours and three levels of training –BGN 700;
- c) for training in key competence 3–mathematics competence and basic knowledge of natural sciences and technology, with duration of not less than 30 training hours–BGN 140;
- d) for training in key competence 4 –digital competence, with duration of not less than 45 training hours–BGN 250;
- e) for training in key competence 5–skill for learning, with duration of not less than 30 training hours–BGN 140.
- f) for training in key competence 6 - social and civil competencies, with duration of not less than 30 training hours –BGN 140.
- g) for training in key competence 7 - enterprise and entrepreneurship, with duration of not less than 30 training hours–BGN 140.

B.3 Data source *(please indicate the type of data used and the data source)*

National Employment Action Plan (NEAP) and Council of Ministers Decree (CMD) 280/15.10.2015.

C. IMPLEMENTATION OF SCO

(Please describe in brief what implementation rules and conditions have been set out)

The unit cost of training includes all related costs as follows:

cost for training materials, supplies /consumables/, insurance for vocational training, issuing a certificate of completed training, remuneration of

teachers, social contributions, rental of material premises, as well as all administrative, overhead and other expenses, including expenses for the activities relating to the provision of trainings under the CDM 280 /2015 and National Employment Action Plan.

The employer/training organization will receive the value of training according to the standard scales of unit costs shown above only for individuals, who have successfully completed the training. Successfully completed training is a completed full course of training according to the approved training schedule and held final exams, if any, attested by a document for completed training and a minimum of 80 percent attendance of classes.

D. AUDIT TRAIL

(Please provide a brief description of the audit trail for the concerned SCO, including documents, key contents/conditions and procedures)

For the purpose of proving the training and verification of declared expenses, the employer/training organization should present:

- List of participants;
- Profile of participants;
- Training schedule;
- Attendance forms for every day of training, including information about the number of classes attended by every trainee in the training;
- Certificates for successful completion of training.

E. ASSESSMENT BY THE AUDIT AUTHORITY(IES) INCLUDING EVENTUAL EX ANTE ASSESSMENT

(If relevant, please explain how the audit authority has been involved in preparation and assessment of the SCO).

The national AA was not involved in the preparation of the specific SCO, nor audits checks were carried out on operations with SCOs.

F. IMPACT OR ADDED VALUE FOR THE MA, BENEFICIARIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

(Please explain how you have perceived impact/added value of the SCO for the MA, beneficiaries and other stakeholders).

An open call for proposal or an evaluation process is ongoing of schemes in which SCO will be used.

The expectations are:

- to simplify the evaluation process of the project proposals;

- to focus verification process on the results achieved rather than checking documents on activities carried out. .

G. SPECIFIC ISSUES FACED WITHIN CALCULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCO

(Please indicate any issues/problems/challenges you have experienced when setting out or implementing the SCO, i.e. high workload, state aid, public procurement, national legislation, revenues etc.)

- What kind of checks should the MA perform to make reasonable assurance that the costs, declared by the Beneficiary, are correctly reflected in his analytical accounting system in case of SCO?;
- What kind of document should the Beneficiary submit to prove/declare that the costs are actually incurred in case of SCO?

H. LESSONS LEARNED AND POINTERS

(Please indicate any unforeseen practical implications that have emerged and any key lessons you have learned from the development and implementation of the concerned SCO practice).

An open call for proposal or an evaluation process of projects proposals is ongoing of schemes in which SCO will be used.
On this stage, no conclusions and recommendations can be drawn.

I. ANNEXES OR LINKS TO ONLINE DOCUMENTS

(Please list documents or links to online documents like complete methodology, calculation methods, documents submitted to the Commission, guidance for MAs and beneficiaries, calls for proposals, audit trail, legal acts etc.).

Calls:

<http://esf.bg/procedures/bg05m9op001-1-021-obucheniya-za-zaeti-litsa/>

<http://esf.bg/procedures/gavkavi-vazmozhnosti-za-zaetost-i-obucheniya-v-predpriyatiya-s-promenliv-intenzitet-na-dejnostta-2/>