

In depth description of the 5 good practices selected dealing with regulatory reliefs, incentives or other simplification measures

PARTNER *Estonia*

Good practice selected: Funding for improving resource efficiency in SMEs

N. assigned in the mapping phase	4
Promoting institution(s)	State
Type of measure	Credit access and Funding support
Background	The aim of this measure is to support the increase of resource efficiency and following circular economy principles. The implementation of environmental management systems is supporting this aim.
Detailed description of the measure	Estonian Ministry of the Environment implements measure "improving resource efficiency in SMEs" during EU budget period 2014 - 2020 with the help of EU Structural Funds. Action includes four activities: awareness raising, training of professionals, audits / resource use assessments and investments. This action is aimed at all companies but with a special focus on small

	<p>and medium-sized enterprises and the processing industry. The measure is valid 2014-2020. Under this measure implementation and registration of environmental management systems (both EMAS and ISO 14001) is also supported. Currently five sectors are allowed to apply for funding: mining, food processing, wood industry, paper and pulp industry, and processing of mineral material. In the future the scope may be broadened.</p>
Legislative reference	<p>Regulation of Minister of Environment No 22, 09.07.2016 Conditions for granting the measure "the energy and resource efficiency" action "Investments in best available technology of resources efficiency; and supporting resource management systems and supporting IT applications " in case of open application event § 5. Activities that are granted 5) implementation and registration of environmental management and auditing systems that increase resource efficiency.</p>
Level of Application (regional, national, etc.)	<p>National</p>
Score obtained in the first level assessment	<p>10</p>

Score obtained in the second level assessment	6,5
Final Score	16,5
Legal feasibility - 2	
Description	The measure requires medium legislative effort to be adopted, not necessarily only in terms of legal acts but the developing the rules and regulations for distributing the funds.
Economic feasibility - 1	
Description	It is quite costly to develop the measure and the rules for the funding. The time savings of the Competent authority are potentially low.
Technical feasibility - 2	
Description	The technical effort required to adopt the measure is unclear. It depends also how much
Achieved results - 2	
Description	As this is quite new measure, it is not fully clear yet whether the incentive would contribute to increase of EMAS registrations.

Environmental benefit - 3

Description	The initial five sectors target to the measure include some sectors that are defined as “high complexity” sectors but not all.
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