

*New and elaborated measures are marked with blue colour
 Column M marks implemented measures "x" and completed measures are "xx"
 Description of the implementation of the measure is in column L*

Estonia 2020 Action Plan 2015-2020

Approved by Government 05.05.2016

Action plan for, and implementation time of each measure by challenge

Challenge/Measure	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Authority responsible for the measure	CSR	Summary of the implementation of the measures	Implementation
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EDUCATED PEOPLE AND COHESIVE SOCIETY

1. Improving the quality of the educational system and adapting it to demographic changes												
I. Ensuring high-quality education at all education levels												
a.	Continuing the transition from professional grades of teachers to a single vocation system with an aim of keeping teachers motivated for professional development.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research		Starting from November 2014, the professional qualification system was fully implemented and professional qualifications can be applied for, based on all teachers' professional qualification standards. Promotional work has begun to implement the opportunities created by the professional qualification system when developing compensation and motivation systems for schools.	x
b.	Increasing the average pay for teachers to a level that makes a teachers' job a desirable career choice	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research		As of 1 January 2014, teachers' pay was raised to a minimum of €800, as of 1 January 2015 to €900 and as of 1 January 2016 to €958. For every full-time teaching position, the operators of general education schools across Estonia receive a grant for the payment of an average gross salary of €1,149 (as of 2016).	xx
c.	Continuing payment for start-up support to teachers entering the profession.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research		In 2014, start-up support was paid to 67 teachers; as of March 2015, six more teachers received the support.	x
d.	Providing 30% extra pay to Estonian-medium teachers in Ida-Viru county	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research		Activity completed in regard to 2014 and continues.	x

e.	Providing additional Estonian language courses to employees of the public and third sectors and to upper secondary, vocational and university students.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Implementing measures under the national programme with an aim of improving the quality of Estonian language teaching in Russian-medium lower secondary schools to ensure that those leaving school will have reached the 'independent user' level in Estonian.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
g.	Ensuring the provision of internationally recognised English-medium level education by developing the European Schools in Estonia and promoting IB studies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
h.	Implementation of higher education reform.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research
i.	Analysing lower and upper secondary syllabi with an aim of improving them.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research

Activity completed in regard to 2015 and continues. In August 2015, B2 and C1 level Estonian language courses for more than 200 kindergarten, general education and vocational education teachers were launched in Ida-Viru county. Estonian language teaching activities were launched in 2015 under various programmes, including adult learning programmes, in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020. All local authorities can apply under the open application round for project support of language learning courses intended for public and third sector employees; language training for education staff is funded from the State budget.

x

Ongoing activity. In 2015, teaching based on the curriculum leading to the International Baccalaureate was available in Tallinn and Tartu and the curriculum leading to the European Baccalaureate was followed by Tallinn European School.

x

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x

The period from 2013 to 2015 was a transitional period for the higher education reform; The reform was launched at the beginning of 2015 and free study places have been made available. It was decided to change the initial financing model; the relevant proposals have been prepared and the implementation plan completed. The implementation of the new model has been scheduled for the beginning of 2017.

x

The improvement of subject syllabi is understood to mean better alignment of the syllabi with the principles set out in the general parts of the National Curriculum and thereby the optimisation of student workload.

j.	Developing educational centres of excellence at universities responsible for teacher training.		x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
k.	Implementing the general education programme under the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
l.	Implementation of the "Interesting school" initiative and gradual development of a broad-based and all-inclusive school reform movement which would include society's various interest groups.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
m.	The development and implementation of a performance evaluation model for heads of school.	x	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research
n.	Development of a basis for the differentiation of teachers' pay.			x	x				Ministry of Education and Research
II. Reorganisation of the school network									
a.	Integrated planning of post-lower secondary study slots in general and vocational education (including clearer separation between lower and upper secondary levels).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Ongoing activity. The universities responsible for teacher training have submitted proposals for activities. Financing decisions are scheduled to be adopted in April 2016.

Implementation continues.

Ongoing activity. The working group has been developing the principles starting from August 2014. The implementation requires amendments to the Basic School and Upper Secondary School Act, for which the legislative intent has been prepared. x

The content of the activity has changed; the programme for teachers and educational institution administrators under the Lifelong Learning Strategy foresees the development of a basis for the differentiation of teachers' salaries and the provision of feedback regarding the development of competences. The time frame has also changed – the programme under the Lifelong Learning Strategy is scheduled to be launched in the third quarter of 2016. x

3 When planning learning slots in state upper secondary schools in large cities and county seats, both general and vocational students, as well as adult students will be taken into consideration. The corresponding indicators will be reflected in the school network programme under the Lifelong Learning Strategy. x

b.	Reorganisation of the network of upper secondary schools and starting the investments' programme with a view to improving the quality of the entire school network.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Implementing the school network programme under the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
d.	Reviewing the proportions of funding provided to different types of education, with emphasis on effectiveness.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research
e.	Implementing the digital transformation programme under the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Ongoing activity. The school network is being reorganised and strong county upper secondary schools are being established. There are nine (9) state upper secondary schools in Estonia in the 2015/2016 academic year. On 1 September 2016, state upper secondary schools will be opened in Kärđla, Valga and Põlva. Agreements on opening a state upper secondary school have been reached with the following local authorities: 2018 - Kohtla-Järve, Rapla, Viimsi, Paide; 2019 Saue rural municipality; 2020 Harku rural municipality. A measure was announced in April 2016 under which local authorities reorganising their school network can apply for support to improve the infrastructure of lower secondary schools.

x

Ongoing activity. The school network programme was approved in March 2015. In order to ensure the sustainability of the educational system and uniform availability of high-quality education across Estonia, a school network programme was prepared, the main focus of which is on the reorganisation of the network of general education schools and which includes the principles that are the basis of the planning of investments until 2023.

x

The general education funding model was updated with emphasis on effectiveness through the school network reform. A new vocational education funding model is being developed. A new higher education funding model has been launched and changes have been proposed to the funding model. We participated in a survey on the effectiveness of education systems carried out by OECD. OECD and experts involved in the survey have prepared policy recommendations based on the results of the survey.

x

3

Programme has been launched, relevant EU Structural Funds measures opened.

x

2. To align training and education with the needs of the modern labour market (including making better use of the potential of the EU internal market and other policies) and to increase the proportion of people with specialised education at the vocational or higher education levels

I. Ensuring the availability of educated and skilled labour corresponding to the needs of the modern labour market												
a.	Accreditation of vocational education schools and improvement of the quality of management in cooperation with experts in the field.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	3	Ongoing activity.	x
b.	Developing a competence-based system of forecasting labour needs including the need for foreign labour		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	3	Launching the OSKA system (system for coordinating development of people's skills).	x
c.	Preparing the competence register for the development of a competence catalogue and a competence-based self-evaluation web environment.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research	3	In 2015, the Ministry of Education and Research, and the Estonian Qualifications Authority prepared a proposal to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications for an analysis of the development needs and areas in the register of professions. The proposal received a positive response at the end of 2015. A procurement process for analysing and mapping will be prepared and carried out in 2016. A proposal for the development of the register based on the results of the analysis will be submitted to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in 2017.	x
d.	Development of a professional qualification system to promote a bridging between the worlds of education and work.	x	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Education and Research	3	Ongoing activity. Important developments occurred as a result of the amendment of the Professions Act and the implementation of the OSKA system.	x
e.	Implementing the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020 programme for consolidating the labour market and learning.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	3		
f.	Implementing the Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020 learning and career counselling programme.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	2,3		

g.	Implementing the support measure 'Promoting adult education and improving learning opportunities'.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	2,3
h.	Development of work-based learning in vocational education; additional apprenticeship opportunities are being created and traineeship systems for vocational and higher educational institutions are being developed.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	2,3

The conditions for granting support were established on 8 June 2015. Also, two regulations on open application rounds have been approved. The conditions for granting support and the open application rounds facilitate the return to formal education of adults who have not completed secondary education; a system of recognition of previous learning and working experience (VÕTA) is being developed for adult upper secondary schools; in-service training is planned to be provided to at least 65,000 people for their professional development and the development of the key competencies under the lifelong learning concept; activities to promote lifelong learning have also been planned. In the first half of 2016, opportunities for professional development were offered to approximately 6,200 people.

Ongoing activity. Additional places for apprentices and trainees will be created until 2020 and best models for cooperation between Estonian companies and educational institutions are being developed.

i.	Stage II of the amendment to the Aliens Act (simplification and shortening of the process for issuing residence and work permits in order to improve access to the Estonian labour market for highly qualified foreign labour)	x	x						Ministry of the Interior
j.	Stage III of the amendment to the Aliens Act (temporary residence permits for large-scale investors, excluding large-scale investors from the immigration quota, changing the requirement of permanent residency)			x					Ministry of the Interior
II. Supporting the educational path and career choices of young people to increase students' awareness of the working world and reduce the number of school dropouts									

- 3 In 2015, the following amendments to the Aliens Act were adopted (the amendments entered into force on 1 January 2016):
- The introduction of a 90 day transitional period after the expiry of a residence permit (183 days for foreign nationals, graduates from Estonian universities. and researchers(teaching staff)) during which a foreign national may stay in Estonia and apply for a residence permit on new grounds;
 - The introduction of a new ground for granting a residence permit of a temporary residence permit to settle permanently in Estonia to a person who has lived in Estonia for at least three years and is well adapted to life in Estonia;
 - An opportunity to alleviate labour shortages in certain sectors specified by the Government by paying employees at least the average wages normally paid in a sector as opposed to the requirement to pay at least the annual average salary in Estonia, multiplied by a coefficient of 1.24; xx
 - The Unemployment Insurance Fund may give a permission to hire more than one foreign national if no labour force with equivalent skills and qualifications can be found locally;
 - A foreign national staying in Estonia temporarily or based on a temporary residence permit may work in Estonia as a temporary agency worker;
 - A foreign national who is working in Estonia may be simultaneously employed by more than one employer.

a.	The provision of services within the framework of youth guarantee measures for young people aged between 16 and 29 in order to provide working, education and training opportunities (the "First job" support scheme combined with training; measures to involve and activate youth not active in employment, education or training).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Research
b.	Implementing a Youth Policy Action Plan 2014–2020 programme designed to prevent the risk of exclusion and to increase employment of young people.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	Implementing structural funds' measure "Labour market services to ensure better opportunities for employment".	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
d.	Ensuring career services for young people at lower and upper secondary levels as well as higher education levels.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research

Ongoing activity. Youth guarantee measures have been developed and the provision of the service started in January 2015. The NEET youth support measures were implemented in 2015.

x

Ongoing activity. The programme was approved in the spring of 2015.

x

2, 3 Implemented; the conditions for the support of the measure were approved in 2014 and the implementation started in 2015. The continuing activity is funded from the funds of the 2014-2020 period. An application round was opened at the end of 2015.

x

3 In 2014, the programme for the last period – "Development of the Career Service System" – was completed successfully and a new learning and career services programme was implemented. In all counties, Rajaleidja (Pathfinder) Centres were opened, which provide integrated learning and career counselling services to children and young people, parents, educational institution employees and other specialist that work with children. In 2014-2020, individual learning guidance and career services will be provided to at least 174,930 children and young people. Career counselling services for over-26-year-old students is ensured through the Unemployment Insurance Fund and university career centres.

x

e.	Providing career counsellors and pupils with substantial information about the world of work (salaries, labour market trends, job profiles, etc.).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Raising parents' awareness of further study opportunities and career planning for young people.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
g.	Analysis of the principles of a monitoring system for schoolchildren and NEET youth and preparation of relevant proposals.			x	x				Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Research
III. Developing entrepreneurship and other key competences									

3 The development of a database of occupations for the Rajaleidja (Pathfinder) portal in cooperation with the professional associations, Kutsekoda and other partners. In 2015, a prototype of a new Rajaleidja portal was developed in cooperation with the successful bidder. Unfortunately, limited resources have not allowed the organisation the procurement of the web version of the portal. Five new descriptions of professions were published in the Rajaleidja professions' database. An education and labour market information workshop was organised; one of the topics discussed during the workshop was the OSKA project. The activity will continue in 2016.

x

3 In 2015, a series of articles on how to support young people's learning mobility was published in cooperation between Rajaleidja and the learning mobility network. The career counsellors of Rajaleidja provided information lectures to parents in counties (598 participants), workshops (298 participants), group counselling (311 participants), and individual counselling (105 participants), etc. A total of 1,404 parents participated in the career-related events. Cooperation with the OSKA programme will continue in 2016. The development of the Rajaleidja portal and professions' database will also continue. 25 new descriptions of professions and personal stories concerning the ICT professions are being prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. Career counselling for parents will continue through county centres.

x

a.	The development, testing and implementation of a business studies module at all levels of education.			x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
b.	More active involvement of entrepreneurs in the development of training objectives and definition of learning outcomes for different types of schools.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	We are considering the creation of a database of case studies based on Estonian companies in order to promote entrepreneurship and economic education.		x	x					Ministry of Education and Research

The activity "Systematic development of enterprise and entrepreneurship at all educational levels" under the programme of improving the labour market relevance of education and training.

x

3 The activity "Systematic development of enterprise and entrepreneurship at all educational levels" has a sub-activity to support projects for making schools more entrepreneurial and conducting practical business learning. However, the involvement of entrepreneurs is not limited to entrepreneurship studies. It is a cross-sectional theme of the Lifelong Learning Strategy as a whole (e.g., Objective 1: Change in the approach to learning; Objective 3: Relevance of lifelong learning opportunities to the labour market needs).

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x

3 We have contemplated creating a database of case studies. Various programmes and the relevant activities under the programmes have been developed (see the previous section). Measure "The development of a model of entrepreneurship studies..." includes the development and making available of learning materials. Therefore, the activity may be considered to have been completed and the above measure seen as a follow-up activity.

xx

d.	Continuing the implementation of joint curricula at higher education institutions in order to enable students of different departments to learn the basic knowledge and skills of other professions, with emphasis on providing entrepreneurship-related knowledge and skills to students other than economics students.	x	x						Ministry of Education and Research
3. Increasing international competitiveness of higher education									
a.	Continued promotion of the development of international joint curricula.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	SF programme "Higher education speciality scholarships in growth areas of smart specialisation".		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
c.	SF programme "Institutional development programme for research and development institutions and higher education institutions".		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research

In 2014, eight higher education institutions signed a memorandum of cooperation with the aim of developing enterprise and entrepreneurship studies. The pre-incubation stage has been completed. The memorandum of cooperation serves as a starting point for cooperation between higher education institutions with the aim of developing and implementing the programme. This measure is implemented under the measure "The development of a model of entrepreneurship studies..." in cooperation between higher education institutions. Therefore, the activity may be considered to have been completed.

xx

On 8 April 2015, the conditions for providing support for the activity "Institutional development programme for research and development institutions and higher education schools" were approved by Regulation No. 17 of the Minister of Education and Research; within the framework of the conditions, higher educational institutions can apply for grants to develop joint international curricula. The activity is planned to be launched in 2016.

x

3 The conditions for granting support under the measure "Higher education scholarships in smart specialisation growth areas" were established by Directive No. 441 of 21 November 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The activity is implemented by SA Archimedes

x

3 An application round was launched and has reached the stage of decision-making and negotiations. The conditions for providing support were approved by Regulation No. 17 of 8 April 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The application round was open until 30 October 2015. 23 proposals were received at the deadline. Funding decisions will be made in the second quarter of 2016.

x

d.	Developing support measures designed to prioritise the development of internationally strong areas (including ensuring further funding of Masters curricula launched successfully under the special measure).	x	x						Ministry of Education and Research
e.	SF measure “Facilitating the internationalisation of research and higher education”.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Continuing the reorganisation of higher education financing and the diversification of sources of financing through the consolidation of the areas of responsibility at the universities.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
g.	Increasing opportunities to use mobility grants for the promotion of international cooperation between students and researchers.		x						Ministry of Education and Research
h.	Continuing study grant programmes targeted at foreign doctoral students.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Activity completed.

xx

Conditions for granting support for the implementation of activity “The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations Dora Plus” were established by the Directive of 9 December 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research; conditions for granting support for the implementation of activity “The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations Mobilitas Plus” were established by Directive No. 481 on 30 December 2015 by the Minister of Education and Research. The activities will be implemented by SA Archimedes and SA Eesti Teadusagentuur, respectively. The implementation of activities has started.

x

3

Activity “Institutional development programme for R&D institutions and higher educational institutions” is designed to support, inter alia, the implementation of structural changes (including the organisation of mergers at universities and R&D institutions) as well as the strengthening and development of areas of responsibility.

x

Activity completed.

xx

Studies of foreign (and visiting) doctoral students are supported under the activity “The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations Dora Plus”, approved by the Directive of 9 December 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research.

x

i.	Launching a needs-based study grants system.	x	x						Ministry of Education and Research
4. Increasing the impact of active labour market policy and sustainability of financing									
I. Improving the quality and efficiency of the provision of labour market measures									
a.	Implementation of the work capacity reform (incl. creating a system for assessing work capacity, the provision of services to the target group, the necessary information exchange IT solutions for implementing the activities and condition for providing grants "The provision of labour market services to the work capacity reform target group" and "Increasing the work capacity of the work capacity reform target group and promoting their working").		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
b.	The integration of the physical therapy and rehabilitation systems into a single customer-centred whole system in order to offer timely and smoothly functioning services.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs

2,3 Activity completed, and the needs-based study grants system has been launched. In addition, transfer to free of charge higher education and the implementation of the needs-based study grants system was analysed. Based on the analysis, an amendment to legislation was adopted in the autumn of 2014, establishing a new type of study grant: a special needs-based grant in the amount of €135 per month and the student work load required for being eligible to receive the grant was reduced from 100% to 75%. In February 2015, the Riigikogu adopted provisions granting access to student loans for students studying part time.

xx

2 The piloting of the work capacity assessment system was completed; the methodology was improved and the conditions for assessing work capacity were established by a directive of the Minister. The conditions for granting support under the activity "The provision of labour market services to the target group of the work capacity reform" were approved by Directive No. 57 of 27 March 2015 of the Minister of Social Affairs. The services were launched on 1 January 2016. The conditions for granting support under the activity "Increasing the work capacity of the work capacity reform target group and promoting their working" were approved on 21 July 2016. The conditions for granting support under the activity "Activities supporting the work capacity system" were approved on 26 March 2016. The legislation required for full implementation of the reform have been adopted or are being prepared.

2

c.	The provision of social services (incl. services to ease the care load, support social transport and other needs) for improving access to labour market services and to support getting a job (The structural funds measure "Welfare measures support participation in the labour market") as well as for improving the quality of social services.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The conditions for granting support for the development of social services were adopted on 27 March 2015; the conditions for granting support to local governments under an open application round (to be approved by Regulation of the Minister of Social Affairs "Welfare measures support participation in the labour market") are scheduled to be adopted in the second quarter of 2016.
d.	Analysis of, and proposals regarding in-service training and re-training measures intended to prevent unemployment.			x	x				Ministry of Social Affairs	2,3	
e.	Establishing of support scheme for creating jobs to balance the labour market in Ida-Viru County.			x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	A relevant measure is being developed.
f.	Creating a national "Diverse Workplace" sign to recognise the companies that promote equality.			x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The concept of the sign is being developed. The deadline for the development of the concept and submission of proposals established in the Government of the Republic Action Plan is May 2016.
g.	The provision of career counselling services to people of the working age (SF measure "Developing the competences of the adult population", Action "Working age individuals who have received career counselling").	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	Ongoing activity. In 2014 the terms of funding "Increasing the availability of career services" were prepared, based on which career counselling services will be provided to employed and non-active people. x
h.	To provide measures for helping retirement aged workers to stay in employment.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	Ongoing activity. In 2014, the TAT "Better opportunities for participating in employment" was prepared, based on which labour market services will be provided to retirement age people. x
i.	The implementation of the Welfare Development Plan 2016-2023.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	x

j.	Regular gender pay gap audits in the public sector within the public sector yeabook.			x	x				Ministry of Finance	2	This is an activity of the HEA implementation plan under which guidelines on pay audits will be developed in cooperation with the Public Administration and Public Service Department of the Ministry of Finance and implemented at public sector agencies with 50+ employees (including local governments). The obligation of conducting pay audits will be laid down in the Gender Equality Act, effective from 1 January 2017. A pay audit should be conducted in all areas of government no later than by November 2017 after which the conclusions are presented to the Government (it is possible that the presentation of the results will be combined with the activity of the Minister of Public Administration "Regular staff and pay analyses as input to the State Budget Act and the State Budget").
k.	Strategy for the collection and publication of reliable and up-to-date data on the pay gap.			x					Ministry of Finance	2	
l.	Assessment and comparison guidelines supporting the implementation of the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value.			x	x				Ministry of Social Affairs	2	In order to reduce the gender pay cap, the Labour Inspectorate is authorised to monitor the remuneration and benefits paid by employers to men and women for equal work or work of equal value. For this purpose, the draft amendment to Gender Equality Act is prepared and submitted to the Government. The draft amendments are scheduled to be submitted in August 2017 and adopted in January 2017. For the Labour Inspectorate to implement the monitoring powers, guidelines for the assessment and comparison of work are required.
m.	Increasing the knowledge about stereotypic career choices of boys and girls among schoolchildren			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry fo Social Affairs, ministry of Education and Research	2	

n.	Implementation of the action plan for reducing gender pay gap.	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	In addition to the activities carried out within the framework of the ESF programme “Promotion of gender equality 2011-2013”, (see J75), the following has occurred: a re-survey related to the gender-based wage gap (Statistics Estonia) was conducted within the framework of the work and family life with Norwegian grants within the framework of the 2009-2014 gender equality and the programme for reconciling work and family life; the capacity of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner to provide advice and help to victims of discrimination has been supported, incl. for parents returning to work after parental leave, and to raise the awareness of the requirement of equality and equal pay for women and men and wage gap issues. In 2014-2016; utilising the 2009-2014 resources of the Norwegian grants, projects to integrate equality issues in higher education will also be implemented, incl. in teacher training, which will help to increase to a wider circulation of values and attitudes related to equality and to the reduction of gender inequality and the wage gap. In addition, projects that support the improvement of
o.	Authorising the Labour Inspectorate to monitor the remuneration and benefits paid by employers to men and women for equal work or work of equal value.		x	x	x				Ministry of Social Affairs	2	Draft amendments to the Gender Equality Act. The draft amendments are scheduled to be submitted in August 2016 and adopted in January 2017.
p.	Increasing the regional labour supply (SF measure “Better opportunities for participating in employment”).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2,5	Ongoing activity. In the first half of 2015, a service to increase the regional labour supply was developed within the framework of the terms of funding “Better opportunities for participating in employment”. The provision of the mobility support started in 2016.
q.	Analysis of the flexibility of social tax and the related social guarantees.		x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	
r.	Analysis of the usage of flexible working time arrangements and non-permanent work contracts				x				Ministry of Social Affairs	2	

s.	Introducing the cross-border recruitment opportunities opened up by the updating of EURES, the EU's job mobility portal, to job seekers and employers.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2,3	The activity was postponed because the proceedings concerning the EURES Regulation in the Council have taken longer than expected. The Regulation is scheduled to be adopted in the first half of 2016 after which preparations for the implementation of new possibilities will start.
t.	To improve the quality of welfare services, by developing a uniform quality framework that ensures the uniform quality and availability of services throughout Estonia.	x	x						Ministry of Social Affairs	2	
u.	Introducing the results of the task force on reducing the burden of care and gradual implementation of proposals.			x	x	x			Government Office	2	The task force on reducing the burden of care was established on 3 December 2015.
II. The development of family policies in order to better reconcile work and family life											
a.	The creation of childcare and kindergarten placements, paying attention to under-three-year-olds and focusing on the municipalities with the greatest lack of placements and the provision of flexible and close-to-home services.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Research	2	The conditions of granting support under the measure "Development of childcare services and welfare services for disabled children to reduce the care-giving load" were developed and approved by the Social Protection Minister in November 2014. The first application round was carried out in 2015, resulting in 568 new kindergarten places. The application round organised under the measure is intended to support local governments in creating new kindergarten and childcare placements. The regulation on the measure was approved in the spring of 2015. The activities contribute to the implementation of country-specific recommendation No. 2 because they improve access to childcare services and country-specific recommendation No. 5 because they support local governments in the provision of public services (childcare, pre-school education, support person).
b.	Analysis and proposals for changing the system of parental leave and parental benefits in order to allow a more flexible combination of work and family life.		x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	Action Plan of the Government of the Republic, paragraphs 1.10 and 1.11.

c.	Development of the system of family benefits		x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Finance	2	Legislative amendments to increase child benefits (increasing the benefits for the first and second child to €60 by 2019) and to introduce a large family benefit were adopted in 2015. The subsistence level was increased to €130.	x
d.	Analysis of support measures targeted at unemployed parents and proposals for legislative amendments				x	x			Ministry of Social Affairs	2	Analysis of support measures targeted at unemployed parents and proposals for legislative amendments	
e.	The development of welfare services for disabled children with the goal of minimising the caregiver's development restrictions related to the labour market.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The conditions of granting support under the measure "Development of childcare services and welfare services for disabled children to reduce the care-giving load" were developed and approved by the Social Protection Minister in November 2014. Within the framework of the TAT, support services will be developed and provided for children with serious and profound disabilities, thereby reducing the care-giving load of the parents and obstacles to participating in employment and a system will be developed to recognise family-friendly employers.	x
f.	Analysis of services and support for children with disabilities.		x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The basic analysis of services and support for children with disabilities covers all children with disabilities (including those with moderate disabilities) and includes proposals for the organisation of rehabilitation and educational services so that these would be more accessible to children, as well as the development of organisational and funding models.	
g.	Launching a new national child protection arrangement starting from 2016, including establishing a national child protection unit.			x					Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The Child Protection Act was adopted in 2015; the activity of the child protection unit was launched under the Act.	xx
h.	Implementation of the family-friendly employer sign model.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The development of the family-friendly employer sign model has been completed and is being implemented.	
i.	Implementation of the childcare and pre-school education concept.		x	x	x				Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Social Affairs	2	The development of the concept in cooperation with stakeholders and during its implementation.	
5. Increasing the healthy years of life by improving health related behaviours and reducing the number of accidents as well as developing the healthcare infrastructure.												

I. Reducing the number of injuries and deaths from injuries and improving health related behaviour									
a.	Initiation and implementation of an evidence-based parenting programme to prevent risky behaviour.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
b.	Implementation of an action plan developed by Task Force for the prevention and reduction of injury-related deaths.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs

Ongoing activity. In order to prevent children's risky behaviour, between 2013 and 2016, the parenting programme "The Incredible Years" for Estonian and Russian speaking parents will be piloted within the European Economic Area grants programme called "At-risk Children and Young People". The pilot includes the purchase of the programme/agreement with the developers, the translation of the materials, the training and periodic supervision of the instructors, training for the parents, and impact studies. The pilot programme will be implemented in cooperation with the National Institute for Health Development, which will conclude the corresponding agreements with the local governments, where the training will be conducted. -After the expiry of the EMP programme funds, additional funds will be applied for from the State Budget for the implementation of the parenting programme.

x

The activities initiated by the Injuries Taskforce will continue, coordinated by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

x

c.	Development and improvement of additional light vehicle roads, recreational sites, tracks, trails and the related infrastructure (in 2015-2020 supported from the SF measures “Improving regional competitiveness”, “Sustainable development of urban areas” and “Sustainable development of the cities of Ida-Viru county”).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Culture
d.	Implementation of measures to promote active lifestyles, including the development and piloting of measures supporting exercise habits in the school environment and local community.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education and Research
e.	Implementation of the green paper on alcohol use in order to reduce alcohol-related damage to health and society.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs

Within the framework of the 2014 light traffic roads support outline, the light traffic roads plan with 16 projects in the amount of €5 million was approved. In addition, a supplementary list of light traffic roads as a reserve project was established in the 2007-2013 Structural Funds measure “Development of Urban Areas”. The conditions of the 2014-2020 measures “Sustainable development of urban areas” and “Sustainable development of Ida-Viru County urban areas” entered into force on 9 March 2015; the preparation of the action plans for the urban areas will follow. The conditions of the measure called “Strengthening regional competitiveness” entered into force on 20 February 2015; on 6 March 2015, the county governments submitted plans of action for strengthening regional competitiveness to the SiM for approval.

x

Ongoing activity. To create opportunities (including for people with special needs) to participate in recreational sports and to support their exercise habits. The development and piloting of an exercise programme for schools.

x

Ongoing continuing activity. Under the direction of the SoM, a inter-ministry work group meets for the implementation of the measures (in regard to monitoring table activities and the people responsible); of the 2014 activities. Including: the continued preparation of an alcoholism treatment guide; the programme “A soberer and healthier Estonia”(ESF 2014-2020) was developed; the implementation of the “Effect” programme to prevent alcohol consumption by young people continued; the RD&I alcohol prevention campaign; the application round of the Norwegian financing mechanism directed at alcohol prevention; the development of draft amendments to the Alcohol Act, and the Advertising Act (limiting the availability and advertising of alcoholic beverages).

x

f.	Implementation of the green paper on tobacco use in order to reduce tobacco-related damage to health and society.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
g.	Preparing a green paper on diet and exercise.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Social Affairs
h.	Continuing of regular communication regarding a balanced and healthy diet.				x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
i.	Continuing the programme for beginner level swimming classes.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and Research
	Increasing the volume of regular health checks and various health monitoring and screening programmes, with the aim to detect possible health disorders at an early stage.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
j.	II. Developing the health infrastructure								
a.	Developing primary level healthcare centres in attraction centres (SF measure "Ensuring accessible and high-quality health services in order to promote employment retention, and returning to employment").	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
b.	Strengthening of the centres of competence in the hospital network (SF measure "Ensuring accessible and high-quality health services in order to promote employment retention, and returning to employment").	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
c.	Implementing the national e-Health strategy in order to use the opportunities provided by ICT development in order to improve public health and develop the healthcare and welfare system.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Government Office Ministry of Social Affairs

Ongoing activity. The minister's directive on the establishment of a tobacco policy working group, the implementation of the green book measures and adoption of the EU tobacco directive; in 2015, draft amendments to the Tobacco Act were prepared (transposition of EU Directive 2014/40/EU).

x

Ongoing activity. The green paper is expected to be completed in 2017.

x

Under preparation.

Ongoing activity.

x

Ongoing activity. The volume of regular health check-ups in the budget of the Estonian Health Insurance Fund is increasing – the monetary volume of the preventative health monitoring and screening programmes has increased by 4% between 2001 and 2015; at the same time, a large number of activities are also included in general healthcare and are not separated out (e.g., health check-ups for infants and children, check-ups for those in risk groups for the discovery of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes, etc.).

x

Ongoing activity. Regulation of the Minister of Health and Labour "Modernisation of primary health care centres", approved on 12 August 2015. Application round for the development of an investment plan with deadline for submissions on 9 May 2016.

x

Ongoing activity. Regulation No. 18 of 27 March 2015 of the Minister of Health and Labour "Modernisation the centres of competence of the hospital network" The investment plan was approved; projects are being implemented/prepared.

x

Ongoing activity. The strategy was adopted at Cabinet meeting in Dec. 2015. The action plan for implementation is in preparation (several concrete initiative already in execution).

x

COMPETITIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Formulating a policy to facilitate long-term increases in the international competitiveness of companies								
I. Modern business environments								
a.	Increasing the proportion of accepted claims of creditors that are satisfied in bankruptcy proceedings; codification of the right of insolvency.	x	x	x				Ministry of Justice
b.	Supplementing an analysis prepared by the working group on legal framework on self-employment by the mapping of the issues related to the taxation of, and reporting by micro-enterprises and alternative solutions.		x	x				Ministry of Finance
c.	The task force on cutting red tape.	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Government Office, Ministry of Finance
d.	Speeding up bankruptcy and execution proceedings; preparing the amendments to the laws related to bankruptcy and enforcement proceedings.				x			Ministry of Justice
e.	Implementation of the performance agreement on the promotion of entrepreneurship studies in Estonia, signed with the University of Tartu.	x	x					Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Ongoing activities. In 2015, the initial task for the insolvency codification/revision project is being drawn up with the goal of starting the codification of the right of insolvency in 2016.

x

The ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications collected proposals for cutting red tape. A special task force will be established for the implementation of the proposals.

x

Tartu University coordinated the cooperation with other schools of higher education, and interested parties for the promotion of entrepreneurial learning, as the result of which eight schools of higher education signed a cooperation memorandum and formulated the goals and course of action for entrepreneurial learning. Based on working out the conditions for providing grants under the EU ESF activity “ Systematic development of enterprise and entrepreneurship at all educational levels”.

xx

f.	To implement the programme “Entrepreneur's Right 2” with an aim of simplifying communication, reporting and procedures between entrepreneurs and the state.	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
g.	To update the action plan for north-eastern Estonia (Ida-Viru county) with regard to the activities aimed at developing the regional business environment and prepare a similar action plan for south-eastern Estonia.	x	x					Ministry of Finance
h.	Physical, social and economic revival of underused city areas by using SF measure “Sustainable development of the cities of Ida-Viru county”.		x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance

At a cabinet meeting on 29 January 2015, the Government of the Republic decided to approve the programme “Entrepreneur’s Right 2”. Ongoing activities. For the purpose of developing the specific sector of the economic administration right and bringing it into conformity with the general sector is underway (constant process). Public procurement (based on the EU initiative) and calculation policy is being dealt with. Of the topics in the specific sector, the updating of the codification of corporate law has completed the initial phase awaiting final approval by the Government Office, so that a substantive analysis could be started. The activities of the commercial register and business portal have partially started (the implementation of the online accounting environment provided by the state). Within the framework of intellectual property rights, the various data systems of the Patent Office will be updated, which will simplify the life of those applying to the Patent Office and the employees of the office, this is primarily in connection with the protection of trademarks (trademarks are numerically the largest industrial property object being protected).

x

The plan of action and implementation plan for Southeast Estonia was introduced to the Government Cabinet on 22 January 2015 and the plan of action and implementation plan for Ida-Viru County on 26 February 2015. The Minister of the Interior approved the action plans and the implementation plans with his decree on 13 February 2015 and 10 March 2015 respectively.

xx

Ongoing activity. The conditions of the 2014-2020 measures “Sustainable development of Ida-Viru County urban areas” entered into force on 9 March 2015; the preparation of plans of action in the urban areas will follow.

x

i.	To support the development of the business environment by using SF measures “Improving regional competitiveness” and “Development of regional competence centres”.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
j.	Raising the competitiveness of the business environment through cross-border collaboration (EE-LV, EE-RU, The Mid-Baltic Sea programmes)		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
k.	Developing a green paper of Estonian industrial policies.		x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
l.	Analysis of identifying the owners of public e-Services, and implementation of relevant proposals.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Ongoing activity. The conditions of the measure called “Strengthening regional competitiveness” entered into force on 20 February 2015; on 6 March 2015, the county governments submitted plans of action for strengthening regional competitiveness to the SiM for approval. The conditions for the 2014-2020 measure called “Development of regional competence centres” are being prepared and will probably come in to force in the second quarter of 2015. A supplementary application round for existing regional competence centres took place in the fourth quarter of 2014 for the 2007-2013 measure called “Development of competence centres”.

I call=9 funded projects, 17 partners with the 4,5M budget. EE-LV I call ended 22.04.16. EE-RU program will start by the end of 2016.

The development of the green paper with active involvement of the industry’s umbrella organisations and third parties is going according to plan, and the green paper is expected to be approved by the Government in April 2016.

Proposals have been prepared and discussed by the Government in the spring of 2015. The following tasks were agreed: secretary-generals will be responsible for overall development and quality of services; all ministries should appoint concrete service managers (done), Ministry of Economic Affairs has to prepare a standard for evaluation of service quality and web-based instrument to measure quality (done), all ministries have to publish online by 1 July 2016 an overview of the services they provide and their quality, incl. situation by indicators (in works).

m.	Analysis and proposals for the creation of an international consortium for the joint development of the base infrastructure of services.		x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
n.	To recognise the importance of socially and environmentally responsible entrepreneurship at the government level and promote socially and environmentally responsible entrepreneurship.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
o.	The consolidation of business support structures			x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II. Consolidating and simplifying entrepreneurship subsidies; developing and implementing new financing models									
a.	Development of a comprehensive development model of entrepreneurs and creating a supportive implementation model.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To develop and implement a system of regular assessments of the impacts of entrepreneurship subsidies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Continuation of the KredEx measures aimed at the development of entrepreneurship (start-up loans, loan guarantees, subordinated bank loans, technology loans).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

In 2015, talks started with Finland on joint development and management of X-Road and other core digital infrastructure components. By spring 2016, proposals have been formed about the organisational set-up of possible consortium; talks are continuing on financing - both countries have prepared budget proposals for domestic state budget processes (funding to start from 2017).

In 2014, the “Action Plan of Corporate Social Responsibility in Estonia 2012-2014”, which the Government of the Republic approved in September 2012, ended. The Corporate Social Responsibility Forum has become a business organisation with a stable membership. More than 150 companies have participated in the index. Many thematic training programmes have been conducted, which have resulted in an increased awareness among businesspeople. The recognition scheme has been continually developed; in 2015, corporate social responsibility will be a sub-category in the Enterprise Awards. Next stage in 2017.

The entrepreneurial development programme was fully implemented in January 2016 and will continue until the exhaustion of funds.

Regular assessments of the impacts of entrepreneurship subsidies.

Measures continue. Conditions will be updated if necessary.

x

x

x

x

d.	To continue the Enterprise Estonia measures for novice entrepreneurs (basic training, mentoring, etc.).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	Implementation of support measures designed to develop the knowledge and skills of entrepreneurs.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
III. Providing support measures to entrepreneurs to facilitate the growth of export capacity and use of export potential									
a.	To continue the provision of medium and long term export guarantees to an extended target group with a view to increasing the export capacity of Estonian companies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To launch actions under the entrepreneur's development programme, aimed at export activities.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Establishment of a plan of state-guaranteed export loans for foreign customers of Estonian exporters.	x							Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	To implement the export and foreign investments action plan "Made in Estonia 3.0".	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	To continue promoting development and marketing cooperation among companies, in particular in growth areas and directed to more remote markets.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	To implement a network of business representatives comprised of Estonian ambassadors, EE foreign representatives and Estonian honorary consuls (the EESTI network).		x	x					Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Services for start-up entrepreneurs, e.g., basic training, counselling in Regional Development Centres, mentorship clubs, continuing process. Start-up grants based on an updated concept are also being provided.

x

The new entrepreneurship awareness programme was implemented in 2015. The export-related activities of Enterprise Estonia, events to increase awareness of entrepreneurship and support services provided by county development centres are funded under the programme.

x

The innovation and development shares' measure is also being prepared.

Ongoing activity.

x

The entrepreneurs' development programme was fully implemented in January 2016.

x

The plan has been created. SA KredEx will provide export loans as direct loans that are insured by AS KredEx Krediidikindlustus.

xx

Ongoing activity.

x

3 The new measure for Research and Development Centres entered into force at the end of 2014; the clusters measure was implemented in 2015.

x

In order to make greater use of foreign diplomacy to serve economic growth, accelerate exports and attract investments to Estonia, a global EESTI network will be developed and implemented in the first half of 2016.

g.	A Team Estonia analysis in order to bring smart foreign investments and well-paying jobs to Estonia by creating a cross-institutional coordination platform.		x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
h.	Providing export information services and training, including on more remote target markets, to entrepreneurs.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
To create an environment for bringing more foreign direct investments to Estonia aimed at sectors with a greater export potential and higher added value									
I. Making Estonia an attractive investment environment									
a.	To support large-scale investments which are made in Estonia in order to improve local economy.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To find possibilities for local governments to continue the support measures for the construction of industrial infrastructure (e.g., power lines, roads etc.) that facilitate the development of the public entrepreneurship environment. (The infrastructure is supported by the 2014-2020 measure “Strengthening regional competitiveness”, the conditions for the support of infrastructure investments. The activities under the measure “Strengthening regional competitiveness” of the period 2007-2013 continued in 2014 and 2015.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance

To improve the cooperation of institutions dealing with foreign economic policy.

To be carried out within the framework of the EAS export support activities. Training has been carried out, joint booths have been organised at fairs and EAS export advisers work in foreign markets.

x

The preparatory process for the measure of attracting investments is underway. The Enterprise Estonia internationalisation division is dealing with answering queries for information and compiling value propositions, and investor service representatives (a total of four (4) across Estonia) have worked at the MAKs. Ongoing activity. The infrastructure is supported by the 2014-2020 measure “Strengthening regional competitiveness”, the conditions for the support of infrastructure investments entered into force on 20 February 2015; the county governments submitted the plans of action for strengthening regional competitiveness to the SiM for approval 6 March 2015. An additional six support infrastructure projects for industrial projects are currently underway in the 2007-2013 measure “Strengthening regional competitiveness”.

x

c.	To continue the activities of the Foundation Ida-Viru County Industrial Areas Development (IVIA).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
d.	To implement an investment environment regulation that would make the creation and development of funds more attractive in Estonia.		x	x					Ministry of Finance
e.	To analyse the opportunities for the creation of tax transparent fund structures in Estonia.		x	x					Ministry of Finance
f.	Analysis and income tax amendments to exempt the profits earned from the sale of subsidiaries located abroad from income tax.		x	x					Ministry of Finance
g.	To analyse eliminating the double taxation of dividends in the case of shareholdings of less than 10%, to make investment activities and the establishment of headquarters in Estonia and the payment of dividends on profits earned in Estonia more beneficial.		x	x					Ministry of Finance
h.	To ensure more efficient protection of investors.	x	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
i.	To amend the Investment Funds Act.	x	x	x					Ministry of Finance
II. Improving the availability of qualified labour necessary for the development of foreign investments and export									
a.	Developing support services facilitating the adaptation of new immigrants, including an adaptation programme and an information portal.	x	x	x					Ministry of the Interior

SA IVTA has received €2.1 million from the 2007-2013 SF measure “Strengthening regional competitiveness” for the establishment of the infrastructure for the Narva Logistics and Industrial Park, and €890,000 for establishing the first stage of the infrastructure for the Jõhvi Logistics and Business Park. x

In early 2015, the Development Fund’s analysis of Estonia’s business environment with regard to the topics of the Doing Business Index. The practical activities will be implemented within the framework of “Entrepreneur’s Rights 2” programme. x
The draft has been prepared in two stages: I has been forwarded to the Riigikogu and II has completed the approval round. x

Ongoing activity. In 2014, the Acclimation Programme regulation was signed by the Minister of the Interior. In 2015, training on the acclimation programme was provided and a relevant website was created. x

b.	Developing a comprehensive “talent policy”.	x	x						Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Ensuring the availability of labour market information in foreign languages in Estonia.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
d.	Development of the estonia.eu portal to introduce Estonia as an attractive country.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	To implement a plan of action for the Estonian talent policy, with the goal of simplifying the discovery, recruitment, immigration, employment and acclimation of foreign talents.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Development of an electronic data exchange related to social insurance between the EU member states, so that people would be assured of rapid solutions for cross-border cases related to social insurance.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Social Affairs
Creating preconditions for increasing the volume of research and development in the private sector as well as to increase the amount and quality of innovation output									
I. Stimulating demand-based research and development and innovation									
a.	To create and implement a support measure for the use of ICT in general economy.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

“Work in Estonia”, an action plan to attract foreign specialists has been completed. The website www.workinestonia.com has been created.

xx

2 Ongoing activity. Labour market-related information and information on working in Estonia is available on the websites of the Estonian Unemployment Fund and EURES in English and on the website of the Unemployment Fund in Russian.

x

The development of the portal has started and continues.

x

Activities as specified in the Work in Estonia action plan.

x

No specific measures have been developed because the strategic goal was to consolidate the measures. An opportunity to support the ICT development of entrepreneurs is provided by the entrepreneurial development programme.

xx

b.	To create and develop sectoral R&D capacity in areas of government of ministries.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	All ministries	3	The assignment of the ministries defined in the Estonian Research and Development and Innovation Strategy 2014–2020 and the programmes to be implemented as a result are being prepared. The activity “Strengthening sectoral R&D”, funded from the SF, is being prepared. The purpose of the activity is to increase the capacity of public authorities in the field of R&D, to create sectoral R&D systems and provide training, to develop central policy monitoring and analysis capacity and to ensure the development of information systems.	x
c.	In regard to all of the projects of research and development institutions, to establish the growth of the percentage of the developments of an applied nature to be a priority condition for the use of financing instruments and SF resources.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	3	Applied research is supported under two activities launched with the support of SF resources: “Strengthening sectoral R&D” and “Supporting applied research in smart specialisation growth areas”. The activities were launched in 2015. The implementation of both measures will help to increase the share of applied research.	x
d.	Increasing the involvement of companies in universities’ applied research.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research	3	Supported under the activity “Supporting applied research in smart specialisation growth areas”.	x
e.	Developing the capacity of professional associations as commissioners of innovation.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	3		x
f.	To designate companies, associations of companies or consortia of companies and research agencies as applicants and recipients in the conditions for the use of structural resources allocated for research and development activities. In this connection to enable the companies to order the necessary research, development or testing from foreign R&D institutions.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	3	The Ministry of Education and Research supports companies that carry out applied research and development in the interest of, and commissioned by the company, or an association of companies (SF measure “Supporting applied research in smart specialisation growth areas”). The aim of the Ministry is to increase the local socio-economic impact of the Estonian R&D system and cooperation with companies.	x
g.	Development and implementation of programmes of smart specialisation in growth areas.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	3	The TAKs’ measure, cluster programme and Start-Up Estonia have been implemented. A regulation of the Ministry of Education and Research on activity “Supporting applied research in smart specialisation growth areas” has been approved; application is ongoing.	x

h.	Launching a smart specialisation monitoring system.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
i.	To set the target of increasing the share of public procurement supporting innovation to 3% of all public procurements by 2020.		x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
II. Improving the effectiveness of subsidies granted by the state and developing new financing solutions									
a.	To analyse the possibilities of developing R&D and innovation policies through cross-border support programmes, particularly in order to facilitate the cross-use of financing programmes between countries in the Baltic Sea region.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research
b.	To simplify the distribution process for research funding and make it more favourable and transparent.		x	x					Ministry of Education and Research
III. Developing environments facilitating research and development and innovation									
a.	To develop a longer term, and more strategic model of cooperation for technology development centres and (industrial) clusters, linking both formats to smart specialisation.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

3

The management and coordination of the smart specialisation process is taking place at the level of a joint Ministry of Research and Education, and Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications led work group; the everyday process is conducted by the work group. A task force established under the administrative capacity measure of the Government Office The achievement of the objective requires: 1) agreement between sectors; 2) the development of the public procurement register to monitor the progress towards the achievement of the objective.

x

Activity completed. Opportunities have been analysed. It is difficult to invest Structural Funds outside the programme area - cross-usage or common-pot are not possible from the SF resources. Estonia has participated in the application rounds of NordForsk, research fund of the Nordic Council of Ministers, by using resources from the State Budget.

xx

The implementation of SF measures follows the principles of simplification (unit prices, indirect costs covered by direct staff costs). The number of measures have been significantly reduced compared with the previous SF period and this will simplify processes for researchers, research institutions and the donor.

xx

Both cooperation models are designed as programmes related to smart specialisation growth areas. In the preparation of the measures, the distinctive features of both measures have been taken into account, in order to achieve greater amplification and avoid duplication.

xx

b.	SF programme "Institutional development programme for R&D institutions and schools of higher education".		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	The TeaMe+ science communication programme.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

The conditions for providing support were approved by Regulation No. 17 of 8 April 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The application round was open until 30 October 2015. 23 proposals were received at the deadline. Funding decisions will be made in the second quarter of 2016; investment proposals will be submitted to the Government for approval in the 3rd quarter of this year.

x

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x

d.	To develop a measure aimed at enterprises to encourage the use of R&D infrastructure, with the aim to increase the interest and possibilities of entrepreneurs in using the R&D infrastructure in the product development process.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
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The laboratories measure ended with the previous period and was moderately successful. In the new period, entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to use R&D infrastructure within the framework of the TAK measure. Within the framework of instruction research support, the Estonian Research Council initiated the so-called “core infrastructure” measure. Core infrastructure is the infrastructure belonging to a research and development institution that is necessary for fulfilling a research topic and which is established in the public interest and which, under the conditions established by the research and development institution, can be used by other people. Core infrastructure is distinguished from other infrastructure by the public interest that is the basis for its creation and the availability to other users under the measure “Supporting applied research in smart specialisation growth areas”, companies can commission infrastructure services from public research institutions and higher educational institutions for conducting applied research and implementing product development projects. The Estonian Research Council initiated the so-called “core infrastructure” measure. Core infrastructure is the infrastructure belonging to a research and development institution that is necessary for fulfilling a research topic and which is established in the public interest and which, under the conditions established by the research and development institution, can be used by other people. Core infrastructure is distinguished from other infrastructure by the public interest that is the basis for its creation and the availability to other users.

x

e.	SF programme "Support to centres of excellence for research to increase international competitiveness and top quality of research".		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
f.	SF programme "Support to research infrastructure of national importance".		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

The conditions for providing support were approved by Regulation No. 18 of 8 April 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. 18 applications from eight R&D institutions were received at the deadline. Decisions have been made and centres of excellence have been launched. A total of nine projects are funded under the measure.

x

Regulation No. 2 was adopted on 24 July 2015. The open application round was completed on 29 February 2016. A total of 25 proposals were submitted by seven institutions. A proposal for including objects to the investment plan to be approved by the Government is expected to be submitted in August 2016.

x

h.	Facilitating the internationalisation of Estonian research and higher education.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
i.	To establish a support scheme for involving the development and sales workers in companies that make a significant contribution to employment but currently have low added value.		x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
j.	An analysis of whether eliminating income tax on licensing fees would make investments in high tech equipment and processes more expensive.			x					Ministry of Finance
k.	To continue product development grants and the 'innovation voucher' grant measure.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
	IV. Improving the availability of early-stage venture capital in order to support the development of innovative enterprises with high growth potential								

The planned activities support inter-sector cooperation, post-doctorate research work, the recruitment of foreign scientists and faculty members, and the return of Estonians who have studied or worked abroad. In the new structural funds period, these activities will be supported by the following (sub-) measures: “Institutional development programme for R&D institutions and schools of higher education” and “The internationalisation of research and higher education (Dora Plus” and “Mobilitas Pluss”). In addition, the activities of the Estonian Liaison Office for EU RTD in Brussels and the marketing of higher education and research in foreign countries under the auspices of “Study in Estonia” and “Research in Estonia” will continue in order to promote the internationalisation of research grants and scholarships. Proposals for amendments to the Aliens Act have been submitted and gradually implemented; additional amendments are being prepared by the SiM. Discussions concerning amendments to the directive on the mobility of researchers and students continued in 2015 at the EU level in cooperation with SiM; draft legislation for the

The development share measure was opened in the third quarter of 2015.

x

xx

The intention to develop an amendment to the Income Tax Act was prepared.

Product development activities continue under the Research and Development Centre measure and within the framework of the Entrepreneurial development programme.

xx

a.	Offering venture capital to emerging innovative companies (establishing the early stage fund).	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To develop measures in cooperation with the Baltic Sea countries, which would help integrate the Estonian venture capital with the regional venture capital market in a mutually beneficial manner, thereby improving the international investment capabilities of Estonian investors and the access of young innovative Estonian enterprises to international venture capital.	x							Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	To establish a legal framework for the operation of crowdfunding platforms.				x	x			Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	To implement a training programme for small businesses related to the use of investments that would deal with the objective opportunities for making capital investments and share practical experience.		x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	Implementation of the innovation loan measure.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	To develop a network of 'business angels' and to offer start-up funding through business incubators and business acceleration programmes.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
g.	Implementation of the Start-up Estonia 2.0 programme.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
V. Developing challenge-based research and development and innovation									

The study commissioned by the Ministry of Finance been conducted. The fund was established. xx

The Baltic Innovation Fund has been established, successfully implemented and is operating. xx

Awareness increasing activities, including in the context of funding and raising capital, will be implemented under the entrepreneurship awareness programme. No separate programme will be established. xx

The feasibility of the innovation loan will be decided in the first half of 2016. x

Ongoing activity. All activities have been completed according to the plan. x

The pilot programme has been completed; the main programme has been launched. x

a.	To develop challenge-based R&D&I coordination mechanisms with a focus on the socio-economic challenges of Estonia (e.g., energy independence, an ageing population, internal and external security) SF programme “Supporting sectoral research programmes of ministries”.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Rural Affairs
b.	Proactively analysing the legal framework and promotion of the state information system, in order to support the initial testing and introduction of smart technologies (e.g., The Internet of Things, Linked Data).		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	To increase the involvement of companies in the selection of research topics for PhD theses, the preparation and defence process and the opportunity for businesspeople to be members of the defence committees.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research

3 A measure concerning challenge-based R&D&I coordination mechanisms with a focus on the socio-economic challenges of Estonia has been developed. The measure “Strengthening sectoral R&D”, funded from the SF, has been approved. One of the activities under the measure is supporting socio-economic applied research. The applied research plan is prepared on the initiative, and under the leadership of the ministries responsible for the field. The programme is implemented by the Estonian Research Council.

x

Carried out on a running basis. E.g. currently there are in the works the proposals to change the public transportation law to enable ride-sharing services to operate.

x

The conditions for granting support under the measure “Higher education scholarships in smart specialisation growth areas” were established by Directive No. 441 of 21 November 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The activity is implemented by SA Archimedes. The measure supports the award of special scholarships at the third level of higher education, i.e., to entrepreneurship doctoral students. It is planned to award scholarships to at least 80 doctoral students in the field of business and 80 in the field of smart specialisation. The implementation will start in 2016.

x

d.	To continue the development of infrastructure of research and higher education and opening the use of infrastructure for entrepreneurs, implementing measures for sustainability and modernisation of R&D infrastructure (regional competence centres will be supported from the measure “Developing regional competence centres” of both 2007–2013 and 2014–2020)	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
VI. Integration into the European Research Area									
a.	To participate in the joint EU R&D initiatives and in the joint infrastructures. To contribute to the creation of European Research Area through corresponding national policies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Ongoing activity. With the support of EU structural funds, the research environment of Estonia’s research institutions has arrived at a new level, in both the context of new rooms and equipment. The environment for research work in Estonia has never been better and some laboratories are very close to being among the best in the world. Along with infrastructure investments, about a quarter of the structural funds were used for the development of human resources, incl. PhD studies and the support of future generations. A significant contribution has also been made in the internationalisation of research (incl. mobility services, participation in international research initiatives and infrastructure). The rapid growth of Estonian research has attracted attention at the EU, OECD and on the global level and Estonian researchers have become trustworthy partners in international cooperations. As of 2010, the basis for the preservation and development of R&D infrastructure has been Estonia’s R&D infrastructure road map – a long-term (10-20-year) planning resource, which includes a list of the newest nationally significant research infrastructure units or those requiring updating. The next Estonian research infrastructure road map was approved on 3 September 2014 by regulation of the Government of the Republic.

x

Ongoing activity. With regulation No. 61, dated 5 February 2015, the Government of the Republic approved “Estonia’s participation in the partnership of the EU’s R&D&I framework”, the goal of which is to define the principles of the state’s participation in various EU’s R&D&I partnerships, to describe the decision-making process and division of roles between the various parties. Thereby, a domestic procedure is created for establishing the topic priorities in the European Research Area and H2020 programme, in order to promote the participation of Estonian researchers in the work of international research centres.

x

b.	To increase the motivation of universities and businesses to diversity financing sources, by making use of the research and development needs of companies located outside of Estonia, but also the EU's various R&D&I financing programmes (e.g., Horizon 2020, ERA-net, JTI, KIC etc.). To participate actively in international innovation partnerships		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	To increase the awareness of businesspeople and make better use of the existing and developing opportunities for entering institutional markets (e.g., through NATO, EDA, ESA, EUMETSAT, CERN, ESS, etc.).		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	To support the use of the opportunities provided to businesses by the SME enterprise programme (COSME).		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Conditions for granting support for the implementation of activity "The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations Mobilitas Plus" were established by Directive No. 481 on 30 December 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The activities are implemented by the Estonian Research Council; the implementation has started.

The conditions for baseline funding of research institutions were amended to increase the share of entrepreneurial agreements and foreign funding in the funding equation. This will increase research institutions' motivations to raise foreign resources.

The related activities which are supported:

- Support to apply for an ERC grant – targeted at researchers working in Estonia whose application for an ERC grant for their research and development project has reached the second round and has been marked with an A or B, but no funding decision has been made. The support enables the applicant to continue with their project until a new application for ERC grant has been prepared and submitted.

- Horisont 2020 ERA Chairs – the support enables Estonian research and development institutions to cover the costs of Horisont 2020 ERA Chair research projects.

- Horisont 2020 ERA NET – the support enables

Ongoing activities.

x

x

Ongoing activities.

x

e.	SF programme “The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations”.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
f.	Estonia joining the European Space Agency.	x							Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
g.	The development of a balanced R&D funding system, which combines institutional funding based on effectiveness and project funding based on competition, is required in order the increase the effectiveness of the R&D system and the capacity of universities and research institutions.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Broader use of the potential of creative industries, ICT and other key technologies in order to increase the added value of other sectors									
I. Developing measures to support creative industries more effectively									
a.	Development of incubation for the creative industry.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Development of support structures for the creative industry.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Development of the export capacity of companies acting in different sectors of the creative industry.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Conditions for granting support for the implementation of activity “The internationalisation of research and higher education; support of mobility and future generations Mobilitas Plus” were established by Directive No. 481 on 30 December 2015 of the Minister of Education and Research. The implementation of activities has started. See more detail on the website of SA Eesti Teadusagentuur <http://www.etag.ee/rahastamine/programmid/mobilitas-pluss/>

x

Estonia signed the accession agreement on 4 April 2015.

xx

The Ministry of Education and Research has applied for additional funding under the State Budget Strategy 2017-2020. The outcome depends on the budgetary negotiations. A task force to be established at the Research and Development Council will be responsible for preparing a long-term plan for research funding.

x

Implementation mechanisms have been developed. “The conditions and procedure of supporting the development of support structures, joint projects and export capacity of the creative industry” were approved.

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x

d.	Linking the creative industry to other sectors (small and large projects).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	Increasing awareness of the creative industry.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	Developing the infrastructure and technical capacity of the creative industry.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II. Facilitating an integrated approach in order to increase the impact of interaction between creative industries, ICT and other key technologies									
a.	To create possibilities for developing space technologies (Earth-based applications), improving public sector services through the introduction of Earth-based applications of space technology.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	SF programme “Supporting applied research in growth areas of smart specialisation”.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Social Affairs

Implementation mechanisms have been developed. “Conditions for granting support for raising awareness of, and improving knowledge and skills in the field of creative industries and for implementing major projects involving creative industries and other sectors” has been approved.

x

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x

Implementation mechanisms have been developed. “The conditions and procedure of supporting the development of support structures, joint projects and export capacity of the creative industry” were approved.

x

Accession agreement with the ESA signed. The remote monitoring analysis of the distribution centre has been completed; the next stage is applying for financing from the investments plan or from Ministry of Education measures. Process underway.

x

Implementation.

x

c.	To continue and ensure the achievement of the goals of the R&D programmes for ICT, energy technologies, biotechnology, green technologies, health technologies and material technologies as key technologies.	x	x						Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Social Affairs
d.	SF programme “Improving the R&D capacity of state agencies”.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
e.	Developing a strategy for reuse of Open Data and promote the re-use and access of public sector data, incl. creating an appropriate infrastructure.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
f.	Increasing the skills and raising the awareness of entrepreneurs, and stimulating investments in e-business and e-commerce solutions for smarter and broader implementation in business processes (e.g. an awareness campaign to introduce new technologies or sector-based demo centres).		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
g.	To develop and implement a measure to facilitate the development of services by service sector enterprises (e.g., service design)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

The R&D programmes for the last period have ended and new ones will not be opened in the same form. The material technologies programme was not opened. The impact analysis has been completed; in the new period the HTM's applied studies measure. The goal of the programmes is to create the necessary competence for applied studies in the field of activity as well as to stimulate cooperation between the academic sector and the private sector. In the projects, the participation of the private sector was a precondition. In the fields of activity where an important partner was the SoM, KeM or PõM, a large number of studies focused on resolving socioeconomic problems were conducted, in the course of which the cooperation that had been lacking before got its start and cooperation networks developed. The analyses of the final results and impacts will be conducted and reports drawn up after the end of the programmes.

xx

Implementation.

x

The “Green book on the mechanically readable publication of Estonia public information” and the action plan for its implementation were adopted by Cabinet in autumn of 2014. A common open data portal called opendata.riik.ee will be further developed, plus the opening of data from concrete databases will be advanced (incl. supported from EU Structural Funds).

x

Implementation.

x

To be solved within the framework of the entrepreneurial development programme and enterprise awareness programme.

x

h.	Further development of the IT Academy programme.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
III. Increasing human capital capacity in order to achieve cross-sectoral objectives									
a.	To improve the quality of management training for entrepreneurs via central provision of international training competence.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	Implementation of the development programme for entrepreneurs.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	To continue supporting the support structures and export potential of creative economy and improving the awareness by support schemes for enterprises of creative economy.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
To develop human capital in the area of research and to ensure the increment of engineers and key specialists									
a.	Increasing the income of doctoral students and improving the efficiency of doctoral studies.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Activity continues according to the programme.

x

x

The entrepreneurship awareness programme was implemented. The exact activities, incl. the management training, will be determined annually in the Enterprise Estonia work plan.

x

The entrepreneurial development programme was fully implemented in January 2016. Implementation continues. Implementation continues.

x

x

As of 1 September 2015, the amendments to the law that were passed by the Riigikogu in November 2014 will expand to social guarantees related to parent benefits and pension insurance of PhD candidates receiving doctoral grants. The state pays the social tax on doctoral grants through the Ministry of Education and Research. The currently valid laws only ensured the PhD candidates health insurance. The PhD candidate grant also increased by 10% or €422 per month as of 1 January 2015. Doctoral studies are supported by the Kristjan Jaak Scholarship Programme, the Dora Plus programme, which is funded from the ERDF, and the Institutional development programme for R&D institutions and schools of higher education under which doctoral schools are funded.

x

b.	To develop a research instruction system and implement measures for improving the quality and effectiveness of instruction, with the aim to increase the number of good and effective supervisors.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
c.	To continue supporting schools with doctoral programmes and develop further research centres of excellence.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research

Based on a HTM order, the Council of Rectors has conducted a relevant project (PhD studies supervision study) for the last two years, the results of which will be introduced and discussions organised in 2015. The quality and effectiveness of the supervision of doctoral studies.

x

In the period 2009-2015, Estonia had a total of 13 doctoral schools that received a total of €16.1 million of structural assistance. Compared with the previous financing period, the doctoral schools operating in 2007-2013 covered more sectors and doctoral curricula of nearly all fields of study. Doctoral schools are of interdisciplinary nature; national and international cooperation is mandatory; sectoral duplication is not permitted. Starting from 2016, doctoral schools are supported under SF programme “Institutional development programme for R&D institutions and schools of higher education?”. No final funding decisions have been made so far.

x

In order to improve central management of doctoral schools, the Council of Doctoral Schools was established at the non-profit association Universities Estonia in the spring of 2014. 18 applications were received for support under the research excellence centres’ measure (period 2014-2020) at the deadline; nine applications were approved. The activity is implemented by SA Archimedes.

d.	To develop a researchers' career model with integrated solutions for social guarantees to the extent that it starts with entry into the research world and ends with exiting from it, from a post-doctorate that supports career mobility to working in an R&D company without jeopardising the continuation of one's career.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
Bringing transportation, ICT and other public infrastructure and institutions that support business to an international level									
I. Improving air traffic connections									
a.	To support the security and rescue services at Tallinn Airport and regional airports.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To develop air traffic connections with all major European business centres.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

The development of the principles for the scientists' career model will be completed when the financing concept is completed. The principles of the career model and concept for research financing cannot be developed simultaneously, since the financing concept is one basis for working out the career model. The creation of an integrated financing concept has been more time-consuming than was assumed. The following activities to support the development of the career model have been launched:

* Social safeguards for doctoral students were extended starting from 1 September 2015;

* Under the Mobilitas Plus programme, opportunities for follow-up doctoral studies are extended and researchers returning to Estonia after completing their follow-up doctoral studies or doing equivalent research in a foreign country are supported.

* The award of specialty scholarships at the third level of higher education, or the so-called entrepreneurship doctoral studies, is supported under the SF programme "Higher education speciality scholarships in growth areas of smart specialisation". It is planned to award scholarships to at least 80 doctoral students in the field of business and 80 in the field of smart specialisation. The implementation will start in 2016. The aim is to increase the labour market relevance of doctoral studies and to provide career opportunities to doctoral students outside the academic sector.

* A study to support the development of the career model is being prepared.

x

Implementation continues.

x

Implementation continues.

x

c.	To lengthen the Tallinn Airport runway and ensure ILS II-category.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
II. Better interoperability of the road and railway networks and the public transport system									
a.	To develop the Ülemiste passenger terminal and develop more connections with the airport.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
b.	To improve the speed and safety on main roads; to continue the reconstruction of the Tallinn-Tartu road into a four-lane road and the reconstruction of the Tallinn-Narva road.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Establishment of updated road construction requirements to increase convenience and safety for users and durability of roads.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	To carry out an inventory of local roads in order to determine their conditions and traffic loads and to establish a national database of the network of national and local roads and streets under the National Register of Roads.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
e.	To analyse the need for and possibilities to introduce road taxes to fund road management activities.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
f.	To develop further the possibilities of using the electronic border-crossing queue system.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of the Interior

An agreement for the use of CF resources has been signed.

x

Will be done when the Rail Baltic terminal is built. A conceptual solution is ready.

x

To be implemented according to the Road Maintenance Plan.

x

The relevant regulations have been amended.

xx

Funding of the inventory was agreed on in 2014. The procurement process is expected to be launched in 2015, after support is received from the ownership reform fund. The period of the contract is two years, or until the end of 2016.

Analysis completed. A draft implementation intention is being prepared.

x

The functionality of the electronic border-crossing queue system has been constantly improved, so that this would correspond to future changing situations. Procurement procedures for the electronic border-crossing queue system and waiting area services were prepared. Administrative contracts are expected to be signed with service providers by May 2016. The applicable implementation acts also need to be amended by the autumn of 2016. The contract with the administrator of the queue is expected to be renewed.

x

g.	To tighten the Tallinn-Tartu train schedule and reduce the duration of the journey by introducing new trains.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
h.	Specifying the location of the Rail Baltic railway route corridor on the territory of the Republic of Estonia; initiation of planning.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
i.	To create a pan-Baltic joint-venture in order to develop Rail Baltic.	x							Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
j.	To prepare and sign a multinational agreement on the construction of Rail Baltic.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
k.	Development of a single electronic ticket system for all the types of public transport.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
l.	To analyse the division of tasks between the state and local authorities in organising public transport and the related financing and make proposals for changes, if necessary.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
m.	To shift the organisation of regional public transport from the level of counties to the level of larger regions covering several counties.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
n.	To introduce flexible public transport solutions, such as on request buses, social transport or taxis, in sparsely populated areas.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
o.	To improve access to public transport information; to introduce information systems that meet the needs of hearing-impaired and visually impaired people.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

The Tallinn-Tartu train schedule has been tightened; however, in order to increase the speed of trains, the railway section between Tapa and Tartu needs to be reconstructed in the period of 2015-2017. After the completion of the reconstruction, adding more trains to the line will be considered.

x

The location of the Rail Baltic railway corridor will be determined in the three Baltic states simultaneously.

x

The founding agreement was signed in October 2014. The company's headquarters are located in Riga and the main activity is designing, building and internationally marketing the railway.

xx

Under preparation.

x

Tallinn, Tartu and Pärnu as well as Elron should be integrated into the system by the end of 2017. Tickets can also be bought by using a contactless payment card.

x

It has been decided that public transport centres will start to be responsible for organising public transportation. In the counties where this does not happen, the organising will be taken over by the Road Administration.

xx

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xx

Bus-on-demand is operating in three counties.

x

Being implemented gradually. The first projects have been implemented on the railway, in Tallinn, Tartu and larger bus stations. More than 30 railway stations will be fitted with new displays.

x

p.	To prepare guidelines and best practices on spatial planning and organisation of mobility for the use by state and local authorities and the private sector.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
r.	Improving the capacity of the Narva border crossing point in order to speed up border crossing by people who travel by car or bus.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
s.	In order to increase the competitiveness of Estonian highway transport and freight carriage, investments in main highways and bridges that would allow the weight restrictions for trucks to be lifted, incl. during a three-year test period starting with 2015, the impact of the easing of gross weight restrictions on the condition of the roads and road maintenance costs will be monitored.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
III. Developing the port infrastructure									
a.	To continue investments into improving the efficiency of logistics services at ports.	x	x						Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

The guidelines for the promotion of cycling traffic have been completed; the OECD guidelines for promoting walking have been translated. Guidelines for local governments regarding better planning and the methodology for assessing the impacts of planning are in the works.

The National Spatial Plan Estonia 2030+, adopted by the Government of the Republic on 30 August 2012, foresees the development of guidelines aiming to express public interest and improve the quality of space, adhering to the policies of energy efficiency and sustainable development. Government agencies and local governments are required to follow those guidelines when preparing plans. The new Planning Act, which entered into force on 1 July 2015, the minister responsible for the sector may establish requirements for the implementation of planning principles, specification of planning objectives, formulation of a plan, structure of a plan and documents related to the publication and their preservation (§ 3 (6)). The guidelines are reflected in those requirements or the relevant methodological guidelines. The development of the guidelines continues and is expected to be completed by the end of 2015.

x

The capacity for busses and passenger cars has been increased.

xx

Implementation of the national road maintenance plan 2014–2020.

x

The EstPortNet paperless administration project was implemented.

xx

b.	To invest into more de-icing and oil spill control capabilities.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	To reconstruct the ports necessary for ensuring connection between Saaremaa and Hiiumaa island and buy a new ferry to operate the line between the islands.		x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	The development of the Muuga commercial port as a container transport hub, which would service west-east and north-south trade flows.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
IV. Increasing the potential of information and communication technology networks									
a.	Introducing a new generation broadband connections everywhere by establishing a basic network in rural areas in Estonia and supporting access to the network (supported under the 2007–2013 measure “Improving access to the Internet in regions that use the new generation electronic communication network”).	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Rural Affairs
b.	Launching a programme designed to improve the entrepreneurs’ e-services skills.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
c.	Starting to issue digital IDs for e-residents (so-called stage I).	x							Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	Creating the possibility to apply for e-residency electronically and start issuing these digital IDs through Estonia’s foreign representations (so-called stage II).		x	x					Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

A second icebreaker was acquired. A decision has not been made about acquiring a new icebreaker to replace the Tarmo.

x

The projects have been added to the investments plan.

x

x

The establishment of the basic network for Internet connections was supported, which provides an opportunity for communications companies to subsequently establish access networks to end consumers. By May 2015, 2,715 km was completed with 2007-2013 SF support. Project is continuing in 2014-2020 with SF support. In addition, proposals are being prepared on how to ensure and support the laying of last mile connections (to ensure uptake of fast broadband).

x

The conditions for granting support are being prepared.

In 2014, the legal regulation for issuing digital IDs to e-residents was developed. As of 1 December 2014, digital IDs are being issued to e-residents.

xx

On 18 February 2015, the Riigikogu passed an amendment in the Identity Documents Act, which, as of 1 April 2015, allows e-resident digital IDs to be applied for with one client contact, and also for documents to be applied for and issued via Estonia’s foreign missions. Since 13 May 2015, it is possible to apply for e-Residency online and receive the card in 38 Estonian representations in 34 countries.

xx

e.	Preparing and implementing an action plan for the programme “10 million e-Estonians”.		x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Action plan was adopted in July 2015 in the Cabinet and is in implementation. Progress will be reviewed and continuation steps decided in Cabinet in autumn 2017.	x
f.	Developing, among other infrastructure investments (e.g., introducing sensor-based collection and forwarding of road information), the infrastructure for collecting real-time transport information.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	The activities for 2014-2017 of the implementation plan for the transport development plan are being carried out.	x
g.	Supporting the development of trip planning and other transport information services, including mobile services, between modes of transport and/or services that are integrated with additional services.	x	x	x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	The activities for 2014-2017 of the implementation plan for the transport development plan are being carried out.	x
h.	Developing the legislation facilitating safe introduction of autonomous vehicles and the relevant standards of interoperability, safety and monitoring.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Under preparation.	
i.	Developing the Single Window applications further.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Under preparation.	

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ECONOMY AND ENERGY SECTOR

Implementing long-term structural changes in the energy sector in accordance with Estonia's energy security and energy efficiency objectives

a.	Continuing to increase the diversity of the portfolio of energy sources in order to maintain energy independence, including increasing the share of renewable energy sources and reducing the share of carbon-intensive energy sources. Amending the Development Plan of the Estonian Energy Sector in line with the developments of recent years.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Ongoing activity.	x
b.	Preparing and implementing energy infrastructure projects to improve the internal energy market (LNG Terminal, BalticConnector, third interconnection with Latvia).	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Preparatory activities continue. A positive decision was made for the third electrical connection in October 2014 in the amount of €112 million of Connecting Europe financing. According to the agreement, the goal is a gas pipeline between Estonia and Finland and a regional terminal in Finland by 2019.	x

c.	Establishing common EU energy market rules, including measures implemented at the border of EU for avoiding carbon leakage.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Ongoing activity.	x
e.	Developing the electricity support scheme for electricity produced from renewable resources and via co-generation of heat and electricity.	x	x	x					Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Ongoing activity. The reorganisation of the support scheme has been prepared; the European Commission permission for state aid has been obtained; currently waiting for an amendment to the law. Amendments to the Electricity Market Act should be submitted to the Government in April and adopted by the Riigikogu in the summer of 2016.	x
f.	Creating opportunities for Estonian renewable energy producers and developers for the implementation of the flexible cooperation mechanism specified in the renewable energy directive.			x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Amendments to the Electricity Market Act should be submitted to the Government in April and adopted by the Riigikogu in the summer of 2016. Preparations for the launch of the trade in statistics continue.	x
g.	Establishing a balanced electricity system and paying renewable energy supports to micro-producers.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Under preparation.	
h.	Development of a smart grid (starting from the smart grid action plan).	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Under preparation.	
i.	Preparation for the synchronisation of the power grid with the frequency bands used in the EU .	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Ongoing activity.	x
j.	Adoption and implementation of the Energy Development Plan 2030.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	The Energy Development Plan is expected to be adopted in the autumn of 2016.	
Reducing the general resource and energy intensity of the economy											
a.	Improving the energy efficiency of public sector buildings. To build new public sector buildings to be as energy efficient as possible.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance	Ongoing activity.	x
b.	Supporting the investments into energy efficiency of apartment buildings.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Environment	Implementation continues. The volume of the 2014-2020 SF measure is €102 million and the “Conditions for providing support for the reconstruction of apartment buildings” was approved in March 2015. The support is directed at buildings constructed before 1993.	x

c.	Developing environmentally friendly public transport by using the investment programme for gas and electric means of transport	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Implementation continues. Conditions for granting support under the measure “Supporting the production of biogas and its use by the transport sector” were adopted on 28 November 2015.	x
d.	Planning that reduces forced movement, development of public transport and light traffic, enforcement of activities of the SF measure “Sustainable development of urban areas” and the SF measure “Sustainable development of the cities of Ida-Viru County”.	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Implementation continues. The conditions of the 2014-2020 measures “Sustainable development of urban areas” and “Sustainable development of Ida-Viru County urban areas” entered into force on 9 March 2015; the preparation of plans of action in the urban areas will follow.	x	
e.	Developing and implementing a system for auditing distance heating areas and an investment support scheme to increase the efficiency of district heating networks or to introduce alternative local heating solutions.	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	In January 2016, regulations “Renovation of distance heating boilers and replacement of fuel” and “Construction of local heating solutions to replace distance heating” were approved in January 2016.	x	
f.	Creating the conditions for the establishment of energy cooperatives and energy service companies.	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Under preparation.		
g.	Promoting the use of renewable energy in small residential buildings and support the renovation of heating systems.	x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Implementation continues.	x	
h.	Reconstruction of street lighting systems.	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	The SF measure “Renovation of street lighting infrastructure” is being prepared.		
i.	Developing collaborative renewable energy projects with other countries (within the framework of the renewable energy directive).			x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications			
j.	Support/programme for the development of energy technologies.			x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications			
k.	To continue the implementation of green tax reforms by a gradual increase of the share of environmental taxes and a reduction of the share of labour taxes in public sector incomes; the Environmental Charges Framework for the period 2016–2020.	x	x					Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Finance	Related to the Energy Development Plan. Completed by Government Regulation of 17 November 2014 establishing the rate of mineral resource extraction and water abstraction charges for the period 2016-2025.	xx	

l.	Development of a new concept of environmental charges, taking into account the results of the analyses of the external cost of the use of the environment and of optimal remuneration of the oil shale sector.			x	x	x	x		Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
m.	Mapping the potential for resource effectiveness and based on the results to develop (sector-based) programmes focused on resource effectiveness.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Rural Affairs
n.	Developing and implementing the companies' energy and resource efficiency measure (including BAT, resource audits, resource management systems).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

Ongoing activity. Financed from the 2014-2020 SF funds. In 2015, activities "Training on energy and resource management" and "Increasing awareness about energy and resource management" were approved. The first information events will be held in May 2016. Resource audit guidelines have been completed and a training plan for auditors is being prepared. The preparation of conditions for granting support under activities "Energy and resource audits" and "Investments into best possible resource efficient technology" are close to being completed (both regulations have been approved by the sectoral committee) and are expected to be adopted in the spring of 2016. Application rounds are planned to open during 2016. The measure is designed to increase entrepreneurs' awareness of resource efficiency, train auditors, carry out resource audits and implement resource efficient solutions.

x

Ongoing activity. Financed from the 2014-2020 SF funds. The conditions for granting support under activities "Energy and resource audits" and "Investments into best possible resource efficient technology" are being prepared and are expected to be approved in the spring of 2016. The measure is designed to increase entrepreneurs' awareness of resource efficiency, train auditors, carry out resource audits and implement resource efficient solutions.

x

o.	Preventing and reducing waste generation and increasing recycling and reuse of waste.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
p.	Implementation of measures to increase the use of vehicles that use alternative fuels (including biogas) (support measure to develop the biomethane production and filling stations infrastructure).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
r.	Mapping of the socioeconomic value of ecosystem services and develop and implement a relevant assessment model.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment

The Ministry of the Environment's regulation "Conditions for providing support for the activities of the measure 'Companies' energy and resource-efficiency", "support of waste recycling" and "support for the preparation of waste recycling" has been approved. Within the framework of the measure's activities, support will be provided for investments in the following activities: 1) preparation for waste recycling, incl. the establishment of recycling centres and acquisition of equipment; 2) the preparation for recycling collected waste by type; 3) recycling of collected waste by type; 4) acquisition of collection containers and presses necessary for collecting textile waste by type.

x

Implementation continues. Conditions for granting support under the measure "Supporting the production of biogas and its use by the transport sector" were adopted.

x

Currently, the conditions for providing support under the measure ("The necessary tools for assessing and projecting biodiversity socio-economically and the state of the environment related to climate change and ensuring the availability of data") are being implemented. Within the framework of the measure, there are plans to map and assess four ecosystem services, to draw up a road map of applied studies, work out and implement new monitoring methods and develop an assessment system that helps to assess how climate change and socio-economic indicators impact the state of biodiversity in various ecosystems. The management structure of the measure has been approved and preparations for the implementation of the measure have started.

x

s.	Developing the accounting and mining permits system for natural mineral resources in order to increase sufficient availability, economical use and security of supply of raw materials.	x	x	x					Ministry of the Environment
t.	Developing and implementing a framework for emissions trading by sectors that do not belong to the emissions trading system (buildings, transport, agriculture, waste, etc.).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
u.	Continuing the demolition of buildings that are no longer used and spoil the landscape.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment

In 2013–2014, a mineral deposits information system was developed with the support of KIK (“Development of a supply reliability model for the Environmental Register’s inventory of mineral deposits”). The output of the project is a public web application for calculating supply reliability. With the help of the application, it is possible to project the sustainability of the mineral reserves in the mining claim granted with a mining permit in the service area (ca 50 km) of a place that is of interest for mining, based on the average utilisation during the last five years.

x

Amendments to the Ambient Air Protection Act stipulated the emissions trading system, i.e., the regulations for the trading system units with shared responsibility, for the new period. If, to date, the Estonian practice has been the sale of AAU emission units, the new system determined the framework for buying and selling a new type of unit.

x

Within the framework of the KIK environment programme, support will be provided for the demolition of dilapidated and unused agricultural, industrial and military structures that, according to the local government, blemish the landscape, along with the processing of the resulting waste including the promotion of reuse and recycling and the cleaning up of the site. Within the framework of the measure, 115 projects have received grants to date, to a total of over €2.6 million. The support measure is continuing but probably in a reduced form.

x

v.	Implementing rotation ages in forest regeneration cutting, which take into account tree maturity to ensure the continuous flow of timber from forests and to increase volume increments.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
w.	The development of the fundamental principles of the Earth's crust policy in order to use earth and the mineral resources in a manner that creates high value, taking into account socio-economic, security, geological and environmental aspects.			x	x				Ministry of the Environment
x.	The promotion of the utilisation of timber to a greater extent.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
y.	Following better the principles of resource efficiency when carrying out public procurements.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Finance
z.	Development and implementation of the fundamental principles of the climate policy for 2050.		x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment

The implementation of estimated maturity of the tree species that comprise the forests has started. Supplementary analyses have been carried out concerning the maturities from the viewpoint of maximising carbon fixation and utilisation of timber in order to alleviate climate change and reconcile profit maturities. An amendment to the Forest Act aimed at changing the rotation age for spruce trees (at the moment, the plan is to reduce the rotation age). An assessment of the impact of changing the maturity guidelines of other tree species is also needed.

x

The Government of the Republic approved the development of the fundamental principles of the Earth's crust policy in November 2015. A work group and four sectoral work groups (a work group responsible for the identification and organisation of the state's duties; a work group on the use of the Earth's crust; a work group responsible for analysing research and development; a work group on environmental protection and spatial planning) have been established for the development of the policy. The work groups have mapped the issues in their respective areas of responsibility and described the primary solutions. The strategy will be submitted to the Riigikogu in the fourth quarter of 2017.

Ongoing activity.

x

The mandatory environmental protection criteria for procurements in the four priority areas (cleaning services, IT equipment, furniture and copying paper) are planned to be established in 2016.

Planned to adopt by the Riigikogu by the end of 2016. Currently, the contents of the development document are being prepared in cooperation with various stakeholders.

aa.	Developing the use of oil shale in a way that ensures the highest possible efficiency factor (incl. resource fees, R&D activities).			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of the Environment
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Preparing the description of best available technology for the use of oil shale and the conclusions on the best possible technology (separate or co-incineration of waste gases produced from the pyrolysis of oil shale; production of chemicals from the waste produced from the pyrolysis of oil shale; increasing the use of solid waste from the processing of oil shale).

x

SUSTAINABLE AND ADAPTIVE PUBLIC SECTOR

Reaching a government sector budget surplus by 2014 and maintaining that position in the long-term									
a.	Maintaining structural surplus in the government sector budget.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
b.	Additional measures by the Tax and Customs Board to improve tax receipts (construction, catering, hospitality).	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
To improve the sustainability of social expenditure in the public sector in the context of decreasing working-age population and ageing population, ensuring effective health care and well-oriented and effective social policy (including the necessary support services)									
a.	To prepare an action plan for developing the principles of an occupational accident and occupational disease insurance system; the analysis and proposals related sustainability of the employee's work capacity.	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Finance
b.	To analyse the implementation of the company pension scheme and proposals for the improvement of the system.	x	x	x					Ministry of Finance
c.	Legislative intent for amending the Pension on Favourable Conditions Act and the Superannuation Pensions Act.	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs

1 In 2014, the budget had both a nominal and structural surplus. The 2016 budget is planned with a structural surplus of 0.4%.

x

1 Measures to improve tax receipts are implemented.

x

2 The action plan has been prepared. An analysis of the sustainability of employee work capacity will be completed in 2016 along with proposals that deal with the work injury prevention, the compensation of injury and keeping an employee on the job, incl. by involving occupational accident and occupational illness insurance.

x

2 Under preparation.

Under preparation.

d.	Analysis and proposals concerning special pensions (defence forces, police, prosecutors).	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice
e.	Analysis and proposals for the sustainable financing of healthcare (possibilities for additional healthcare funding).	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs
f.	Analysis and proposals concerning the sustainability of state pensions.	x	x	x					Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Finance
g.	De-institutionalisation of special care services and the introduction of special care services which are based on the needs of service users as well as the reorganisation of the special care infrastructure.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
h.	Comprehensive development of accessibility (including the mapping of the state of play and improvement of cooperation with local governments) and increase of awareness about universal design (including by organising a universal design competition).			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Social Affairs
To continue the budgetary policy supporting competitiveness (high level of productive expenses, increased flexibility, controlling public sector wage costs, planning the local government revenue base in state budget strategy									
a.	To increase gradually the state funding of private sector R&D expenses to 1% of GDP in order to create growth conditions for private sector R&D investments.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Education and Research
b.	To separate fuel excise tax from road management costs (the funding of local authorities will not be reduced).		x						Ministry of Finance

Under preparation.

Under preparation.

- 2 The Special Care Development Plan underlying the activities was approved in 2014. The Special Care Development Plan will be integrated with the Welfare Development Plan 2016-2023 after the latter is approved. Regulation No. 42 of 18 September 2015 of the Minister of Social Affairs "Reorganisation of special welfare institutions" has been approved. Application round for support is planned to be opened in the second quarter of 2016.
- The accessibility council was established in 2015.

The Ministry of Education and Research has applied for additional funding under the State Budget Strategy 2017-2020. The outcome depends on the budgetary negotiations. A task force to be established at the Research and Development Council will be responsible for preparing a long-term plan for research funding.

In 2015, an amendment to the Road Act entered into force whereby the money allocated to roads no longer depends on the receipt of excise taxes.

x

x

xx

c.	The continuation of the reform designed to centralise financial accounting, personnel management and wage calculation.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
d.	To develop an EU funds management and implementation system for the period 2014–2020.	x							Ministry of Finance
Continuing gradual reduction of taxes on labour and profits and increase of taxes on consumption and environmental burden									
a.	To increase the minimum subsistence amount exempt from tax to 205 euro.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
b.	To decrease unemployment insurance premium by 0.6% to 2.4%.	x							Ministry of Social Affairs
c.	To analyse the distribution of the oil shale resource and its impact on state revenues.	x	x	x					Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
d.	To increase environmental charges.			x	x	x			Ministry of the Environment
e.	To increase the excise duty on natural gas.		x	x	x	x	x		Ministry of Finance
f.	To increase further the excise duty on alcohol.		x	x					Ministry of Finance
g.	To increase further the excise duty on tobacco.			x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance

The goal is to join all the ministries and areas of governance with the support services centre. The final report on the project concerning the centralisation of state support services (the TUTSE project) is expected to be submitted to the Government in March 2017.

1 The SF implementation system has been created, simplified, with fewer levels than previously. xx

As of January 2015, the income tax exemption minimum increased to €154. The government plans to increase it further to €205. x

As of January 2015, the unemployment insurance rate was reduced to 2.4%. xx

Preparations have been delayed. The Ministry of Finance has convened a lead group and work group to compile an initial task for the analysis.

Completed. xx

The harmonisation of the natural gas excise tax is planned based on energy content.

Completed. xx

The excise tax for cigarettes and smoking tobacco will increase by an additional 5% to what is already planned, meaning it will increase altogether by 10% per year in 2016–2018. In addition another 10% of an excise tax increase will be added in 2019 and 2020, except for cigars and cigarillos. In 2016 the excise rate will be increased from 1 June 2016, not 1 January 2016. xx

h.	Additional increase in fuel excise taxes.			x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
j.	Enforce road charges			x	x				Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Finance
k.	Enforce excise duty on packaging			x	x				Ministry of Finance
l.	Taxation of e-cigarettes			x	x				Ministry of Finance
i.	Elimination of the VAT differential for accommodation services.				x				Ministry of Finance
Avoiding macro-economic imbalances									
a.	Long-term planning of tax changes (through the national budget strategy) when developing the tax policy.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance
b.	To replace the targeted fuel excise duty incentive by a more precise compensation to various sectors (except agriculture and fishing activities by small vessels).		x						Ministry of Finance
c.	To adopt an annex to the VAT return to include transaction-based information about purchase and sale transactions.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
d.	To amend VAT incentives to company cars.	x	x	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
e.	Raising the VAT registration threshold in order to decline SMEs' administrative burden.			x	x				Ministry of Finance
General government's adaptability with internal and external changes									

Excise rate on petrol will be increased by 10% (2016-2018). Diesel and light fuel oil excise rate has been increased 14% in 2016 with another 10% from 2017–2018. From 2016: special-purpose diesel fuel excise represents 27% of the excise duty on diesel fuel; excise duty on heavy fuel oil is € 58 per 1,000kg; excise duty on fuel oil shale oil is € 57 per 1,000kg; coal, brown coal, coke and oil shale excise rate is € 0.93 per GJ.

xx

□

x

Draft regulation by October 2016. Enforcement 1st of Jan 2018.

x

Draft regulation by Sept 2016. Enforcement 1st of July 2017 or 1st of Jan 2018.

x

As a principle, significant tax changes must be made public at least six months in advance.

x

Entered into force on 1 May 2015.

xx

Completed.

xx

Completed.

xx

a.	To prepare a local authorities reform concept with an aim of defining the levels of performing duties.	x							Ministry of Finance
b.	To prepare the local authorities reform concept with an aim of funding the performance of duties.	x							Ministry of Finance
c.	Timetable for the organisation of administrative reform.		x						Ministry of Finance
d.	To prepare and implement the draft legislation related to administrative reform and the required draft amendments to sectoral legislations.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Finance
e.	Analyses and principals of tasks and location of general government's institutions.			x					Ministry of Finance
f.	Based on the analyses and principals of tasks and location of general government's institutions a concrete action plan and timeframe is proposed to reallocate certain government institutions to counties.			x					Ministry of Finance
g.	Enforcement of the action plan for making machine readable e-bills compulsory when dealing with the government.			x					Ministry of Finance
h.	Centralizing procurement of government vehicles.			x					Ministry of Finance

Concept prepared.

xx

Concept prepared.

xx

Completed.

xx

Government has prepared and sent the local government reform act to the parliament in which the minimum criteria for a local government is set to 5000 inhabitants with encouragement of local governments over 11 000 inhabitants. Additionally the act regulates the process and time-frame of the reform. Local governments under 5000 inhabitants should merge by 1.01.2017, those who have not, will be merged by the government. In the course of the reform changes are planned in local governments' tasks, cooperation and funding. Concrete proposals will be discussed in the government during 2016.

x

Min of Finance proposes the analyses by the end of May 2016. The analyses includes positions about state's responsibilities and public services. The aim of the action is to reorganize governance and to offer better public services in the future.

x

The analyses will be accomplished by the end of May. The analyse based action plan will be finalized by the end of August 2016.

x

December 2016

June 2016.

i.	Rearrangements in the tasks of ministries (based on the analyses and principals of tasks and location of general government's institutions).			x					Ministry of Finance Ministry of Environment Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications Ministry of Rural Affairs	Ministry of Agriculture has been rearranged as Ministry of Rural Affairs. It will be analysed whether to take management of earth's crust resources from Ministry of Environment to Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, fisheries from Ministry of Environment to ministry of Rural Affairs etc. Due to May 2016.	x
j.	White paper on the ownership policy of state enterprises.			x					Ministry of Finance	June 2016.	x
k.	Changes in legislation based on the white paper on the ownership policy of state enterprises.			x					Ministry of Finance	May 2016.	
l.	Regular personnel- and salary analyses as input to the government budget strategy and yearly budgeting.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Ministry of Finance	Yearly	x
m.	Enforcement of the action plan to reduce unnecessary legislation.		x	x	x	x			Ministry of Justice		x
n.	Concepts of new government act (principals for the sustainability of policymaking) and administrative management act.		x	x	x				Ministry of Justice		x