

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

PARTNER *Estonia*

Good practice selected: Financial support given for first time implementation and registration of EMAS

N. assigned in the mapping phase	3
Promoting institution(s)	State
Type of measure	Credit access and Funding support
Background	The Foundation Environmental Investments Centre (EIC) in Estonia was established in 2000 in order to mediate revenues from environmental charges to environmental projects. Since 2006 the implementation of environmental management systems (including both EMAS and ISO14001) has been supported by EIC. Since 2014 only implementation of EMAs has been supported.
Detailed description of the measure	By this measure investment support is given for the first time implementation of EMAS registration (it covers the costs of staff involved with EMAS implementation,

	<p>consultancy services needed and first time external audit and registration fee). The funding can be applied once or twice a year (depending on the availability of funding). The calls are usually announced minimum a month before the deadline of applications. All kinds of organisations (public, private and third sector organisations) are eligible for the funding. Usually the own financing rate is 10% for the public sector organisations and NGOs and 50% for the companies. In public sector organisations also non-standardised environmental management systems, such as green office system, are supported by this funding scheme. Implementation of only ISO14001 is not eligible. If ISO14001 is implemented in parallel with EMAS, it is eligible.</p>
Legislative reference	<p>Regulation of Minister of Environment No 13, 26.02.2006 (Application requirements, evaluation conditions, procedures and criteria for decision-making, monitoring the performance of the contract and the reporting procedures of financing in the field of environmental protection)</p> <p>§ 7. Environmental Management programme goal and supported actions</p> <p>(1) The aim is to support more efficient use of resources, pollution reduction, environment-friendly innovations, preparation for emergencies, and increasing the respective know-how and</p>

	<p>ability to analyse.</p> <p>(3) In the course of pollution reduction the following is supported</p> <p>3) Implementation and registration of EMAS and implementation and certification of a simplified environmental management systems (including green office, green school, etc.).</p>
Level of Application (regional, national, etc.)	National
Score obtained in the first level assessment	8
Score obtained in the second level assessment	8
Final Score	16
Legal feasibility - 2	
Description	<p>There is a regulation of Minister of Environment No 13 that was first adopted in 26.02.2006 but it is regularly updated once or twice a year depending on the availability of funds and changes in needs. So there is a medium legislative effort required for this incentive to be adopted.</p>
Economic feasibility - 2	

Description	<p>There are costs related to the evaluation of the project proposals and the reviewing the reports during and at the end of the projects. The EIC however manages many funding programmes, which makes it more cost efficient than having a funding support only for EMAS support.</p> <p>It is unclear whether the Competent Authority receives any time savings if the measure is adopted.</p>
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Technical feasibility - 3

Description	<p>All application and reporting procedures are electronic. This requires a working online platform that requires an IT technical effort. This however allows to save some costs for both the funding programme as well as applicants.</p>
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Achieved results - 2

Description	<p>The funding support has been used by quite many public organisations but is not fully appreciated by the private companies. It is also clear that the availability of such funding requires promotion as many companies are still not aware of this opportunity.</p>
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Environmental benefit - 3

Description	<p>There is no restraints of which type of organization can apply for the funding. Especially “high complexity” and “special complexity” category companies are expected to apply.</p>
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