Study on the extent to which and how Member States used the ESF and the ERDF in the programming periods 2007–2013 and 2014–2020 to support their justice system

Member State Chapter – Estonia

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Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers
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List of abbreviations

Abbreviation in English (as used in the report)	Full name/title in English	Full name/title in original language
AIR	Annual Implementation Report	Rakenduskava seirearuanne
AWP	Annual Work Programme	Iga-aastane tööprogramm
DEE	Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment	Majanduskeskkonna arendamise rakenduskava
EC	European Commission	Euroopa Komisjon
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund	Euroopa Regionaalarengu Fond
ESF	European Social Fund	Euroopa Sotsiaalfond
EU	European Union	Euroopa Liit
HRD	Operational Programme for Human Resource Development	Inimressursi arendamise rakenduskava
IB	Intermediate Body	Rakendusasutus/ rakendusüksus
ICT	information and communication technologies	Info- ja kommunikatsioonitehnoloogia
MA	Managing Authority	Korraldusasutus
MC	Monitoring Committee	Seirekomisjon
MS	Member State	Liikmesriik
NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework	Riiklik struktuurivahendite kasutamise strateegia
OP	Operational Programme	Rakenduskava
OP CPF	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020	Ühtekuuluvuspoliitika fondide rakenduskava 2014–2020
PA	Priority Axis	Prioriteetne suund

Document Checklist

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF)	Estonian National Strategic Reference Framework 2007–2013	Riiklik struktuurivahendite kasutamise strateegia 2007–2013	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes
Partnership Agreement (PA)	Partnership Agreement for the use of European Structural and Investment Funds 2014–2020	Partnerluslepe Euroopa Liidu toetuste kasutamiseks		X		X	No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes
Operational Programme (OP)	Operational Programme for Human Resource Development	Inimressursi arendamise rakenduskava	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Operational Programme (OP)	Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment	Majanduskeskkonna arendamise rakenduskava	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Operational Programme (OP)	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020	Ühtekuuluvuspoliitika fondide rakenduskava 2014–2020		X		X	Yes	Yes	Yes
Needs assessments	All studies are available at http://www.just.ee/et/uudised-pressiinfo/uuringud – none of the studies from all sub-sections are needs assessment in the field of justice.								
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 12 July 2016 on the 2016 National Reform Programme of Estonia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2016 Stability Programme of Estonia	N/A		X		X	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 14 July 2015 on the 2015 National Reform Programme of Estonia and delivering a Council opinion on the 2015 Stability Programme of Estonia	N/A		X		X	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 8 July 2014 on the National Reform Programme 2014 of Estonia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Estonia, 2014	N/A		X		X	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 9 July 2013 on the National Reform Programme 2013 of Estonia and delivering a Council opinion on the Stability Programme of Estonia, 2012–2017	N/A	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION on the National Reform Programme 2012 of Estonia and delivering a Council Opinion on the	N/A	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	Stability Programme of Estonia, 2012–2015								
Country Specific Recommendations	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION of 12 July 2011 on the National Reform Programme 2011 of Estonia and delivering a Council Opinion on the Stability Programme of Estonia, 2011–2015	N/A	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Action Plans	Estonia 2020 Action Plan 2015–2020	Konkurentsivõime kava 'Eesti 2020'		X		X	Yes	Yes	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Action Plans	Action Plan for Growth and Jobs 2008–2011 for the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy	Eesti majanduskasvu ja tööhõive kava 2008–2011 Lissaboni strateegia rakendamiseks	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Evaluation plan	Evaluation plan and reports of the period 2007–2013	Hindamiste tööplaan ja aruanded 2007–2013	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Evaluation plan	Evaluation plan of the period 2014–2020	Perioodi 2014–2020 hindamiste kava		X		X	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Ex-ante evaluation	The final report 'The employment strategy of national structural funds in 2007–2013 and the pre-assessment of regional operational programmes' for the Ministry of Finance	'Riikliku struktuurivahendite kasutamise strateegia 2007–2013 ja valdkondlike rakenduskavade eelhindamise' lõpparuanne Rahandusministeeriumile	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Ex-ante evaluation	Ex ante evaluation of the use of EU funds in 2014–2020	2014–2020 perioodi ELi vahendite kasutamise eelhindamine		X		X	No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Ex-post evaluation	Evaluating horizontal topics in the priority direction 'Long and good-quality work life'	Horisontaalsete teemade hindamine prioriteetses suunas 'Pikk ja kvaliteetne tööelu'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Ex-post evaluation	The impact of structural funds on	Perioodi 2007–2013 struktuurivahendite mõju regionaalarengule	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
	regional development in 2007–2013								
Interim evaluation	Evaluation report on the implementation of the public procurement 'Midterm evaluation of structural funds in 2007–2013'	Hindamisaruanne riigihanke 'Perioodi 2007–2013 struktuurivahendite vahehindamine' elluviimiseks	X		X		No	Yes	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Interim evaluation	Evaluating the efficiency and assessing the impacts of the human resource implementation plan on priority axis 5 'Enhancing the administrative capacity'	Inimressursi arendamise rakenduskava (IARK) prioriteetse suuna 5 'Suurem haldusvõimekus' tulemuslikkuse hindamine ja mõjude analüüs	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Interim evaluation	Evaluation of the Operational Programmes of Structural Funds	Struktuurivahendite rakenduskava hindamine	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Interim evaluation	Mid-term evaluation of the implementation of measures in favour of R&D and higher education in the framework of the EU co-financed Structural Funds during the period 2007–13	Euroopa Liidu tõukefondide perioodi 2007–2013 teadus – ja arendustegevuse ning kõrghariduse meetmete rakendamise vahehindamine	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Evaluations (any other)	Evaluation of the Selection Criteria of Structural Funds	Struktuurivahendite valikukriteeriumide hindamine	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Annual Implementation Report (AIR)	Annual Implementation Report of the Operational Programme for Human Resource Development (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)	Inimressursi arendamise rakenduskava seirearuanne (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Annual Implementation Report (AIR)	Annual Implementation Report of the Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)	Majanduskeskkonna arendamise rakenduskava seirearuanne (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015)	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Annual Implementation Report (AIR)	Implementation Report of the Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020 (2016)	Majanduskasvu ja tööhõivesse investeerimise eesmärgiga seotud iga-aastased rakendusaruanded ja rakendamise lõpparuanded (2016)		X		X	No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Annual Implementation Report (AIR)	Annual and final implementation reports for the Investment for growth and jobs goal (2017)	Ühtekuuluvuspoliitika fondide rakenduskava 2014–2020 [2017 a. aruanne]		X		X	Yes	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Annual Progress Reports	Strategic report on the implementation of Structural Funds 2007–2013 (2009, 2012, 2013)	Struktuurivahendite programmperioodi 2007–2013 strateegiline aruanne (2009, 2012, 2013)	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Annual Work Programme (AWP)			N/A	N/A					
Any other evaluation	Evaluating the efficiency and assessing the impacts of the human resource implementation plan on priority axis 5 'Enhancing the administrative capacity'	E-teenuste kasutamise tulemuslikkus ja mõju	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Any other evaluation	Analysis of the Civil Service training system and development needs	Avaliku teenistuse koolitussüsteemi ja arenguvajaduste analüüs	X		X		Yes	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Any other evaluation	Study of efficiency of insolvency proceedings	Maksejõuetuse menetlemise tõhususe uuring	X		X		Yes	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Any other relevant study previously undertaken	Simplification of the winding-up proceedings during company voluntary liquidation.	Likvideerimismenetluse lihtsustamine äriühingu vabatahtliku lõpetamise korral.	X		X		Yes	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Any other relevant study previously undertaken	Study of the Human Resources management in the Civil Service	Avaliku teenistuse personalijuhtimise uuring	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	N/A	Prioriteetse suuna „Suurem haldusvõimekus' meetme „Avalike teenistujate, kohalike omavalitsuste ja mittetulundusühingute töötajate koolitus ja arendamine' rakendamiseks toetuse andmise ja kasutamise tingimused ning kord	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Programm 'Keskne koolitus 2012–2013'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Programm 'Tippjuhtide arendamine'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Calls for proposals	N/A	Mittetulundusühenduste maakondlike tugistruktuuride toetamise programmi programmdokument	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Conditions of measures for the enhancement of information society based on open proposals.	Infoühiskonna edendamise meetme tingimused avatud taotlemise alusel	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	N/A	Infoühiskonna edendamise toetamise tingimused ja investeeringute kava koostamise kord	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Prioriteetse suuna 'Suurem haldusvõimekus' meetme 'Riigi, kohalike omavalitsuste ja mittetulundusühingute strateegilise juhtimissuutlikkuse tõstmine' rakendamiseks toetuse andmise ja	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
		kasutamise tingimused ning kord							
Calls for proposals	N/A	Programm 'Strateegilise juhtimise võrgustiku arendamine'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Programme 'Developing Senior Managers 2012-2013'	Programm 'Tippjuhtide arendamine 2012–2013'	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	Programme 'Developing Senior Managers 2010–2011'	Programm „Tippjuhtide arendamine 2010–2011'	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	Programme 'Optimising the organisation of support services in the public sector'	Programm ‚Tugiteenuste korralduse optimeerimine avalikus sektoris'	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	N/A	'Kodanikeühenduste riikliku rahastamise korrastamise' programm	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Calls for proposals	N/A	Programm 'Valitsuse töö pikaajalise planeerimise süsteemi arendamine ja korrastamine'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Programm ‚Keskkonnajuhtimise põhimõtete parem rakendamine avalikus sektoris'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Programme 'Developing better legislation'	Programm 'Parema õigusloome arendamine'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Conditions for providing a grant for the implementation of activity 12.1.1 'Human Resource training and development'	Toetuse andmise tingimused tegevuse 12.1.1 'Inimressursi koolitus ja arendamine' elluviimiseks	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Calls for proposals	Conditions for providing a grant for the implementation of activity 12.1.2 'Developing Senior Managers'	Toetuse andmise tingimused tegevuse 12.1.2 'Tippjuhtide arendamine' elluviimiseks	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Conditions for providing a grant for the implementation of activity 12.1.3 'Enhancing institutional and organisational capacities'	Toetuse andmise tingimused tegevuse 12.1.3 „Institutsionaalse ja organisatsioonide võimekuse tõstmine' elluviimiseks	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Poliitikakujundamise kvaliteedi arendamine 12.2	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Uue põlvkonna elektroonilise side baasvõrgu toetamise tingimused ja investeeringute kava koostamise kord	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	N/A	Nutika teenuste taristu arendamise toetamise tingimused ja	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

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			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
		investeeringute kava koostamise kord							
Calls for proposals	N/A	'Infoühiskonna teadlikkuse tõstmine'	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Calls for proposals	Terms and conditions for providing a grant for the development of public services	Avalike teenuste pakkumise arendamiseks toetuse andmise tingimused ja kord	X		X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Calls for proposals	N/A	Toetuse andmine rakendusasutuse tegevusteks avalike teenuste koosvõime loomiseks	X		X		No	Yes	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Consultation of stakeholders	Results of consultations are covered in OPs and evaluations								
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Decision	Decisions of MC are included in minutes of MC								

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Minutes	Monitoring Committee minutes of the Operational Programme for Human Resource Development/ Development of Economic Environment	Inimressursi/ majanduskeskkonna arendamise rakenduskava seirekomisjoni koosolekute protokollid	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Minutes	Monitoring Committee minutes of the Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020	Ühtekuuluvuspoliitika rakenduskava 2014-2020 seirekomisjoni koosolek - protokoll		X		X	No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Other	There are no other documents								
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Report	Monitoring Report of the 'Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment' [final report]	Majanduskeskkonna arendamise rakenduskava seirearuanne [lõpparuanne]	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
Monitoring Committee (MC) – Report	Monitoring Report of the 'OP for Human Resources' [final report]	Inimressursi arendamise rakenduskava lõpparuanne	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
National Reform Programme	National Reform Programme ESTONIA 2020	Konkurentsivõime kava 'Eesti 2020'		X		X	No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
National Reform Programme	Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development 'Sustainable Estonia 21'	Eesti säästva arengu riiklik strateegia Säästev Eesti 21	X		X		No	Yes, to explain the absence of justice in the document	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Other implementation reports	Implementation Report of 'Sustainable Estonia 21'	Aruanne Eesti säästva arengu riikliku strateegia 'Säästev Eesti 21' rakendamise tulemustest	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS
Other – please specify	N/A	EL SF programm 'Infoühiskonna teadlikkuse tõstmine' Lühikokkuvõte 2007 –	X		X		No	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

Document type	Title in English	Title in original language	Does the document exist?		Did the researcher have access to the document?		Does the document refer to the justice system?	Is it reviewed and summarised in the MS chapter in the relevant period(s)?	Is it included in the summary table?
			2007–2013	2014–2020	2007–2013	2014–2020			
		2015 elluviidud tegevustest							
Other – please specify	Practical Application of European Union Regulations Relating to European Union Level Procedure in Civil Cases: the Experience in Baltic States. Case of Estonia.	'Euroopa Liidu tasandil tsiviilkohtumenetlust reguleerivate määruste rakenduspraktika: Balti riikide kogemus' Uurimus. Eesti kogemus.	X		X		Yes	No	Yes, as excluded in ISS

1. Introduction

Member State	
Country Expert Name	Tarmo Kalvet
Data Collection Period Task 1	6.4.2017–10.4.2017
Data Collection Period Task 2	15.05.2017–24.07.2017
Number of regions/OPs covered	Projects supporting the justice system were funded under three OPs: 2007–2013 period: - OP for Human Resource Development (ESF): **30 projects** - OP for the Development of Economic Environment (ERDF): **12 projects** 2014–2020 period: - OP for Cohesion Policy Funding (multi-fund OP): **10 projects**

The study showed that the field of justice within Estonia, structural funds have predominantly contributed to soft measures. The main documents (NSRF, PA, OPs) regulating the usage of national structural funds in the periods 2007–2013 and 2014–2020 do not directly cover the needs of the Estonian national justice system, if one does not consider the (briefly covered) need to increase the general level of knowledge in the field of justice (period 2007–2013) and develop better legislation (period 2007–2013 and 2014–2020). Also, objectives and activities directly related to the area of justice are connected to trainings and codified and simplified legal fields (period 2014–2020). However, in several implementation plans and evaluations, further projects connected with justice are mentioned and, therefore, programming documents of the two programming periods and the projects database at struktuurifondid.ee webpage were studied during Task 2 in order to gain a better understanding about the impact of structural funds on the field of justice in Estonia. Research shows that through structural funds a remarkable number of projects have been carried out to support the field of justice.

Measures and programming documents of the two programming periods are covered on the following websites:

- http://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/oigusaktid/meetmete-nimekiri-vv-korralduse-290916-nr-325
- http://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/oigusaktid/meetmepohised/2007-2013
- http://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/oigusaktid/meetmepohised/2014-2020.

Based on these webpages and the information gathered during Task 1, potential beneficiaries, projects and measures related to the justice system were mapped. One of the challenges in the mapping process was bringing together the priorities of the calls for proposals, OPs and NSRF/PA, as direct connections were usually not very clear.

The main webpage covering the projects financed through structural funds in Estonia is https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/eng. However, publicly available information about the financed projects is very basic and quite often it is difficult to understand the nature of the project based on the available information.

Project-level information is based on the main following sources:

- contacts with IBs and beneficiaries
- database 'struktuurifondid.ee'
- calls for proposals
- project applications
- project reports
- projects' homepages

- web searches in order to understand the background and content of projects.

All the identified projects fall under the OPs that were investigated during Task 1. Codification was not included as an important topic for the current project during Task 1 and, based on the main documents regulating the usage of structural funds on national level, there should have been no projects connected to justice, but the first period nevertheless ended up funding several projects that seemed to be important in the field of justice. For the second period, the OP had more defined links to justice and funded projects.

During this mapping process, it became obvious that the quality of the information in different applications and reports is different and dependent on the format of the report and what the beneficiary has deemed necessary to write. The information is chaotic and not systematic; particularly the information about indicators, as these are mainly posed as an open question in the applications and reports. In the period 2014–2020 the forms have been improved but gaps still exist. As there is no single established way of presenting and reporting indicators or, in some cases, even outputs of projects, the information was not interpreted in a quantitative form to avoid misrepresenting or distorting information.

Given the high number of projects in Estonia and in accordance with the established methodology, the national expert contacted beneficiaries of multiple projects and IBs who hold information for several projects. Fourteen organisations were contacted by email and phone. If information was not received from the beneficiary, the IB was contacted, and vice versa. An information request was sent for each project at least once, and twice in the case of beneficiaries with several projects.

However, during the research it appeared that IBs are not allowed to give out specific information about the projects, and some of the specialists responsible for projects' reports were on leave and/or some of the information about the projects needed for the study was missing. Some individuals expressed disappointment that they had to resend this information as their responsibilities already include sending all information about the projects to the IB, MA or European Commission. A representative of one of the IBs said that projects coordinated by them are mostly technical in nature (developing ICT systems without any other activities) and, therefore, for most of these projects the output /result indicator reflects only the project number in the field; i.e., the project has been carried out with no other output or result indicators marked. In the case of other IBs, alongside output indicators mentioned in the final reports (such as the number of participants), indicators sent by IBs to researchers also covered information such as the number of developed training plans and number of trainings carried out. The representative of the first-mentioned IB said that at the end of the project it is also too early to evaluate the impact of the project and therefore this information is not presented in the final reports. The representative of the IB therefore suggested that the existing documents relevant for this study do not include information about project impact.

Overall, several themes emerged from the conversations with the beneficiaries and IBs:

- Project information is already reported to national and European institutions, but in a different format to that required by the project;
  - o information about the projects is not represented in a way relevant for the current project – e.g. indicators, final recipients, etc. are not highlighted at all or are not highlighted so that it is possible to understand the effect on the field of justice;
- Finding relevant information requires time and human resources, which the institution does not have, and sometimes the project information has been archived;
- Information cannot be provided without formal coordination with the related authorities (this was particularly the case with ICT projects, which cover confidential government information, which the beneficiary did not want to provide);
- Given that many of the projects were carried out a long time ago or people who worked on the projects have since left the organisations, no further details can be

provided beyond the publicly available information, which is all the project information that exists.

The structure of the proposals and reports and depth of the information covered in these documents was not uniform, which also complicated the collection of the data. Most of the project reports (mainly ICT system development projects) do not have concrete information about the indicators or just have output indicators and/or impact on horizontal indicators (mainly in the case of training projects). Moreover, indicators are presented in different ways, e.g. covering just the number of trainings/ training days vs also including the number of participants, or covering the total number of participants at the beginning of the project/ trainings vs the number of participants who completed the training.

The majority of the projects combined across both periods supporting the justice system in Estonia focused on training and on developing ICT systems. Therefore, most of the reported outputs cover the number of training days and hours and number of ICT systems developed. As reports systematically cover mainly output indicators, there is a serious absence of information about the result and impact indicators. Some of the main impact indicators that were identified cover the effect on horizontal themes (regional development, equal opportunities, promotion of the information society, development of civil society) and on beneficiaries' competitiveness.

In order to ensure consistency, the budget data included in the tables and report comes from final reports and, if these were not available, from project proposals, from information sent by the Ministry of Finance or from the official database of 'struktuurifondid.ee'. However, it should be pointed out that project proposals and the database of 'struktuurifondid.ee' does not distinguish between allocated and spent budgets. Although one of the representatives of IBs said that the 'struktuurifondid.ee' database should include information about the budget spent, this was not always the case in project reports. Therefore, only the allocated budgets are included in these cases to avoid confusion. However, because of the nature of such projects, it can be assumed that in the case of ICT projects the budget allocated and the budget spent are the same.

Intervention logic

2007−2013

In Estonia, the need to invest in the justice system is covered only briefly in documents connected to structural funds. The only direct link in the NSRF and OP HRD with the field of justice is the need to codify the legislation. However, although the programming documents in Estonia remained quite general and had minimal direct links with the field of justice, several projects supporting justice have been financed. The majority of projects supporting the justice system (30 out of 42) have been financed through the OP HRD (priority 12, administrative capacity), which was prepared with the objective of planning activities that encourage progress towards a knowledge-based economy and society for the period 2007−2013. The remaining projects were funded through OP DEE (priority 11, infrastructure for ICT services), which aims at supporting the economic environment. There were no priorities for the field of justice. Projects implemented in the area of justice have been funded mainly in order to increase the competences of people working in the field of justice, and to support digitalisation of court services.[1] Most of the projects carried out in Estonia during the programming period 2007−2013 had rather broad final recipients, e.g. all prosecutors, members of some unions active in a particular field, public administration. According to information provided by IBs/beneficiaries contacted by the Country Expert, there is a lack of indicators about projects funded. However, based on discussions held with IBs/beneficiaries and the information in the final reports available, it was said that project aims were fulfilled (sometimes with minor changes in final recipients, number of

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[1] As there are no direct priorities for the field of justice, but there are only more general priorities, it is not possible to identify the precise reason for these activities. The OP gave the opportunity to institutions and organisations active in the field of justice to provide training for their personnel and improve their efficiently through ICT solutions. Although justice institutions were not identified explicitly as potential beneficiaries, they were eligible to apply for funding.

activities or in time schedule), though the quality of this information was not high enough to be included in the respective indicator tables. Based on discussions held with the IB and beneficiaries, there are no project-based evaluations as follow-ups to measure projects' results or impacts. However, information derived from final reports and contact with beneficiaries themselves suggests a shift in the focus of their work, or at least the formation of new partnerships with other institutions, as a result of some of the projects outlined.

2014–2020

Similarly to the 2007–2013 period, there are no strong links to justice in structural fund documentation. Although the Partnership Agreement shows no direct connections with support to the national justice system, OP 2014–2020, which aims to support a shift in development by increasing the efficiency, effectiveness or quality of target achievement in an area, sector or industry, has brought out two measures in which the beneficiaries are relevant to justice: prosecutors, managers of courts and constitutional institutions in general. However, from the current period just 10 projects with an input to the field of justice were mapped. Seven of these are/were implemented through the ERDF (Priority 2: Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication) with the aim of digitalising court services and carrying out related evaluations, and the other three of these projects were implemented through the ESF (Priority 11: Enhancing institutional capacity and ensuring efficient public administration), with the aim of increasing competences through training and evaluations. As with the period 2007–2013, most of the projects had rather broad categories of final recipients, e.g. members of a union active in a relevant field. According to project proposals/final reports and information provided by IBs/beneficiaries, there is a lack of indicators about projects funded (though the IB said that an output of every ICT project is one updated ICT system) and there are no planned project-based evaluations as follow-ups to measure projects' results or impacts.

Table 1: Overview of the justice system

Institutions and bodies of the judiciary[2]		Other institutions and bodies that are part of or supporting the justice system[3]	
English	**Original language**	**English**	**Original language**

Court system
County courts (first instance)
 - Harju county court
 - Viru county court
 -Tartu county court
 -Commercial register[4]
  -Non-profit associations and foundations register
  -Commercial pledge register
  -Central Commercial Register[5]
 -Pärnu county court
Administrative courts (first instance)
	Kohtusüsteem
	 - Maakohtud (esimene aste)
	 - Harju Maakohus
	 - Viru Maakohus
	 - Tartu Maakohus
	 - Kommertsteenuste register
	 - Mittetulundusühingute ja sihtasutuste register
	 - Kommertspandiregister
	 - Äriregister
	 -Pärnu Maakohus
	 - Halduskohtud (esimene aste)
	 - Tallinna Halduskohus
	 - Tartu Halduskohus
		Judicial Training Council[6]	Kohtunike Koolitusnõukogu

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[2] i.e. the judiciary as defined in the national legal framework and following the definition used for the purpose of this study.

[3] i.e. justice system as defined for the purpose of this study

[4] Concerning sole proprietors, general partnerships, limited partnerships, private limited companies, public limited companies, commercial associations and branches of foreign companies.

[5] The Central Commercial Register is an online service based on the central database of Estonian registration department of the court. The central database includes digital data from the commercial register, the commercial pledge register, the register of state agencies and local government institutions, and the register of non-profit associations and foundations.

[6] In addition to judges, it comprises of representatives of the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice and the University of Tartu. The members of the Judicial Training Council who are judges are elected by the Court en banc (largest Estonian judicial representative body, which comprises all Estonian judges). The Supreme Court's judicial training department provides support services to the Judicial Training Council by organising training.

Institutions and bodies of the judiciary[2]		Other institutions and bodies that are part of or supporting the justice system[3]	
English	**Original language**	**English**	**Original language**
-Tallinn administrative court -Tartu administrative court District courts (second instance) -Tallinn district court - Tartu district court	- Ringkonnakohtud (teie aste) - Tallinna Ringkonnakohus - Tartu Ringkonnakohus		
Supreme Court[7] -Council for Administration of Courts[8]	Ülemkohus - Kohtute haldamise nõukoda	Ministry of Justice - Prosecutor's Office[9] - Office of the Prosecutor General (superior prosecutor's office) - four district prosecutors' offices - Department of Prisons - Centre of Registers and Information Systems (RIK) [10] - e-Business Register - e-Notary system - e-Land Register - information system of courts - Probation Supervision Register - Prisoners Register -Criminal Records Database, - e-File -electronic State Gazette, etc. - Estonian Forensic Science Institute[11]	Justiitsministeerium - Prokuratuur - Riigi peaprokurör (prokuratuuri juht) - neli ringkonnaprokuratuuri - Vanglate osakond - Registrite ja Infosüsteemide Keskus (RIK) - E-äriregister - E-notari infosüsteem - E-kinnisturaamat - Kohtute infosüsteem - Vangide ja kriminaalhooldusaluste register - Karistusregister - E-toimik - Elektrooniline Riigiteataja, jne - Eesti Kohtuekspertiisi Instituut
		Chamber of Notaries	Notarite Koda
		Estonian Bar Association	Eesti Advokatuur
		Chamber of Bailiffs and Trustees in Bankruptcy	Kohtutäiturite ja Pankrotihaldurite Koda
		Non-profit organisation Association of Lawyers/ Estonian Lawyers' Union	Eesti Juristide Liit
		Estonian Association of Mediators	Eesti Lepitajate Ühing

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[7] The Supreme Court is the highest court and hears appeals in cassation lodged against rulings from courts of second instance. There is no separate constitutional court in the Estonian court system. The duties of a court of constitutional review are performed by the Supreme Court.

[8] The Council for Administration of Courts is an advisory board set up to run the court system and its work is directed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. It is composed of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (also the chair of the Council); five judges appointed for three years by all judges sitting together (en banc); two Members of the Estonian Parliament; an attorney-at-law appointed by the board of the Bar Association; the Chief Public Prosecutor or a public prosecutor appointed by him or her; the Chancellor of Justice or a representative appointed by him or her; and the Minister of Justice, or a representative appointed by him or her, who participates in Council sessions and has the right to speak.

[9] The Prosecutor's Office prosecutes crimes in cooperation with the following investigative bodies: the Police and Border Guard Board, the Estonian Security Police, the Tax and Customs Board, the Estonian Competition Authority, the Environmental Inspectorate and the General Staff of the Defence Forces.

[10] The agency is responsible for establishing an innovative environment providing good integrated e-services for a more efficient implementation of state administration, legal and criminal policy. The RIK develops and administrates registries and information systems of very high importance for the state and its citizens.

[11] The principal objectives of the operations of the institute are the provision of forensic science expertise in criminal cases according to competence, the development of the fields of forensic science, the forensic training of police agencies and consultation on matters related to the duties of the institute, and the administration of national databases and registers.

Institutions and bodies of the judiciary[2]		Other institutions and bodies that are part of or supporting the justice system[3]	
English	Original language	English	Original language
		Court of Arbitration of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Eesti Kaubandus-Tööstuskoja Arbitraažikohus
		Chancellor of Justice[12]	Õiguskantsleri Kantselei

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[12] The Estonian Chancellor of Justice is an independent supervisor of the basic principles of the Constitution of Estonia and the protector of individual rights. The institution seeks to ensure that authorities fulfil the obligations deriving from the principles of the rule of law and protection of human and social rights, human dignity, freedom, equality and democracy. The Chancellor of Justice is appointed to office by the parliament on the proposal of the President for a seven-year term.

Table 2: Stakeholders consulted for Task 2

Name of institution in English	Name of institution in original language	Relevance to the study (MA, IB, beneficiary, part of target group, other)	Position (if known)	Method of information request (email exchange/phone call etc)	Did you hear back from the stakeholder? (y/n)	Date of conversation/e mail exchange
Estonia (EE)						
Ministry of Justice	Justiitsministeerium	Beneficiary	Arendus- ja personalitalitus	email exchange, phone call	Yes, with a long delay	14.06.2017, 26.06.2017, 10.07.2017, 11.07.2017, 26–28.07.2017, 23.11.2017
Chamber of Notaries	Notaritekoda	Beneficiary	N/A	email exchange	Yes	27.06.2017
Prosecutor's Office	Prokuratuur	Beneficiary	Head of Personnel Division	email exchange	Yes	28.06.2017
Supreme Court of Estonia	Riigikohus	Beneficiary	General e-mail and head of the judicial training department	email exchange	Yes	28.06.2017
Foundation Innove	SA Innove	IB	Head of the Innove Structural Funds Agency	email exchange	Yes	04.07.2107
Information System Authority	Riigi Infosüsteemi Amet	IB	Expert of Structural Funds Department	email exchange, phone calls	No	04.07.2017
Estonian Lawyers Union	Eesti Juristide Liit	Beneficiary	Head of Eesti Juristide Liit	email exchange, phone call	Yes, but with delays -> contact with Enterprise Estonia and Lexline Õigusabi OÜ to receive documents	04.07.2017, 10.07.2017, 22.11.2017

Name of institution in English	Name of institution in original language	Relevance to the study (MA, IB, beneficiary, part of target group, other)	Position (if known)	Method of information request (email exchange/phone call etc)	Did you hear back from the stakeholder? (y/n)	Date of conversation/email exchange
Enterprise Estonia	Ettevõtluse Arendamise Sihtasutus (EAS)	IB	Sectoral manager of the Reporting and Information of Support Centre	email exchange, phone call	Yes	06.07.2017, 10.07.2017, 18.07.2017
Ministry of Finance	Rahandusministeerium	IB	Head of Foreign Assistance Implementing Department	email exchange	Yes, but no project-specific information was received to specify the information available	10.07.2017, 14.07.2017, 15.11.2017, 22.11.2017
Lexline Kinnisvara ja Õigusbüroo OÜ (former name Lexline Õigusabi OÜ)	Lexline Kinnisvara ja Õigusbüroo OÜ (former name Lexline Õigusabi OÜ)	Beneficiary	Head of the company	email exchange, phone call	Yes, but no information will be available before the end of July	10.07.2017, 18.07 – too busy
Police and Border Guard Board	Politsei- ja Piirivalveamet	Beneficiary	N/A	email exchange, phone call	Yes	10.07.2017
Chancellor of Justice	Õiguskantsler	Beneficiary	N/A	email exchange, phone call	Yes	11.07.2017, 12.07.17, 13.07.17, 22.11.2017
Centre of Registers and Information Systems	Registrite ja Infosüsteemide Keskus	Beneficiary	Project manager, Software Development Department	email exchange, phone call	Yes	11.07.2017, 13.11.2017, 22.11.2017
Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication	Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium	Beneficiary	Programme manager	email exchange, phone call	Yes	22-23.11.2017

2. Funding Period 2007–2013

2.1. The needs of the Member State relating to the national justice system

Documents relating to the programming period 2007–2013 (ERDF and ESF), e.g. ex-ante evaluations (such as the final report 'The employment strategy of national structural funds in 2007–2013 and the pre-assessment of regional operational programmes' for the Ministry of Finance) and operational plans (DEE, HRD), do not directly cover the needs of the Estonian national justice system. However, the needs identified in the mentioned ex-ante evaluation and OPs concerning ICT support, institutional capacity building and better legislation,[13] could be relevant to the national justice system. Some of the needs of justice are also brought out in different specific studies, e.g. the evaluation of the use of e-services, analysis of training systems, study of personnel management in the civil service, study of liquidation proceedings in cases of voluntary closure of a business, study of the efficiency of insolvency proceedings, and the practical application of EU regulations relating to EU-level procedure in civil cases. Due to the size of Estonia, the national and regional level are not distinguished.

2.2. **Planning stage:** The extent to which the Member State programmed support for the justice system through ESF and ERDF

This section will discuss objectives and priorities relating to supporting the development of the national justice system as reported in the programming documents.

2.2.1. High-level objectives related to justice set in the programming documents

'Sustainable Estonia 21'[14] and the Estonian National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) 2007–2013 do not explicitly mention the justice system or the judiciary as part of their objectives and priorities. However, under the priority axis 'Promotion of information society' (ERDF) and 'Enhancing administrative capacity' (ESF) there were some measures that could be potentially relevant for the justice system, e.g. developing the information society, and the training of senior managers.

The analysis of OPs and their annexes showed that none of the OPs from the period 2007–2013 explicitly mentioned support for the justice system. Documents are rather general while talking about the need to promote the information society (ERDF), enhance administrative capacity (ESF), develop e-services, and develop measures for public servants in general, etc. Even though documents relating to the measures connected with these priority axes generally did not mention the justice system, there were some measures where constitutional institutions in general (which include courts and the Chancellor of Justice) were highlighted as part of the target group.

OPs that do not explicitly mention justice, but under which justice projects were funded, include:

OP name in English	Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment (DEE)
CCI	CCI2007EE161PO001
Relevant funds for the OP	ERDF

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[13] As better legislation, including codification, was not under the scope of the research at the beginning, it was not included in the study during Task 1. However, at later stages in Task 2 (concrete projects financed through structural funds) it was included as a relevant topic for Estonia, regarding projects where the final recipient was directly connected with the field of justice.
[14] Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development 'Sustainable Estonia 21' (2005). Available at: https://riigikantselei.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/Failid/estonia_sds_2005.pdf

Total OP budget (EC and national contribution) EUR million	EUR 1,807.5 million
PA 5 'Promotion of information society'	EUR 62.6 million

OP name in English	Operational Programme for Human Resource Development (HRD)
CCI	CCI2007EE051PO001
Relevant funds for the OP	ESF
Total OP budget (EC and national contribution)	EUR 461.3 million
PA 5 'Enhancing administrative capacity'	EUR 24.5 million

2.2.2. Planned projects listed in the programming documents aiming to support justice

None of the programming documents (NSRF, OP etc.) included information on individual planned projects that support the justice system.

2.3. Implementation stage: Support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

2.3.1. Support to the justice system: reported at programme level

No information was found on general project inclusion criteria.

Annual implementation reports, interim evaluations, and ex-post evaluations of the OPs did not mention the justice system directly. However, the AIR did mention several projects that support the justice system as examples of funded projects (see further information in section 2.3.2).

Monitoring Committee (MC) Decisions, Minutes and Reports also did not include any information on support to justice.

2.3.2. Support to the justice system reported at project level (Task 2)

In Estonia all projects are selected by evaluators based on selection criteria presented in the calls for proposals. There are no specific or uniform supplementary project selection criteria and, based on the calls for proposals, there are no criteria related directly to the justice system.

Task 1 showed that the field of justice did not have a high importance in OPs or Priority Axes. In annual implementation reports and evaluation reports only some project examples connected to justice were brought out. Despite this, four calls for proposals[15] reviewed during Task 1 included constitutional institutions in general (institutions that are part of the justice system) as one of the target groups or beneficiaries, although they did not provide any further information on project activities, outputs, results or impacts directly related to justice. However, Task 2 mapping showed that during the period 2007–2013, 42 projects supported justice, showing that although measures may not have been planned with a direct connection to justice, there were still several opportunities to receive funding in order to develop the justice field. Thirty projects were financed through the ESF (OP HRD) and 12 through the ERDF (OP DEE). None of these projects were funded under any other OPs than those reviewed under section 2.2. The total budget spent of the projects was EUR 4.86 million of which the EU contribution was EUR 4.59 million.

All financed projects were in line with the programming documents and calls for proposals, as appropriateness of projects is checked by the evaluators of projects and the accordance of calls for proposals with programming documents is checked by IBs and MAs. Therefore,

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[15] 'Infoühiskonna edendamise meetme tingimused avatud taotlemise alusel'; 'Avaliku sektori asutuste ja mittetulundusühingute strateegilise juhtimise tõstmine' incl sub-programs 'Tippjuhtide arendamine 2010–2011', 'Tippjuhtide arendamine 2012–2013' and 'Tugiteenuste korralduse optimeerimine avalikus sektoris'

it is not possible to finance projects that are outside the scope of the programming documents.

Table 3: Overview of projects supporting justice 2007–2013

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
Operational Programme for Human Resource Development, 2007EE051PO001 (ESF)							
Developing better legislation *Parema õigusloome arendamine*	2007	2014	7	2,592.215	2,484.758	2,335.370	Codifying legislation (different law fields) to improve their quality, links with other laws, etc.
Development programme for the top- and middle-level managers of the Prosecutor's Office *Prokuratuuri tipp- ja keskastmejuhtide arenguprogramm*	2008	2009	1	28.91	28.01	23.81	Trainings (no more information received)
Seminar 'Principles of Judges' specialisation and workload assessment' *Seminar 'Kohtunike spetsialiseerumise ja kohtunike koormuse hindamise põhimõtted'*	2008	2008	0	8.26	5.76	4.90	Trainings – Judges' specialisation in German courts and workload points in relation to litigation and the Estonian system of litigation workload points.
Leadership training for the Vice Chancellor and head of office at the Ministry of Justice *Juhtimiskoolitus Justiitsministeeriumi asekantsleritele ja talituse juhatajatele*	2008	2009	1	40.92	37.35	31.75	Training in topics of strategic planning, forming a team and staff guidance, career planning and motivation, self-management of time.
Estonian Forensic Science Institute's medico-legal expert's traineeship at the Centre for Medical Image Science and Visualisation at Linköping University in Sweden *Eesti Kohtuekspertiisi Instituudi kohtuarst-eksperdi stažeerimine Rootsis Linköping´i ülikooli*	2008	2009	1	5.13	5.08	4.32	Estonian Forensic Science Institute's medico-legal expert's study visit/ traineeship at the Center for Medical Image Science and Visualisation at Linköping University in Sweden in order to get acquainted with radiological studies.

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[16] No further information is available

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
Meditsiinilise kujutiste ja visualiseerimise keskuses (Center for Medical Image Science and Visualization)							
Studies on the knowledge and skills of specialists in hearing minors in criminal proceedings *Uuringud erialaspetsialistide teadmiste ja oskuste kohta alaealiste ülekuulamisel kriminaalmenetluses*	2009	2009	0	21.06	20.04	18.04	Carrying out research on the knowledge and skills of specialists in hearing minors in criminal proceedings.
Study visit to European Union and Member States' cooperation institutions for the Chancellor of Justice and Chancellor's advisors *Õiguskantsleri ja õiguskantsleri nõunike õppereisid Euroopa Liidu ja liikmesriikide koostööinstitutsioonidesse*	2009	2011	2	22.09	12.54	10.66	Study visit of the Chancellor of Justice and the Chancellor's advisors (four individuals) to Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands to view the practices of other countries in different fields of justice.
Repeat-offending of offenders in Estonia and taking into account recidivism risk when choosing a procedural decision and imposing a punishment *Kurjategijate retsidiivsus Eestis ja retsidiivsusriski arvestamine menetlusotsuse valimisel ning karistuse määramisel*	2009	2010	1	16.74	14.35	12.91	Carrying out research about repeat offending.
Study visit to Ireland to gain experience in analysing the impact of legislation *Õppevisiit Iirimaale õigusaktide mõjude analüüsi alaste kogemuste omandamiseks*	2010	2010	0	17.52	14.69	12.48	Study visit to Ireland to gain experience in analysing the impact of legislation.
Training for the development of questioning skills for the advisors of the Chancellor of Justice who are involved in the misdemeanour prevention institution	2010	2010	0	3.07	3.07	2.61	Training for the development of questioning skills for the advisors of the Chancellor of Justice who are involved in the misdemeanour prevention institution.

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
Väärkohtlemise ennetusasutuse tegevusega seotud õiguskantsleri nõunike küsitlemisoskuste arendamise koolitus							
Analysis of causes of insolvency *Maksejõuetuse põhjuste analüüs*	2010	2010	0	15.97	15.97	14.37	Carrying out research about causes of insolvency.
Application of case management procedures in Estonian court proceedings *Case management´i töövõtete rakendamine Eesti kohtumenetluses*	2010	2010	0	44.73	44.73	40.26	Carrying out a research about the application of case management procedures in Estonian court proceedings; trainings in case management systems
Training in competing Court proceedings *Võistleva kohtumenetluse koolitus*	2010	2010	0	54.51	50.15	42.62	Training – competing Court proceedings
Study trip to the European Court of Justice *Õppereis Euroopa Kohtusse*	2010	2010	0	12.69	12.68	6.34	Study visit to the European Court of Justice to learn from court cases on taxation; legal amendments and implementation of EU legislative acts, and to learn about the different ways of taking legal action at the European Court of Justice after the Treaty of Lisbon had entered into force
European Union Competition Law Training for the Legal Chancellor's advisors *Õiguskantsleri nõunike Euroopa Liidu konkurentsiõiguse alane koolitus*	2010	2010	0	6.82	6.46	5.49	Training of advisors of Chancellor of Justice (officials) about European Union Competition Law.

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
The Chancellor of Justice advisors' study visit to the prisons and supervisory authorities in the United Kingdom *Õiguskantsleri nõunike õppereisid Suurbritannia vanglatesse ja nende järelevalveasutusse*	2010	2011	1	9.53	6.75	5.74	The Chancellor of Justice advisors' study visit to the prisons and supervisory authorities in the United Kingdom to increase knowledge in the relevant fields.
Special characteristics of the Georgian legal system *Gruusia õigussüsteemi erisused*	2010	2010	0	17.47	17.37	8.68	Study visit of 16 persons to Georgia to get a better understanding about the Georgian legal system, including in the field of entrepreneurship.
Training course 'The structure of Court decisions and the methodology of interpretation' *Koolitus 'Kohtulahendite ülesehitus ja tõlgendamise metoodika'*	2010	2010	0	3.20	2.76	2.35	Training – Court rulings of the General Court and the Court of Justice.
Visiting the European Court of Human Rights and the European Parliament *Euroopa Inimõiguste Kohtu ja Euroopa Parlamendi külastus*	2011	2011	0	17.04	15.83	N/A	Study visit of representatives of members of the Estonian Lawyers Union to the European Court of Human Rights and the European Parliament to get a better understanding about their everyday work and the regulations connected with it.
Training in competing Court proceedings *Võistleva kohtumenetluse koolitus*	2011	2012	1	55.38	50.57	42.98	Training – competing Court proceedings
Study visit for the Chancellor of Justice's advisors to the French Office of Child Ombudsman and the National Security Deontology Commission *Õiguskantsleri nõunike õppereis Prantsusmaa lasteombudsmani büroosse ja Riikliku turvalisuse deontoloogia komisjoni*	2011	2011	0	6.17	6.17	5.24	Study visit for the Chancellor of Justice's advisors to the French Office of the Children's Ombudsman and the National Security Deontology Commission to gain knowledge about their work.

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
Training on European Union state aid regulation for the Legal Chancellor's advisors *Õiguskantsleri nõunike Euroopa Liidu riigiabi regulatsiooni käsitlev koolitus*	2011	2011	0	5.44	5.38	4.57	Trainings – European Union State Aid regulations
Legal Chancellor's Advisors' study visit to the Danish Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate, its subsidiary bodies and the Danish Wind Turbine Secretariat *Õiguskantsleri nõunike õppereis Taani Kliima ja Energiaministeeriumisse ja selle allasutustesse ning Tuuleturbiinide sekretariaati*	2011	2011	0	4.79	4.25	3.61	Legal Chancellor's Advisors' study visit to the Danish Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate, its subsidiary bodies and the Danish Wind Turbine Secretariat.
Competitive Criminal Procedures training *Võistleva kriminaalmenetluse koolitus*	2012	2012	0	61.45	34.30	29.16	Training of judges about Competitive Criminal Procedures.
Chancellor of Justice advisors' study visit to Denmark and training seminar *Õiguskantsleri nõunike õppereis Taani ja koolitusseminar*	2012	2012	0	8.19	6.71	5.70	Study visit to receive training in the field of environmental planning and building law, the Chancellor of Justice advisors' study visit to Denmark to increase knowledge about the court system and planning and building law and a training seminar for Advisors of Chancellor of Justice and officials from the Ministry of Interior.
Training of the Chancellor of Justice and the Competition Board advisors on the functioning of the European Union energy market and regulation in the energy market (Energy Law training) *Õiguskantsleri ja Konkurentsiameti nõunike Euroopa Liidu energiaturu toimimist ja energiaturu valdkonna regulatsioone käsitlev koolitus (energiaõiguse koolitus)*	2012	2012	0	11.04	7.56	6.42	Trainings – the functioning of the European Union's energy market and regulations concerning the energy market.

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
State budget training for the Chancellor of Justice and Supreme Court officials *Õiguskantsleri ja Riigikohtu ametnike riigieelarve alane koolitus*	2012	2012	0	8.01	6.50	5.53	State budget training for the Chancellor of Justice and Supreme Court officials.
Analysis of the work of the administration unit of the Prosecutor's Office and the drawing up of remuneration scale *Prokuratuuri haldusosakonna ametikohtade töö analüüs ning palgaskaala koostamine*	2012	2012	0	8.45	8.45	7.18	Analysing positions and compiling pay scales
A child-friendly justice system based on European best practices *Lapsesõbralikum justiitssüsteem Euroopa parima praktika näitel*	2012	2013	1	35.29	33.43	28.42	Study visit to Lithuania, Iceland, Italy, Hungary and France to increase knowledge, which included training in the form of an overview about criminal proceedings with minors, and a seminar for representatives of police, prosecution offices, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Affairs
Development of leadership and cooperation capability among the leaders of structural units at the Estonian Forensic Science Institute *Juhtimise ja koostöövõimekuse arendamine Eesti Kohtuekspertiisi Instituudi struktuuriüksuste juhtide hulgas*	2012	2013	1	15.65	15.65	13.30	Trainings – harmonisation of basic knowledge in management, strategic planning and management, organisational change and stress management.
Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment, CCI2007EE161PO001 (ERDF)							
IT solution for out-of-court misdemeanour handlers in the e-File *E-Toimiku kohtuväliste väärteomenetlejate infotehnoloogiline lahendus*	2008	2011	3	1,020.03	N/A	N/A	Development of an IT solution for out-of-court misdemeanour handlers in the E-File, which is an online information system which allows procedural parties and their representatives to electronically submit procedural documents to courts and to observe the progress of the proceedings related to them (even decisions).

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
Developing the e-File *E-Toimiku arendamine*	2008	2010	2	1,482.75	N/A	N/A	Developing an ICT system called the E-File, which is an online information system which allows procedural parties and their representatives to electronically submit procedural documents to courts and to observe the progress of the proceedings related to them (even decisions).
Public E-file (AET) I stage *Avalik E-toimik (AET) I etapp*	2008	2010	2	512.64	N/A	N/A	Development of an ICT system (Public E-file (AET))
E-Notary *E-notar*	2009	2010	1	91.10	86.31	73.11	Development of an ICT system (e-notary)
Law enforcement statistics – pre-trial criminal and misdemeanour proceedings, and I and II stage Court statistics and misdemeanour statistics *Õiguskaitsevaldkonna statistika – kohtueelne kriminaal- ja väärteomenetlus ning I ja II astme kohtute statistika ja väärteostatistika*	2009	2011	2	511.29	N/A	N/A	Development of an ICT system (Law enforcement statistics – pre-trial criminal and misdemeanour proceedings, and I and II stage Court statistics and misdemeanour statistics)
Improvement of document management in the Business Register *Äriregistri dokumendihalduse parendamine*	2009	2010	1	99.45	70.53	70.53	Development of an ICT system (Business Register)
Development of the Police Processing System (MIS) and the e-File *Politsei menetlussüsteemi (MIS) arendus ja E-Toimikuga liidestamine*	2009	2011	2	443.03	422.45	422.45	Development of an ICT system (Police Processing System (MIS) and the e-File) that is used also by organisations in the field of justice
Additions to the Courts Information System (KIS) *Kohtute infosüsteemi (KIS) täiendused*	2010	2011	1	416.14	416.14	416.14	Development of an ICT system (Additions to the Courts Information System (KIS))
Interfaced Legal Information System (ÕIS) *Liidestatud õigusinfosüsteem (ÕIS)*	2010	2012	2	255.65	241.90	241.90	Developing an ICT system (Interfaced Legal Information System (ÕIS)) that is also used by organisations in the field of justice.

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[16]
I stage of the new procedural software of the Business Register, taking into account requirements of the ISKE class *Äriregistri uue menetlustarkvara I etapp arvestades ISKE klassi nõudeid*	2010	2012	2	359.12	358.37	358.37	Development of an ICT system (Business register)
International FIDE Congress *Rahvusvaheline FIDE kongress*	2011	2012	1	45.15	42.09	31.60	Organising the FIDE conference for specialists in a field of justice in following topics: human rights in the EU, connections between the competition, environment and energy laws, information society.
The II stage of the new processing software for the Business Register, taking into account ISKE class requirements *Äriregistri uue menetlustarkvara II etapp arvestades ISKE klassi nõudeid*	2011	2013	2	253.05	242.71	242.69	Developing an ICT system (The II stage of the new processing software for the Business Register) that is also used by organisations in field of justice.

All projects from the period 2007–2013 have now closed.

Table 4 provides an overview of the number and budget spent of projects supporting justice, broken down by fund. As the table shows, most projects supporting justice were financed by the ESF (activities carried out based on HRD). Please note that information on budget spent was not available for all projects, despite repeated contact with MAs, IBs and beneficiaries.

Table 4: Number and budget spent (in thousand EUR) of projects supporting justice, funded by ESF and ERDF in the programming period 2007–2013[17]

Fund	Number of projects supporting justice	Budget allocated in thousand EUR	Budget spent in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR
ESF	30	3,157.71	2,977.30	2,734.82
ERDF	12	5,489.40	1,880.50	1,856.79
Both				
TOTAL	42	8,647.12	4,857.80	4,591.60

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[17] Based on www.struktuurifondid.ee and reports available to researchers and based on researchers' calculations.

Project beneficiaries

In the period 2007–2013, a range of different organisations received funding related to supporting justice. The majority of these organisations were not mentioned in Task 1 as most of the projects were carried out by 'other' organisations in the field of justice (18 projects) and relevant ministries (14 projects). These organisations were more active in projects financed through the ESF, while registry offices were more active in projects financed through the ERDF. The large number of 'other' organisations categorised under the ESF mainly consists of the Office of the Chancellor of Justice, which is an independent organisation.

Table 5: Number of times the following entities were the beneficiary of a project supporting justice, by Fund

Fund	Relevant ministries	Courts and tribunals	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Regional Administration	Specialised training or research institutions	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	10	1	4						15		**30**
ERDF	4				5				3		**12**
Both											
TOTAL	**14**	**1**	**4**		**5**				**18**		**42**

Project activities undertaken related to support to justice

Most of the justice-related projects involved either training (ESF) or the development of ICT systems in the wider sense (ERDF). Eleven ERDF projects were carried out to develop different kinds of ICT systems to digitalise court services (categorised under 'Digitalisation of court services' and 'Purchase of ICT systems'. ESF-related projects funded the training of people from the justice system or people who may have an impact on the workload of those active in the field of justice. Most of the projects had a single activity category.

Table 6: Number of times a type of activity was undertaken as part of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing /upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/ upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/ upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	25			1						5			1		**32**
ERDF	1					5	6								**12**
Both															

TOTAL	26			1		5	6			5			1		44

Project final recipient related to support to justice

In the period 2007–2013, most of the projects had one final recipient with only five having multiple. 'Others' was the most common final recipient category under the ESF, mainly consisting of the Office of the Chancellor of Justice, which is an independent organisation. Additional institutions listed under 'other' as final recipients were: Police and Border Guard Board, Estonian Forensic Science Institute, Centre of Registers and Information Systems, Estonian Lawyers Union.

Table 7: Number of times the following entities were the final recipient of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Courts and Tribunals	Relevant ministries	Registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	2	5			5			18	2	**32**
ERDF	3	4	4					4		**15**
Both										
TOTAL	**5**	**9**	**4**		**5**			**22**	**2**	**47**

Project outputs, results and impacts related to support to justice

Information about the output, result and impact indicators was missing as most of the final reports of the projects do not have concrete information about the indicators (e.g. in the case of ICT system development projects there is no table to insert indicators at all and in the case of training projects only output indicators concerning participants are asked for). Furthermore, the way in which indicators are mentioned is sometimes different (e.g. covering the number of total participants at the beginning of the project/training vs the number of participants who completed the training) and/or information about the result indicators collected or generated by IB based on aims of projects is not relevant for the current study as it is not directly connected to justice. However, most of the projects cover the number of trainings, training days, and training hours and/ or number of participants; which can be interpreted as output indicators. Based on 16 project reports in which the relevant information about training days was available, 80 training days have been arranged and, based on 17 project reports that included the relevant information, about 835 people have been trained. With regard to reports of the ICT projects, there is no information about the indicators if not only to consider that in some reports the impact on horizontal themes like impact on regional development, information society etc. is highlighted. However, based on a phone interview with a representative of an IB that is mainly responsible for ICT measures, it can be determined that 16 ICT systems were developed during the period 2007–2013. Quite often initial results and (potential) impacts were described more generally in terms of the potential changes in the work of the institution rather than in terms of indicators.

Table 8: Project output indicators and data

Aggregate indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available	Number of project indicators included (N=)
Operational Programme for Human Resource Development					
PA 4 Knowledge and skills for innovative entrepreneurship					
No. of judges, prosecutors and non-judge court staff participating in training related to quality or efficiency or independence of justice	no of participants	N/A	N/A	48	3
PA 5: Enhancing administrative capacity					
No. of judges, prosecutors and non-judge court staff participating in training related to quality or efficiency or independence of justice	no of participants	N/A	N/A	234	13
Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment					
PA 1: Innovation and growth capacity of enterprises					
No. of judges, prosecutors and non-judge court staff participating in training related to quality or efficiency or independence of justice	no of participants	N/A	N/A	553	1

In conclusion, in Estonia in the period 2007–2013 only one indicator group relevant to the categories outlined in this project was covered in final reports. Other indicators related to number of events, reports or developed/improved ICT systems (altogether 10 types of output indicators, including the number of participants). The main difference between indicators important for the current project and indicators reported in final reports is their precision – in the case of Estonia no emphasis is placed on the indicator's relation to justice. Training was one of the most popular activities that also had an impact in the field of justice, but number of study visits, seminars, conferences, training days or study hours were highlighted with no clear system as to which indicator to use in the final reports – some reported training days, others reported training hours, etc.

In the case of projects developing the ICT system, the number of developed or improved ICT systems was included by the interviewee as an output indicator. In the case of developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary, along with number of participants, number of reports and number of training days were highlighted. In the case of development and circulation of best practices number of consultations, seminars and conferences were highlighted.

As can be seen from Table 9, there is no information about result/ impact indicators and data.

Table 9: Result/ impact indicators and data

Aggregate indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available	Number of project indicators included (N=)

Based on information provided by IBs/beneficiaries, no project-based evaluations have been carried out. However, several beneficiaries noted that projects have led to new contacts and new project or development ideas.

2.4. Relevant programme output and result indicators

2.4.1. Programme indicators

Table 10: Summary table programme indicators

Relevant justice Indicator	Unit of measurement	OP it relates to (ICC)

Reviewed project documents from the period 2007–2013 did not have any indicators directly related to the justice system.

2.4.2. Annex XXIII data

In the case of projects where one of the activities was training, information about the number of participants, their employability and education was collected, as shown in the MS table. However, in Estonia there are no entire priority axes supporting justice and therefore the information is not relevant for the current project. Furthermore, there is no data on Annex XXIII in the AIRs.

Table 11: Annex XXIII output indicators and data

Annex XXXIII output indicator	Project (or OP) indicator relates to	Priority axis indicator relates to	Reported value
Total number of participants	N/A	N/A	N/A
Employed participants	N/A	N/A	N/A
Participants with tertiary education (ISCED 5 and 6)	N/A	N/A	N/A

2.5.   Budget information

Overall budget information for projects supporting the justice system funded through the ESF and ERDF was generally available. However, there is no universally accepted taxonomy for project budget owners to classify budgets according to type of activity or final recipient. Moreover, many projects involve multiple activities and/or multiple final recipients. Whether and how budgets for these complex projects are analysed by activity or final recipient varies across project owners and countries. This militates against using reported data to make meaningful comparisons between projects and Member States.

For the purpose of this study, the researchers have therefore created a high-level taxonomy in order to enable an analysis of budget allocations for activities and final recipients of the identified projects funded through the ESF and ERDF supporting the justice system. Information from interviews and documents has been used to apply this taxonomy and allocate budgets based on the main focus of the projects as well as the final recipients.

In cases where it has not been possible to determine budget allocations for projects with **multiple final recipients**, these have been classified as 'multiples' (further details and explanations have been provided in the text below). Where a project had **multiple activities** and/or included activities which did not fall under one of the focus categories, the categorisation of that project reflects its aim and not necessarily all individual activities undertaken in the context of this project. This approach is further explained in the Final Report.

Table 12: Budget spent in thousand EUR by project focus category undertaken

Project Name	Improving internal processes	Digitalisation & ICT	Training & Raising awareness	Research and evaluation	Activities related to ADR/ODR	Upgrading physical infrastructure	No information available
ESF	2,537.94		389.00	50.36			
ERDF		1,838.41	42.09				
Both							
TOTAL	**2,537.94**	**1,838.41**	**431.09**	**50.36**			

The activities that received the highest share of the funding in Estonia were 'improving internal processes' through ESF and 'digitalisation & ICT' through the ERDF.

Table 13: Budget spent in thousand EUR by final recipient category

	Courts and Tribunals	Relevant ministries	Registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Multiple
ESF	34.30	2,567.12			137.17			148.28	50.49	39.93
ERDF	416.14		671.61					550.85		241.90
Both										
TOTAL	**450.45**	**2,567.12**	**671.61**		**137.17**			**699.13**	**50.49**	**281.83**

The Ministry of Justice was the biggest final recipient in Estonia in terms of the funding received (all through the ESF). 'Registry offices' (through the funding of four projects) and 'others' were the ERDF's biggest final recipients. Final recipients categorised under 'other' included the Office of the Chancellor of Justice, the Estonian Lawyers' Union, the Estonian Forensic Science Institute, the Centre of Registers and Information Systems and the Police and Border Guard Board. Two projects had multiple final recipients which were the specialised governance bodies of the judiciary, Justice Ministry officials, judges, National prosecution offices and specialists of the Police Board.

3.   Funding Period 2014–2020

3.1.   The needs of the Member State relating to the national justice system

Ex-ante evaluations,[18] the Partnership Agreement, National Reform Programme Estonia 2020 and its action plan, operational programme and background information relevant to the structural funds' period 2014–2020 (ERDF and ESF) do not cover Estonia's needs relating to the national justice system directly. Instead these documents included the more general need for developing different e-services, increasing administrative capacity and improving legislation.[19]

At the end of the period 2007–2013, two evaluations were carried out that show some development needs in the justice area, namely:

- 'Practical Application of European Union Regulations relating to European Union Level Procedure in Civil Cases: the Experience in Baltic States. Case of Estonia': this assessment mentions the need for training and study materials in the field of practical application of European Union Regulations relating to European Union Level Procedure in Civil Cases (in Estonian and English);

- 'Study of efficiency of proceeding the insolvency': this study mentions problems concerning insolvency proceedings, quality of 'Ametlikud Teadaanded,[20] problems in availability of the information in the information system of the courts, inefficiency of bankruptcy procedures, etc).

In the 2014–2020 period, no needs assessments of the justice system have been carried out to date.

3.2.   **Planning stage:** The extent to which the Member State programmed support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

3.2.1.   High-level objectives related to justice set in the programming documents

The National Reform Programme 'Estonia 2020' and the Partnership Agreement show no direct connections with supporting the national justice system through the structural funds. The programming documents of the measures under PA 11 and PA 12 show that there are no objectives, outputs, results or impacts and their indicators directly related to the justice area.

However, the Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020 (OP 2014–2020) does include a reference to the justice system.

OP name in English	Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020
CCI	2014EE16M3OP001
Relevant funds for the OP	ERDF, ESF
Total OP budget (EC and national contribution) EUR million	EUR 4,891.7 million
PA 11 'Infrastructure for ICT' (ERDF)	EUR 99.5 million

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[18] Poliitikauuringute Keskus Praxis, CPD Arenduskeskus OÜ (2013). Ex ante evaluation of the use of EU funds in 2014–2020. Available at: https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/rakendamine_14_20

[19] As better legislation, including codification, was not under the scope of the research at the beginning, it was not included in the study during Task 1. However, at later stages in Task 2 (concrete projects financed through structural funds) it was included as relevant topic for Estonia, regarding projects where the final recipient was directly connected with the field of justice.

[20] Ametlikud Teadaanded is an official online publication of the Republic of Estonia, which publishes notices, invitations, summons and announcements (hereinafter notice) that must be published according to an Act or a regulation of the Government of the Republic or a regulation of a minister and is not subject to publication in another publication. A notice published in Ametlikud Teadaanded has a legal meaning in an event provided by law.

PA 12 'Administrative capacity' (ERDF, ESF)	EUR 104.9 million (ERDF) EUR 35.5 million (ESF)

In OP 2014–2020 (p. 169) under the priority axis 12 'Administrative capacity', 'training legislative layers' is highlighted as one of the planned interventions and there are also some measures that aim to improve the justice system:

- measure 12.1.1 (educating human resources; among the beneficiaries are prosecutors and managers of courts); and
- measure 12.3.1 (developing the provision of public services; among the beneficiaries are constitutional institutions in general).

However, the OP does not mention specific objectives, expected results or indicators directly related to the justice system, if one does not consider the number of codified draft legislative acts.

3.2.2. Planned projects listed in the programming documents aiming to support justice

None of the programming documents (NSRF, OP, etc.) included information on individual planned projects that support the justice system.

3.3. **Implementation stage:** Support to the justice system through ESF and ERDF

3.3.1. Support to the justice system: reported at programme level

No information was found on general project inclusion criteria. However, some calls for proposals mention organisations in the field of justice as target groups.

The Implementation Report of the Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020 did include support to the justice system. No evaluations have yet been undertaken for this programming period. Monitoring Committee (MC) Decisions, Minutes and Reports also did not include any information on support to justice.

3.3.2. Support to the justice system: reported at project level (Task 2)

In Estonia, all projects in the period 2014–2020 are selected by evaluators based on selection criteria brought out in calls for proposals. There are no specific or uniform supplementary project selection criteria. Based on the calls for proposals there are no criteria related to the justice system.

In Task 1, two calls for proposals were mapped as potential measures to develop the field of justice. During Task 2, all calls for proposals were investigated further, and in fact five calls for proposals[21] were mapped as being potential measures to develop the field of justice. Ten projects have been identified in Task 2 as relevant for support to the justice system. These are financed through four measures and are presented in Table 14.

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[21] 'Tippjuhtide arendamine' ('Developing Senior Managers'), 'Institutsionaalse ja organisatsioonide võimekuse tõstmine' ('Enhancing institutional and organisational capacities'), 'Õigusloome kodifitseerimine' ('Codification of legislation'), 'Õigusloome arendamine' ('Developing better legislation') and 'Olemasolevate ja uute infosüsteemide nutikas arendamine (sh analüüs)' ('Analysing and developing existing and new infosystems'.

Table 14: Overview of projects supporting justice 2014–2020

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated[1] in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent[3] in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[22]
Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020, 2014EE16M3OP001 (multi-fund)							
The revision of law *Õiguse revisjon*	2014	2020	6	1,573.50	365.80	310.93	Improvement of legislation through analysing, harmonising and modernising laws, including better links with different laws, re-wording and structuring of laws, etc.
The development of law-making *Õigusloome arendamine*	2014	2020	6	370.00	155.57	132.02	Organising training and a succession programme for legislative lawyers (including study trips) to enhance the overall quality of legislation. The target group is lawmakers at the ministries and the State Chancellery, constitutionalists' institutions (Office of the Riigikogu (parliament), Office of the President of the Republic, Office of the Chancellor of Justice, Law Enforcement Officers and Legal Education).
Building the capacity of organisations *Institutsionaalse ja organisatsioonide võimekuse tõstmine*	2015	2017	2	4,455.00	548.88	466.55	Carrying out an implementation analysis and research on governing, administrative organisation and support services, the development and implementation of models and methodologies on that basis, and streamlining organisational processes
Creating interoperability of public services *Avalike teenuste koosvõime loomine*	2015	2023	8	3,529.41	N/A	N/A	Evaluations and studies to support cooperation between organisations and develop public services (including efficiency in the field of justice); the development of an ICT system
Preliminary and business analysis of the modernised 'E-notary 3' web environment 2014–2020[23] *Kaasajastatud veebikeskkonna „E-notar 3' eel- ja ärianalüüs*	2016	2016	0	42.50	42.50	42.50	Analysis to develop the E-notary

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[22] No more information available
[23] This project is closed

Project name (in EN)*	Start of project (year)	End of project (year)	Duration of the project	Budget allocated[1] in thousand EUR[2]	Budget spent[3] in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR	Summary of activities undertaken[22]
Transition to X-Road version 6 at the Centre of Registers and Information Systems *X-tee versioonile 6 üleminek Registrite ja Infosüsteemide Keskuses*	2016	2018	2	200.00	N/A	N/A	Development of an ICT system (x-road that connects different ICT information systems/ registers)
Interfacing the Register of Business with the system of the data of addresses *Äriregistri liidestamine Aadressiandmete süsteemiga (ADS-ga)*	2016	2017	1	158.29	139.56	139.56	Development of an ICT system (Interfacing the Register of Business with the system of the data of addresses)
New IT-system of prosecutors' office *PRIS (uus prokuratuuri infosüsteem)*	2016	2018	2	484.09	18.51	2.78	Development of an ICT system of the prosecutors' office
Development of the Chamber of Notaries' register of apostille certificates for the issuing of e-apostilles and developing electronic capability to verify the authenticity of apostille certificates 2014–2020 *Notarite Koja apostilliregistri arendus e-apostillide väljastamiseks ja elektroonilise võimaluse loomine apostillide ehtsuse kontrollimiseks*	2016	2017	1	85.33	85.33	85.33	Developing the ICT system that is used also in the field of justice (register of apostilles for the issuing of e-apostilles and developing electronic capability to verify the authenticity of apostilles 2014–2020).
Development of E-catalogue *E-kataloogi arendamine*	2017	2018	1	232.34	N/A	N/A	Development of an ICT system (e-catalogue)

As can be seen from Table 15, most of the projects are still ongoing. Just one project – the Preliminary and business analysis of the modernised 'E-notary 3' web environment 2014–2020 – has been finalised.

Most of the projects are financed through the ERDF. However, the allocated budget for projects financed through the ESF is higher than the budget of the ERDF. As most of the projects are still ongoing and there were no interim reports available, it is not possible at the moment to draw any conclusions about whether the actual EU contribution will match the allocated EU contribution by the end of the project. However, it can be expected that the EU's contribution will be much higher by the end of the programming period as most of the projects are meant to receive 100% of the funding from the ERDF.

Table 15: Number and budget allocated (in thousand EUR) of projects supporting justice, funded by ESF and ERDF in the programming period 2014–2020

Fund	Number of projects supporting justice	Budget allocated in thousand EUR	Actual EU contribution in thousand EUR
ESF	3	6,398.50	909.49
ERDF	7	4,731.97	270.17
Both			
TOTAL	**10**	**11,130.47**	**1,179.67**

Although OPs and Priority Axes do not directly cover the field of justice, programming documents have highlighted several possibilities to finance projects from the field of justice. Some of these have been mentioned by name as examples of projects in process, but most of the projects were identified during Task 1. All of the financed projects are in line with the programming documents as this is checked by evaluators of projects and the accordance of calls for projects with programming documents is checked by IBs and MAs. Therefore, it is not possible to finance projects that are outside the scope of the programming documents. Calls for proposals have no justice-specific criteria.

Project beneficiaries

The project beneficiaries during the current programming period are relevant ministries (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication and Ministry of Finance) with five projects, followed by the Centre of Registers and Information Systems (three projects) and 'other' organisations (the Chamber of Notaries with two projects).

Table 16: Number of times the following entities are the beneficiary of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Relevant ministries	Courts and tribunals	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Registry offices	Regional administration	Specialised training or research institutions	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	3										3
ERDF	2				3				2		7
Both											
TOTAL	5				3				2		10

Activities of projects in tendering process and of ongoing projects related to support to justice

Most of the projects have/had the activity of 'Purchase of ICT systems' (ERDF). Project activities under the ESF included 'Training', 'Evaluation and studies' and 'Other', which was the improvement of legislation through harmonising and modernising laws. Eight out of 10 projects had just one category of activity, which in most cases was digitalisation of court services.

Table 17: Number of times a type of activity is foreseen/ongoing as part of a project supporting justice, by Fund

	Training	Activities relating to ADR/ODR	Developing/upgrading business processes at courts	Developing/upgrading HR management processes within the judiciary	Introduction of case management system	Digitalisation of court services	Purchase of ICT systems (hardware and software)	Putting in place/upgrading the cooperation and communication within the judiciaries	Development and circulation of best practices	Evaluations and studies	Support to reform initiatives	Upgrading physical infrastructure at courts	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	1									2			1		4
ERDF							6			2					8

Both												
TOTAL	1					6			4			1	12

Project final recipient related to support to justice

In the 2014–20 period, most of the projects had one final recipient; just two projects ('The development of law making' and 'Building the capacity of organisations') had multiple final recipients. 'Others' as well as 'Relevant ministries' and 'Registry offices' were the most common final recipients.

Table 18: Number of times the following entities were the final recipient of a project supporting justice, by Fund.

	Courts and Tribunals	Relevant ministries	Registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Total
ESF	1	2					1	2		6
ERDF		1	3		1			3		8
Both										
TOTAL	1	3	3		1		1	5		14

Project outputs, results and impacts related to support to justice

Information about the output, result and impact indicators was not available, as public databases do not cover project indicators and just one proposal was available for review. However, based on an interview with one IB representative – the Information System Authority – the output (and result) of each ICT project is a developed ICT system or implemented ICT project and therefore the output of five ICT projects is five ICT systems. All ICT projects were financed through the ERDF and therefore these indicators are connected to the ERDF. There were no other indicators available.

Table 19: Project output indicators and data

Aggregate indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available	Number of project indicators included (N=)
Operational Programme for Cohesion Policy Funds 2014–2020					
PA 11: Infrastructure for ICT services					
No. of digitised registers supported for development/improvement				1	1
12: Administrative capacity					
No. of digitised registers supported for development/improvement				4	2

Table 20: Result/ impact indicators and data

Aggregate indicator	Unit of measurement	Baseline, if available	Target, if available	Reported value, if available	Number of project indicators included (N=)

Based on information received from IBs/beneficiaries contacted by the Country Expert, no project-based evaluations as follow-ups to measure projects' results or impacts are planned. However, usually some kind of new projects or new contacts are generated based on the projects financed.

3.4. Relevant programme output and result indicators

3.4.1. Programme indicators

Reviewed project documents from the period 2014–2020 did not have any indicators directly related to the justice system.

Table 21: Summary table programme indicators

Relevant justice Indicator	Unit of measurement	OP it relates to (ICC)

3.5. Budget information

Overall budget information for projects supporting the justice system funded through the ESF and ERDF was generally available. However, there is no universally accepted taxonomy for project budget owners to classify budgets according to type of activity or final recipient.

Moreover, many projects involve multiple activities and/or multiple final recipients. Whether and how budgets for these complex projects are analysed by activity or final recipient varies across project owners and countries. This militates against using reported data to make meaningful comparisons between projects and Member States.

For the purpose of this study, the researchers have therefore created a high-level taxonomy in order to enable an analysis of budget allocations for activities and final recipients for projects funded through the ESF and ERDF supporting the justice system. Information from interviews and documents has been used to apply this taxonomy and allocate budgets based on the main focus of the projects as well as the final recipients

Where a project had **multiple activities and/or included activities** which did not fall under one of the focus categories, the categorisation of that project reflects its aim and not necessarily all individual activities undertaken in the context of this project. This approach is further explained in the Final Report.

For the 2014–2020 programming period it is also important to note that the majority of projects are still ongoing. The tables below therefore only provide an overview of the **budget allocated** for project activities and final recipients.

Table 22: Budget allocated in thousand EUR by project focus category foreseen

Project Name	Improving internal processes	Digitalisation & ICT	Training & Raising awareness	Research and evaluation	Activities related to ADR/ODR	Upgrading physical infrastructure	No information available
ESF	1,573.50		370.00	4,455.00			
ERDF		4,689.47		42.50			
TOTAL	1,573.50	4,689.47	370.00	4,497.50			

During the current period, the majority of budget is allocated to activities related to 'Digitalisation & ICT' (ERDF) and 'Research and evaluation' (ESF).

Table 23: Budget allocated in thousand EUR by final recipient targeted

	Courts and Tribunals	Relevant ministries	Registry offices	Regional administration	National prosecution offices	Professional association of magistrates and bar associations	Specialised governance bodies of the judiciary	Others	No information available	Multiple
ESF		1,573.50								4,825.00
ERDF			590.64		484.09			127.83		3,529.41
TOTAL		1,573.50	590.64		484.09			127.83		8,354.41

The majority of the total allocated budget in Estonia will go towards ESF projects with multiple final beneficiaries.

4. Overview of existing national and regional data and documentation related to the ESF and ERDF

In general Estonian national and regional data and documentation related to the ESF and ERDF are easily available as these are aggregated to the webpage www.struktuurifondid.ee. However, the webpage has been recently updated and many documents were missing due to the outdated links. Therefore, a lot of effort was put into finding and receiving the relevant documents for the mapping.

4.1. Ex-ante evaluations and needs assessments

In Estonia ex-ante evaluations are carried out mainly for more comprehensive strategies and operational programmes, e.g. 'The final report "Pre-assessment of the employment strategy of national structural funds in 2007–2013 and the regional operational programmes" for the Ministry of Finance' and 'Ex ante evaluation of the use of EU funds in 2014–2020'. The overview of the current situation, including needs assessment, is part of these studies and Operational Programmes. These overviews are compiled during consultations with different parties and stakeholders related to the documents mentioned. Therefore, there are not many studies with the aim of covering just the needs of the field, i.e. justice. Moreover, no directly justice-specific evaluations and needs assessments were detected.

4.2. Programming documents

By now, programming documents (National Reform Programmes and OPs) are easily available through webpages https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/rakendamine_07_13 (period 2007–2013) and https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/rakendamine_14_20 (period 2014–2020). However, during the study some contact with the administrator of www.struktuurifondid.ee was necessary to gain access to final or translated documents.

4.3. Implementation reports

Implementation reports (AIRs) are available through the webpage https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/seire. Although information about both periods is on separate subsections of the page, there is no direct separate weblink for documents about the periods 2007–2013 and 2014–2020. Also, some contact with administrator of www.struktuurifondid.ee was necessary to gain access to some of these documents.

4.4. Interim and ex-post evaluations

Interim and ex-post evaluations carried out in relation to structural funds are aggregated on the webpage https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/hindamine, which has separate sub-sections for periods 2007–2013 and 2014–2020. However, for the period 2014–2020 there are not yet many documents.

Based on the documents from the period 2013–2020, these evaluations usually cover all funds or some specific priority taxes of the OP, e.g. evaluating horizontal topics in the priority axes 'Long and good-quality work life', 'The impact of structural funds on regional development in 2007–2013', 'Evaluation report on the implementation of the public procurement', 'Midterm evaluation of structural funds in 2007–2013', etc.

4.5. Other non-project level documents

Other non-project level documents were reachable through the webpage https://www.struktuurifondid.ee/et/hindamine and by Google search, e.g. for organisations active in a field or referring to documents cited in other documents. Documents that do not belong to previously mentioned categories were also inspected,

e.g. studies like 'The efficiency and impact of using e-services' and 'Evaluation of the Selection Criteria of Structural Funds'.

4.6. Project-level data sources

Brief publicly available information about all the projects financed through structural funds is given through the database available at www.struktuurifondid.ee. However, information about the projects is rather limited.

Although the quality of proposals and reports of the projects varies, most project-specific information can be found in these documents. However, these are not publicly available and IBs are not allowed to distribute these materials without the agreement of beneficiaries. Therefore, the main sources for project-level data are beneficiaries. The beneficiaries' and IB's willingness to assist in this kind of mapping projects is sometimes limited as reports have already been handed in and indicators collected and sent to the European Commission.

During the project, it emerged that most of the project-level data is assembled in the information system that is operated by Ministry of Finance. However, this information is not publicly available and it does not consist of research-specific information. During the project, the Ministry of Finance was contacted and analysis was conducted based on the information received.

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