# DUCATION PROMOTING WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT COMBATING DISCRIMINATIO **EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND PLUS**

# **A PLUS FOR**

## **PEOPLE IN HAMBURG**

ESF Plus funding supports employment, welfare and education projects in Hamburg.



As the European Union (EU)'s main funding instrument for employment, education and welfare, the European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) is above all else an investment in people.

The ESF Plus contributes to implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, which sets out 20 key principles and rights essential for fair labour markets and social protection systems, and seeks to build a more social Europe by strengthening member states' economic, territorial and social cohesion.

Hamburg uses ESF Plus funding for projects that support education, training and social inclusion among a diverse range of groups. The projects also help people develop the skills that are needed for the transition to a green, digital economy.





## **EUROPE: HOW HAMBURG BENEFITS**

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg can use ESF Plus funding to address long-term challenges, such as meeting the demand for highly skilled workers or preventing poverty and entrenched unemployment among at-threat groups.

In Hamburg, the use of EU funds makes a major contribution to implementing current plans and strategies of the Senate (Executive power of the Hamburg government) and Bürgerschaft (Hamburg State Parliament). Targeted projects to support groups including young people, women, the longterm unemployed and people with an immigration background are being funded by €55 million in investment from the EU and a further €82.5 million from the City of Hamburg.

In the period 2021–2027, over 23,000 people living in Hamburg are set to benefit from the innovative projects.





# HOW IS ESF PLUS FUNDING BEING USED IN HAMBURG? A CONCRETE EXAMPLE?

# Silke's story

Silke\* trained as a baker, and passionately pursued her career until her late 30s when she had to give it up for health reasons. But after retraining as an office worker, she couldn't find a job. Her new situation took a toll on her mental health and the mother of two found it increasingly hard to summon up energy for the next step. She received support from an ESF-funded project. Trained staff helped her with everything from organising her family routine to applying for jobs. As a result, Silke managed to find a job that has given her security and stability again – and that she enjoys, too.

\*Silke is one example of over 23,000 Hamburg residents set to benefit from ESF Plus projects in the coming years.

You can find an overview of all projects funded by the ESF Plus and the City of Hamburg online at www.esf-hamburg.de



# OVERCOMING CRISES WITH EU FUNDING

The Hamburg Senate is also using ESF Plus funding to alleviate the impact of Covid-19. The funds are mainly targeted at groups who have been hit especially hard by the pandemic.

Until 2023, the EU is also providing additional funding for this purpose through the REACT-EU recovery plan. As a result, Hamburg has an extra €24.9 million at its disposal to support people whose job prospects have been negatively affected by the pandemic.

The funding is mainly allocated to professional qualifications and training in skills such as those needed for the transition to a green and digital economy.

## Contact

If you would like to know more about ESF Plus projects in Hamburg, please get in touch:

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Further information about ESF Plus projects in Hamburg is available online at: <a href="https://www.esf-hamburg.de">www.esf-hamburg.de</a>

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