

# ROMANIAN EFFICIENCY IN EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND IMPLEMENTATION, AN ASSUMED CHOICE BETWEEN ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM INDICATORS

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**Abstract:** *In Romanian implementation of European Social Fund (ESF), efficiency, as connecting budgets to indicators, is practically assessed related to activities; by means of expenditure and activities eligibility criteria. Projects are evaluated, contracted and payments are reimbursed for undertaken activities in weak relation with indicators. This represents a real performance problem of European Social Fund implementation in Romania, this article is addressing. The article's research objective is about how related to indicators were the approved budgets of an old call for proposals (2010). Budgets of 318 approved projects within the same call for proposals were analyzed in a quantitative approach against indicators, meaning individuals' benefiting of labor market related services: training and counseling. Conclusions about how this call of proposals would have been properly managed do include the efficiency model for these indicators (as two linear regression models) and improvement oriented recommendations to managing authority as well. The determined linear regression model may be replicate in actual condition of new call for proposals, and recommendation are also actual as long as now, as twelve years ago, budgets are still designed and monitored in connection with eligible activities and expenditures, not with indicators related to people and to specialized services.*

**Key words:** *efficiency; linear regression; budget; indicators.*

**JEL classification:** C58; E17; F37.

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pp. 52-60