

## SME-related policy measures adopted, implemented or announced in 2021

# Estonia

Title of the measure (national language)	Title of the measure (English translation)	Implementing body	Adopted / implemented / announced as part of the 'National Recovery and Resilience Plan' (Yes / No)	Status (Adopted or implemented or announced)	Date of adoption/ implementation or announcement (DD/MM/YYYY)	General description (objectives / key features / budget - if applicable, and weblink to online source)
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY</b>						
Rohefond	"Green Tech Fund"	Smartcap	Yes	Adopted	31/12/2021	As one of the measures of National Recovery and Response Plan contributing to green transition, the Green Tech fund aims to stimulate early-stage venture capital investments in businesses that create new green technologies. The new investment fund, which also contributes to the development of the Estonian capital market, is managed by SmartCap – a subsidiary of KredEx Foundation. The amount of public funding allocated via the NRRP is €100



Digitaliseerimise meistriklass	Digitalization masterclass	Enterprise Estonia (EAS)	No	Implemented	10/01/2021	<p>The digitalization masterclass is a subsidized training programme that helps identify the processes in a company where digitalization has the greatest impact on competitiveness and efficiency. As a result of the 3-month course, with the help of top trainers and a personal mentor, participants will draw up a digitalization plan for the most critical processes, select the most suitable digital solutions and take the first steps towards its implementation. The target group is manufacturing companies. The grant covers about 95% of the costs and is funded by the ERF.EAS web-site.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/digitaliseerimise-meistriklass/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/digitaliseerimise-meistriklass/</a></p>
Eesti digiühiskonna arengukava 2030	Estonian Digital Society 2030 - Development plan	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication	No	Announced	07/10/2021	<p>This is a strategy document for the development of public digital services and implementation of the digital transition of the economy. Though it does not address specifically SMEs, the planned transition to event-based and proactive public services and the wide-spread use of AI are expected to decrease the administrative burden and ease communication with the public sector for all enterprises. The plans for improving connectivity to high-speed broadband/internet should also</p>

						<p>improve conditions of SMEs in rural areas.</p> <p><a href="https://www.mkm.ee/et/eesm/argid-tegevused/infouhiskond/digiuhi/skonna-arengukava-2030">https://www.mkm.ee/et/eesm/argid-tegevused/infouhiskond/digiuhi/skonna-arengukava-2030</a></p>
<b>INNOVATION</b>						
Rakendusuringute programm	Applied Programme	Research	Enterprise Estonia	Yes	Implemented	<p>26/01/2021</p> <p>The applied research programme has been created to help companies increase demand for research and development. This will help increase the income of these companies significantly thanks to altered technology, processes, products or services. With the help of the applied research grants ranging from €100,000 to €2 million, companies can develop innovative technologies, processes, products or services, experiment with new materials and learn about technological feasibility. The programme consists of advisory services and grant financing of the entrepreneur's applied research. More than 200 unique companies (mostly SMEs) have received advice in 2021. The budget was €42.4 million and will be supplemented by the NRRP in 2022. Support is available not only for SMEs but given that a significant majority of the applicants are SMEs, this type of business will receive a more favourable percentage of grant funding.</p>

						<a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/rakendusuuringuteprogramm/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/rakendusuuringuteprogramm/</a>
Ettevõtja tootearenduse toetus	Product development grant	Enterprise Estonia	Yes	Implemented	07/06/2021	As part of REACT-EU package, a grant of up to 45% of the eligible costs will be provided, with the objective of encouraging companies to invest more in the development of new competitive products and services. The budget is €15 million for the period 2021-2023.  <a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/sf-tootearenduse-toetus">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/sf-tootearenduse-toetus</a>
Tehnoloogia otsing, seire ja analüüs	Technology scanning, monitoring and analysis	Enterprise Estonia (EAS)	No	Implemented	01/12/2021	This service consists of three main search levels: Technology scanning provides in-depth insight into the company-specific sector to identify interesting technology trends; Technology monitoring helps companies in making decisions about technological developments as the monitoring service examines technology areas in more detail; Targeted search/analysis identifies the maturity of a specific technology, its suitability for application and its competition potential.  <a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/tehnoloogiate-otsing-seire-ja-analuus/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/tehnoloogiate-otsing-seire-ja-analuus/</a>
Innovatsioonivõimekuse diagnostika (pilootmeede)	Diagnostics of innovation capacity (pilot measure)	Enterprise Estonia (EAS)	No	Implemented	06/2021	The full-scale service will be launched after validation with companies. A company's innovation capacity is assessed in the following categories:

						<p>innovation culture, knowledge of the business field, strategy, R&amp;D investment structure, capabilities and resources, processes. The service is based on innovation management standard ISO 56002.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/innovatsioonivoimekuse-diagnostika/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/innovatsioonivoimekuse-diagnostika/</a></p>
Teaduskiirendi	Deep tech startups and ecosystem development programme	SmartCap	No	Announced	07/10/2021	<p>SmartCap launched a procurement process to find professional service providers for developing the deep-tech ecosystem in Estonia.</p> <p><a href="https://smartcap.ee/smartcap-procurement-for-deep-tech-startups-and-ecosystem-development-programme/?pageNumber=1">https://smartcap.ee/smartcap-procurement-for-deep-tech-startups-and-ecosystem-development-programme/?pageNumber=1</a></p>
Loomeettevõtete arenguplaani elluviimise toetus	Support for the implementation of the creative enterprise development plan	Enterprise Estonia	No	Implemented	31/05/2021	<p>The objective of this grant programme is to support enterprises in the creative sector with the development and implementation of innovative solutions as well as in the development of products, services, technologies, processes and personnel. Support can be also used for creating new market opportunities and modernizing business models. The budget is €1 million, the maximum grant is €75,000 per company with a minimum of 25% from the enterprise's own financing.</p> <p>EAS, web-site, support measures:</p>

						<a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/loomemajanduse-arenguplaan/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/loomemajanduse-arenguplaan/</a>
Vesinikutehnoloogiate valdkonna suurprojektide huvide kaardistus ning vesiniku IPCEI (H2-IPCEI) protsessi raames ettevõtete osalemise toetamine	National call for mapping potential large-scale projects in the field of hydrogen technology in Estonia, and participation in the EU level coordination of the preparation of H2-IPCEI project(s)	Enterprise Estonia, Ministry of Economic Affairs	No	Implemented	22/04/2021 for a national call, and 31/08/2021 for the submission of the first pre-notification on IPCEI projects for Estonia	A mapping of innovative hydrogen technology development projects in Estonia was carried out through a national call. The objective was to find projects in the respective field that are of significant relevance, potentially also at the EU level. Selected project(s) will be supported as part of the IPCEI process and will receive an IPCEI state aid permission if granted so by the European Commission.
<b>SKILLS</b>						
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN</b>						
Mõjude määratlemise kontrollküsimustik, SME kohta küsimused	Impact assessment questionnaire, specific questions on impacts on SMEs	Coordinator is Ministry of Justice, each Ministry responsible for it's own impacts validation (e.g. economical impacts are verified by Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication.	No	Implemented	2021	The impact assessment questionnaire was updated with specific questions regarding impacts on SMEs under economic impact assessment section. The questionnaire is aimed at helping regulators to assess impacts that are associated with the changes that the regulations propose.
<b>REGULATORY BURDEN</b>						
<b>ACCESS TO FINANCE</b>						
Rohefond	Green Tech fund	SmartCap	Yes	Adopted	31/12/2021	The Green Tech fund aims to invest in businesses that create green technologies to tackle environmental issues and





Kampaania "#Maksa7päevaga"	"#Payin7days" campaign	-	EVEA (Estonian Association of SMEs)	No	Implemented	27/09/2020	A private sector initiative, driven by the national association of SMEs EVEA, calls on public authorities to pay invoices to SMEs in less than 7 days to alleviate the liquidity problems during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. The initiative was later supported by numerous members of the EU-level SME association European Entrepreneurs-CEAPME. The results in Estonia, however, were modest, with just one public body (Estonian Health Insurance Fund) announcing its support for the campaign. The campaign is ongoing.  <a href="https://evea.ee/evea-uleskutse-koigile-avaliku-sektori-asutustele-makske-arved-7-paevaga/">https://evea.ee/evea-uleskutse-koigile-avaliku-sektori-asutustele-makske-arved-7-paevaga/</a>
<b>ACCESS TO MARKETS</b>							
Euroopa Tuumauuringute Organisatsiooni (CERN) hanked	CERN Procurements: <a href="https://found-java-ext.cern.ch/java-ext/found/CFTSearch.do#">https://found-java-ext.cern.ch/java-ext/found/CFTSearch.do#</a>		CERN in cooperation with Enterprise Estonia	No	Announced	01/02/2021	With Estonia's associate membership to CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (on the way to full membership), Estonian companies can take part in CERN procurements. Until full membership is achieved, yearly procurement contracts are limited to 1 million CHF in volume. <a href="https://www.eas.ee/cern/">https://www.eas.ee/cern/</a>
<b>START-UP ENVIRONMENT</b>							
Startup Estonia Valge Raamat 2021-2027	Startup Estonia White Paper 2021-2027		Start-up Estonia	No	Announced	07/2020	The strategy for 2021-2027 centres around the importance of an all-inclusive start-up mindset and making this attitude ubiquitous throughout

						<p>business, the public sector and wider society. Estonia aims to promote a local-global start-up mindset across all stages, encourage the step up from science/inventiveness in the creation of more start-ups and competitive scaleups, ensure inclusivity of opportunities, and establish open and data-driven steering and foresight for the Start-up community.</p> <p><a href="https://startupestonia.ee/blog/startup-estonia-launches-a-white-paper-for-2021-2027">https://startupestonia.ee/blog/startup-estonia-launches-a-white-paper-for-2021-2027</a></p>
Teaduskiirendi	Deep tech startups and ecosystem development programme	SmartCap	No	Announced	07/10/2021	<p>SmartCap launched a procurement process to find the professional service providers for developing the deep tech ecosystem in Estonia.</p> <p><a href="https://smartcap.ee/smartcap-procurement-for-deep-tech-startups-and-ecosystem-development-programme/?pageNumber=1">https://smartcap.ee/smartcap-procurement-for-deep-tech-startups-and-ecosystem-development-programme/?pageNumber=1</a></p>
<b>SCALE-UP ENVIRONMENT</b>						
Startup Estonia Valge Raamat 2021-2027	Startup Estonia White Paper 2021-2027	Start-up Estonia	No	Announced	07/2020	<p>According to the White Paper, "Particular attention shall focus on attracting CVC investors or corporates with M&amp;A capacity to advance the exit capacity of Estonian startups and scaleups through actions and support schemes focusing on corporate collaboration and investor networking, and increasing exit readiness".</p> <p>Startup Estonia White Paper 2021-2027, p.22:</p>

						<a href="https://media.voog.com/0000/0037/5345/files/SE_Whitepaper_Web%20(1)-1.pdf">https://media.voog.com/0000/0037/5345/files/SE_Whitepaper_Web%20(1)-1.pdf</a>
<b>NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS</b>						
Turismisektori tootearenduse toetus	Product development grant for tourism enterprises	Enterprise Estonia (EAS)	Yes	Announced	05/11/2021	<p>A part of the REACT-EU package, the objective of this measure is to strengthen the international competitiveness of Estonian tourism products and restore the exports of the Estonian tourism services to pre COVID-19 crisis level. A grant of up to 70% of eligible costs is provided for the creation of new or updated tourism products: development, testing and implementation of a tourism product, improving resource efficiency, introducing digital solutions, marketing of the tourism product, training of personnel involved in the supply of the new tourism product. The budget is €13.6 million for projects to be completed by 31/10/2023.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismi-tootearenduse-toetus/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismi-tootearenduse-toetus/</a></p>
Turismisektori kesksete digilahenduste toetus	Support for development of central digital instruments	Enterprise Estonia (EAS)	Yes	Announced	17/12/2021	<p>A part of the REACT-EU package, the objective of this measure is the creation of central digital solutions and the further development or adaptation of existing digital solutions to the needs of the Estonian tourism sector. The digital solutions developed with the support must enable at least one hundred companies in the tourism sector to join. Projects must be implemented</p>

						<p>in cooperation between tourism companies and IT companies, project support ranging from €20,000 to €550,000 with maximum co-funding of 55%. The budget is €4 million for projects to be completed by 31/10/2023.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismi-kesksete-digilahenduste-toetus/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismi-kesksete-digilahenduste-toetus/</a></p>
Turismiettevõtete ärimudelite mentorteenus	Mentor service for tourism enterprises	Enterprise Estonia	No	Announced	01/10/2021	<p>A 90% subsidized service, provided by a selected team of experts, will contribute to the development of tourism enterprises, increase the knowledge and skills of tourism entrepreneurs in implementing new business models and make tourism services more unique, sustainable, safe and digitally smarter.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevotete-arimudelite-arendamise-koolitusprogramm/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevotete-arimudelite-arendamise-koolitusprogramm/</a></p>
Turismiettevõtete teenusedisaini digitaliseerimise meistriklass ja	Masterclass in service design and digitalization for tourism enterprises	Enterprise Estonia	No	Announced	12/12/2021	<p>A 5-month long subsidized training course, which aims to promote the use of service design and the digitalization of services in Estonian tourism enterprises aims to increase the export and innovation capability of companies. During the course, the company will produce a prototype of a new tourism service. In addition, participants will gain practical experience of working with a service designer and knowledge of how to use data and digital</p>

						<p>solutions in the development and management of their business processes. The deadline for the first round of applications is 12/12/2021.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevote-teenusedisaini-ja-digitaliseerimise-meistriklass/">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevote-teenusedisaini-ja-digitaliseerimise-meistriklass/</a></p>
Turismiettevõtete ärimudelite rakendamise toetus	Support for the implementation of a new business model for tourism companies	Enterprise Estonia	No	Implemented	07/01/2021	<p>The purpose of granting support is:</p> <p>1) in the case of a big scale project, to achieve an increase in the competitiveness of the Estonian tourism sector through the renewal of the business model of tourism enterprises;</p> <p>2) in the case of a small-scale project, to maintain the competitiveness of the tourism enterprises and make preparations for the restoration and growth of the competitiveness of the Estonian tourism sector after the end of the state of emergency.</p> <p><a href="https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevote-arimudelite-rakendamise-toetus7">https://www.eas.ee/teenus/turismiettevote-arimudelite-rakendamise-toetus7</a></p>
Turismisektori kriisitoetus	Crises support for the tourism sector	Enterprise Estonia	No	Implemented	29/03/2021	<p>Crises support for tourism sector: accommodation companies, travel companies, land transport companies, catering companies in the Old Town of Tallinn, sellers of handicrafts, souvenirs and Estonian design, maximum €180,000 per applicant. The budget was €16 million.</p>

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Turismisektori kriisitoetus	Crisis support for the tourism sector	Enterprise Estonia	No	Implemented	05-09/2021	<p>The business support package was aimed at accommodation, catering and travel companies, spas, water centers, organizers of meetings and fairs, tourism service providers, companies engaged in the occasional carriage of passengers by land and retail sellers. The total budget was €34.6 million.</p> <p><a href="https://mkm.ee/et/uudised/ett-evotjad-saavad-44-miljonit-taiendavat-toetust">https://mkm.ee/et/uudised/ett-evotjad-saavad-44-miljonit-taiendavat-toetust</a></p>
Erakorraline käendus majutus- ja toitlustussektoris tegutsevatele ettevõtjatele, reisibüroodele ning reisikorraldajatele	Extraordinary guarantee for companies operating in the accommodation and catering sector, travel agencies and tour operators	KredEx	No	Yes	Implemented	<p>The purpose of the guarantee is to provide new financing opportunities to companies to overcome the temporary difficulties caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. The guarantee makes it possible to secure the company's obligations arising from the loan and leasing agreement. The amount of KredEx's guarantee is up to 100% of the amount of the company's loan and the maximum compensation for losses to banks is 15% of the total amount of KredEx's guarantees used by the bank within the framework of crisis measures.</p> <p><a href="https://www.kredex.ee/covid19/meede/erakorraline-kaendus-majutus-ja-toitlustussektorile">https://www.kredex.ee/covid19/meede/erakorraline-kaendus-majutus-ja-toitlustussektorile</a></p>

						<a href="#">reisiburoodele-ja-reisikorraldajatele/</a>
OTHER RELEVANT TOPICS						