INTRODUCING ESE - FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN SUPERVISOR EDUCATION INITIATIVE (ESE)

The European Supervisor Education Initiative (ESE) invites all institutions of financial supervision in Europe to join its efforts of training financial supervisors with the aim of improving their knowledge and skills and contribute to a common European supervisory culture and practice.



WHAT IS ESE?

The European Supervisor Education Initiative is a network of European central banks and financial supervisory authorities. It encourages financial supervisors in Europe to acquire a high-level qualification and professional skills. It offers a modular seminar programme for financial supervisors from the banking, insurance and securities and markets sector and staff working in related fields, and it aspires at strengthening cooperation between supervisory institutions through the interchange of knowledge and experiences. ESE, thus, supports the development of a joint supervisory culture and practice in Europe. The initiative is open to new members - central banks or supervisory authorities - which join on equal terms.

ESE was established in 2009 as a network of Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BaFin), Deutsche Bundesbank, Oesterreichische Nationalbank and Goethe Business School as an academic partner. In 2010, Banque centrale du Luxembourg became a member, Czech National Bank an associated partner. In 2014, the Czech National Bank changed its status from an associated partner to a membership. In addition, Bank of Slovenia joined ESE as a member. In 2015, De Nederlandsche Bank also became a member of ESE.

In ESE's organisational structure, the highest decision-making body is the Programme Council, supported by a Steering Committee and a Secretariat to assure its operation. All ESE members are represented within this organisational structure on equal terms.

In the seven years of its existence ESE was able to welcome 2,804 participants from an average of 51 institutions and 32 countries per year, which gives evidence of the success of ESE's training concept. While the courses are mainly conducted by supervisors, practitioners from the financial industry and academics of high standing, ESE has adopted a modular approach for its training programme to assure flexibility in absorbing new requirements, adaptability to changing conditions and inter-changeability among participating institutions. Training is always in English and independent from a particular location.

Every two years, ESE organises a conference on current topics in financial supervision with high-level speakers, where trends and latest views on topics of interest are being discussed.

WHY JOIN ESE?

We believe that joining ESE produces significant benefits to the joining party, especially in the long term:

- ESE's website <u>www.ese-initiative.org</u> is a coordinating platform for communication of training activities.
- ESE will inform potential participants through its network, which comprises financial supervisors of all sectors Europe-wide.
- ESE has achieved a unique position as a training initiative and developed its own professional standards to ensure high quality e.g. by the use of standardised products and processes.
- ESE's training modules are tailored to a European audience encouraging the interchange of knowhow and experience among participants.
- ESE offers a wide pool of qualified trainers from a variety of European institutions.
- ESE assures the high quality of all its training modules through a consistent process of monitoring, management and evaluation.
- ESE's trainings always consist of a mix of supervisors from different European institutions. This mix ensures the vivid exchange of approaches and opinions. The opportunity of social linking is especially encouraged by the social frame programme embedded in the trainings.
- ESE has developed a professional approach with regard to designing, planning, conducting and evaluating training activities and constantly strives to improve further.
- ESE operates on a cost-coverage basis and thus effectively controls financial risks associated with its training modules and programmes for financial supervisors.
- ESE holds close contacts with European supervisory institutions seeking to integrate many views and perspectives into programme development.
- ESE's experienced Secretariat professionally accompanies new members with all relevant support.

HOW TO JOIN ESE

ESE is always open to new members. Any contribution by European supervisory institutions or central banks sharing the idea that further training is crucial for the future success of financial supervision is highly appreciated.

ESE understands its role in offering training activities in the area of financial supervision. The concept of ESE training allows the integration of existing local courses, and yet to be created, training modules in a coherent fashion.

There are various forms of cooperation with ESE starting with

- Personal contributions to its programme (e.g. the delegation of participants for training),
- The provision of local infrastructure for seminars (broader variety of locations),
- The transfer of existing local training modules under the ESE umbrella, and
- Membership, which assures representation in ESE's organisational structure and in decisions on programme development and strategical issues.

The specific form of cooperation with each potential partner will be defined jointly together with ESE.

Once the decision to become an ESE member has been relayed to ESE, it will be approved by the Programme Council. The new member will then receive a welcome letter by ESE's chairman. Apart from this act, there is no strict registration procedure or a contract as such.

Responsibilities and rights

The features of a membership mainly refer to voting rights and the presence in ESE's committees. All ESE members meet at least once a year to plan the programme for the following year and to exchange recommendations and trends with regard to training of financial supervisors. Also, strategic issues concerning ESE's future course are being discussed. Every member institution appoints

- 1 person representing the member institution in the Programme Council
- 1 2 persons representing the member institution in the Steering Committee

While in the Programme Council the focus is on the provision of professional input for ESE's training programme and strategic direction, the representatives in the Steering Commitee are involved in the detailed conception, planning, the conduction and evaluation of trainings. Hence, competencies in the field of vocational training are a valuable asset for a Steering Committee member. The exchange among the Steering Committee members can be classified as more frequent than in the Programme Council.

Following ESE's objective to offer training activities in the field of financial supervision, the possible contribution linked to an ESE membership can vary from creating, organising and offering new courses for ESE's programme (subject to the Programme Council's approval), or, merely providing the room capacities and some organisational assistance at the chosen seminar location. The basic contribution for a member can be defined as hosting at least one seminar per year, while the ESE Secretariat will be of assistance.

What are the costs cooperating with ESE?

A membership fee does not occur at any time. ESE is a cooperation which operates on a costcoverage basis with no intention to make profit. The participant fees should in principle cover all seminar costs. Each ESE member bears its own costs for its personnel involved in ESE's activities and the organisation of trainings. The ESE Secretariat can be in charge for financial processes related to the training (e.g. sending out invoices).

SUMMARY

The members of ESE believe that training on a regular basis is crucial to the success of financial supervision. In our view, ESE is an attractive option to join for any European supervisory institution committed to training. If ESE can expand its potential by integrating existing training activities, developing new modules, formats and programmes, and attracting new members, the mission to make a contribution to financial stability through training of financial supervisors shall be highly rewarded. Therefore, we invite and encourage all supervisory institutions in Europe to contribute to this mission by joining us at ESE.

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Version of this framework: February 2016