EU-Funded SME Investment Grants in Hungary (2004–2014) — A Winners-vs-Losers Evaluation of Jobs, Wages and Productivity

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Hungary

Quality score: 48/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Hungary's EU-funded non-repayable SME grants (2004–14) raised employment, sales, capital intensity and labour productivity versus rejected applicants, but brought little technology upgrading, mixed TFP results and a cost of ~3 years' average wage per job.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	0/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-13

Government of Hungary — EU Structural and Cohesion Funds enterprise grant programmes — accessed 2026-11-13

KRTK (HUN-REN) — The effects of EU-funded enterprise grants on firms and workers — accessed 2026-11-13

IZA Discussion Paper 13410 (2020) — accessed 2026-11-13

Journal of Comparative Economics 51(1), 216–234 (2023) — open full text — accessed 2026-11-13

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