România Start-Up (2015) — ESF Start-Up Grants Whose Firms Survived Less and Shed Jobs

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Romania

Quality score: 29/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

ESF-funded 2015 scheme granting up to €25,000 per start-up with no co-funding. A 5-year study of 810 subsidised vs 11,341 unsubsidised firms found lower survival (80.4% vs 89.7%) and a 70% job loss in subsidised firms.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-12

Government of Romania (Ministry of European Funds, ESF-funded scheme) — accessed 2026-11-12

Glavan, Anghel & Israel (2025), Zagreb Int. Review of Economics & Business — accessed 2026-11-12

DOI 10.2478/zireb-2025-0016 — accessed 2026-11-12

Cotidianul (Mar 2026): Start-Up Nation to be evaluated — accessed 2026-11-12

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