



The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI)

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Themes

- 1. What is Cohesion policy?**
- 2. Cohesion policy reforms 2014-20**
- 3. Cohesion policy Post 2020**
- 4. References**

Which funds?

The terminology of the Funds

	EAGGF/ EAFRD	FIFG/ EMFF	ERDF	ESF	Cohesion Fund
2000- 2006	Structural Funds				Cohesion Fund
2007- 2013	Rural develop- ment	Fisheries Fund	Structural Funds		Cohesion Fund
			Cohesion policy		
2014- 2020	ESIF – European Structural and Investment Funds				
2020	???				

1. What is Cohesion Policy?

Article 174: economic, social and territorial cohesion and reducing disparities:

I. Investment in Growth and Jobs

- **Less Developed: The way the EU helps poorer regions to **converge** or catch up (<75% average GDP)**
- **More Developed: >90%GDP**
 - Before: helps economically damaged regions to **restructure**
 - Now: Europe 2020, Growth and jobs, competitiveness in all regions
- **Transitional: 75-90% GDP**

II. Territorial Cooperation = "INTERREG": Cross border, Transnational, Interregional Cooperation

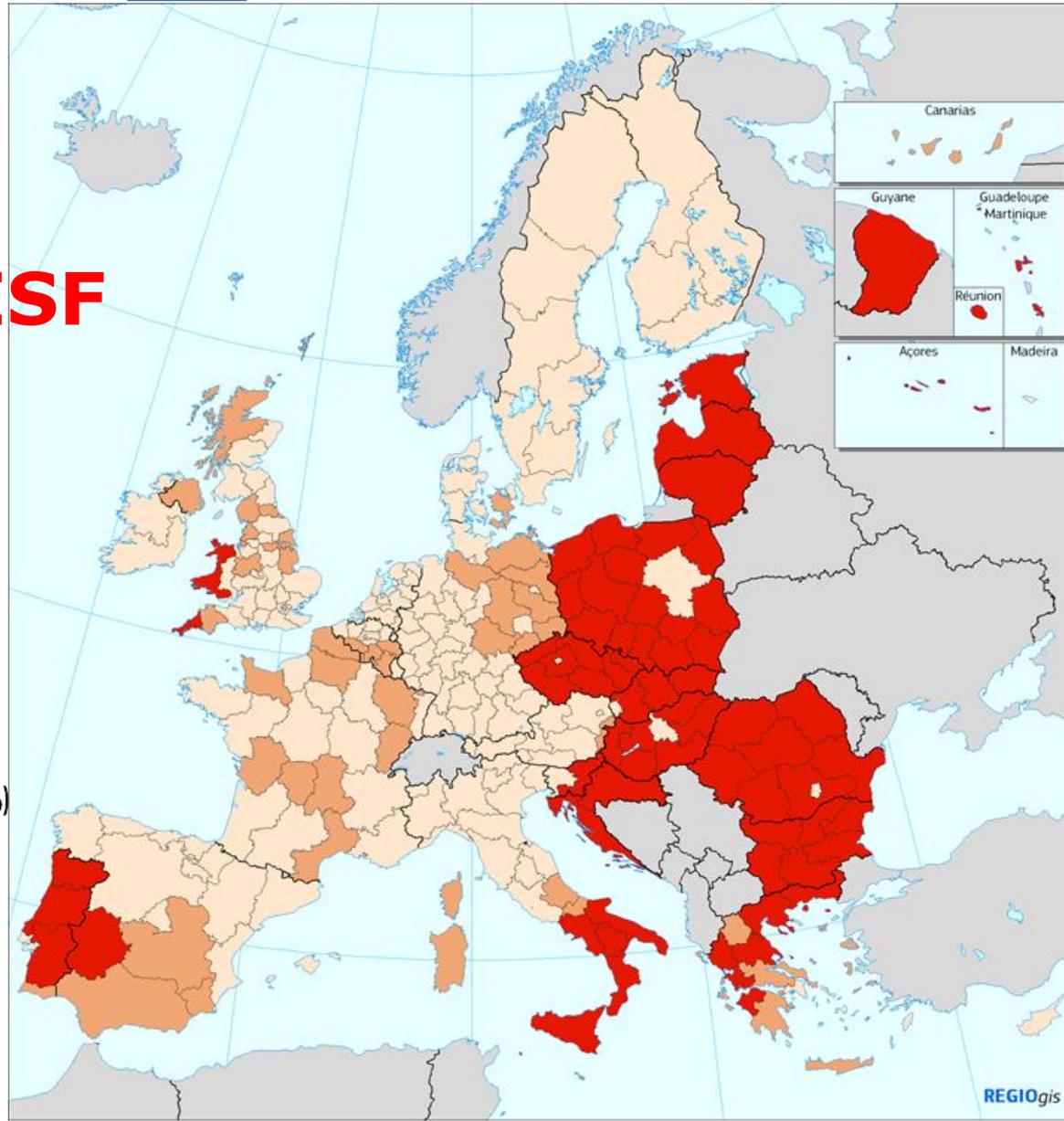
Three funds and a budget of €350 billion for 2014-2020



Geographical eligibility for IGJ - ERDF/ESF support 2014-2020

Eligibility map 2014-20

-  Less developed region (GDP/head: less than 75%)
-  Transition regions (GDP/head between 75% and 90%)
-  More developed region (GDP/head: more than 90%)



ESIF Open Data

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European Commission > European Structural & Investment Funds > Data

HOME EXPLORE EU DATA EXPLORE BY THEME EXPLORE BY COUNTRY EXPLORE BY FUND

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) - explore our data

EU LEVEL THEME COUNTRY FUND

N° of firms to be supported: ERDF 1.1 m + EAFRD 550 000 + ESF 396 500 =

2 million firms across the EU

EU Overview

ABOUT THIS TOOL

Giving access to data on financing and achievements under the ESI Funds 2014-2020. The platform visualises, for over 530 programmes, the latest data available (end-2015 for achievements, end-2016 for finances implemented, daily for EU payments).

USE THIS TOOL ...

... to explore the data using one of the 4 options and check progress in delivering investments at EU level, by theme, by Member State (linked to programmes) or by fund. Datasets can be visualised, embedded in other sites or downloaded to analyse.

HELPFUL LINKS

More information about the ESI Funds:

- FAQ
- Cohesion Fund
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- European Maritime & Fisheries Fund
- European Regional Development Fund
- European Social Fund

Catalogue
Search and browse all datasets and visualisations on this platform.

Contact Us
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Good practice examples ...

RegioStars : [LINK](#)

Policy learning database: [LINK](#)

Project (& major project) Database: [LINK](#)

For more information

InfoRegio: [LINK](#)

Concepts

Finance:

- **Redistribution**
- **Co-finance vs additionality**
- **Stable finance (7 years)**

Other qualitative elements

- **Strategies based on evidence + with territorial dimension**
- **Shared management, subsidiarity (not top down), wide partnerships**
- **Investment (not simple subsidies) influenced by**
 - Drivers of future growth (EUROPE 2020 themes)
 - Territorial / geographical balance/catching up/'reducing disparities'/polycentric development

2. Cohesion policy reformed 2014-20

1. ALIGNED WITH EU ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

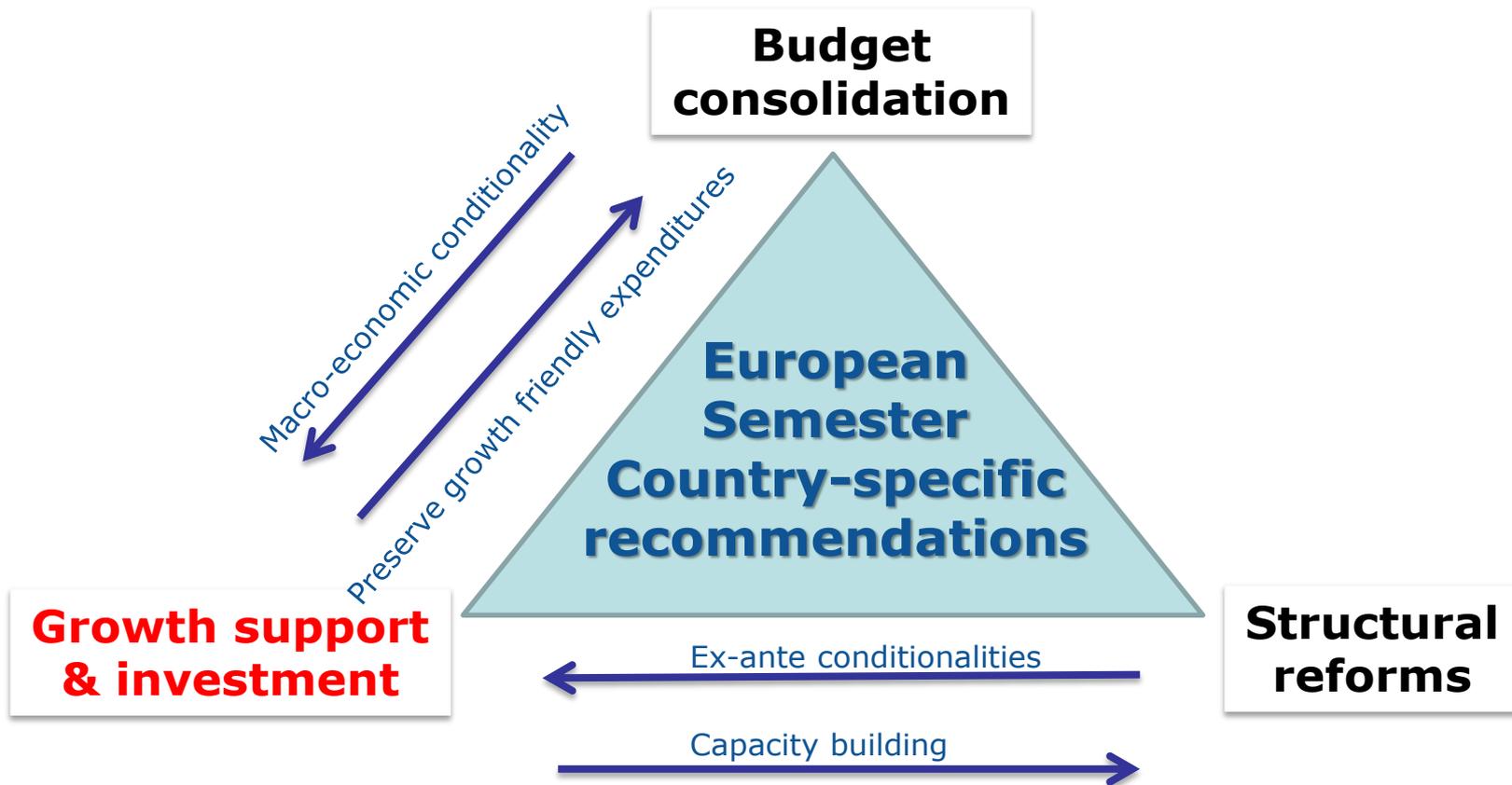
- *Identifying MS investment priorities / challenges*
- *Partnership Agreements (informed by Country Specific recommendations)*
- *Macro-economic conditionality clause for all European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF) (CPR Art 23)*

2. DELIVERING EU POLICY OBJECTIVES

- *11 investment areas (thematic objectives) with defined priorities and financial concentration*
- *Ex-ante conditionalities: pre-conditions, sound strategies*
- *Reinforced objective setting, monitoring + evaluation*
- *Coordination ESIF-EU instruments & programmes*



ESI Funds 2014-2020 key pillar of economic policy mix



The Europe 2020 strategy, 3 March 2010

- **A strategy from the European Union “for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth” - Successor to the Lisbon Agenda (2000-2009)**
- **Smart agenda: innovation & RTD, education, digital society**
- **Sustainability agenda: climate, energy, and mobility**
- **Inclusive agenda: employment and skills, fighting poverty**
- **5 headline target indicators**

Thematic objectives + concentration to deliver Europe 2020

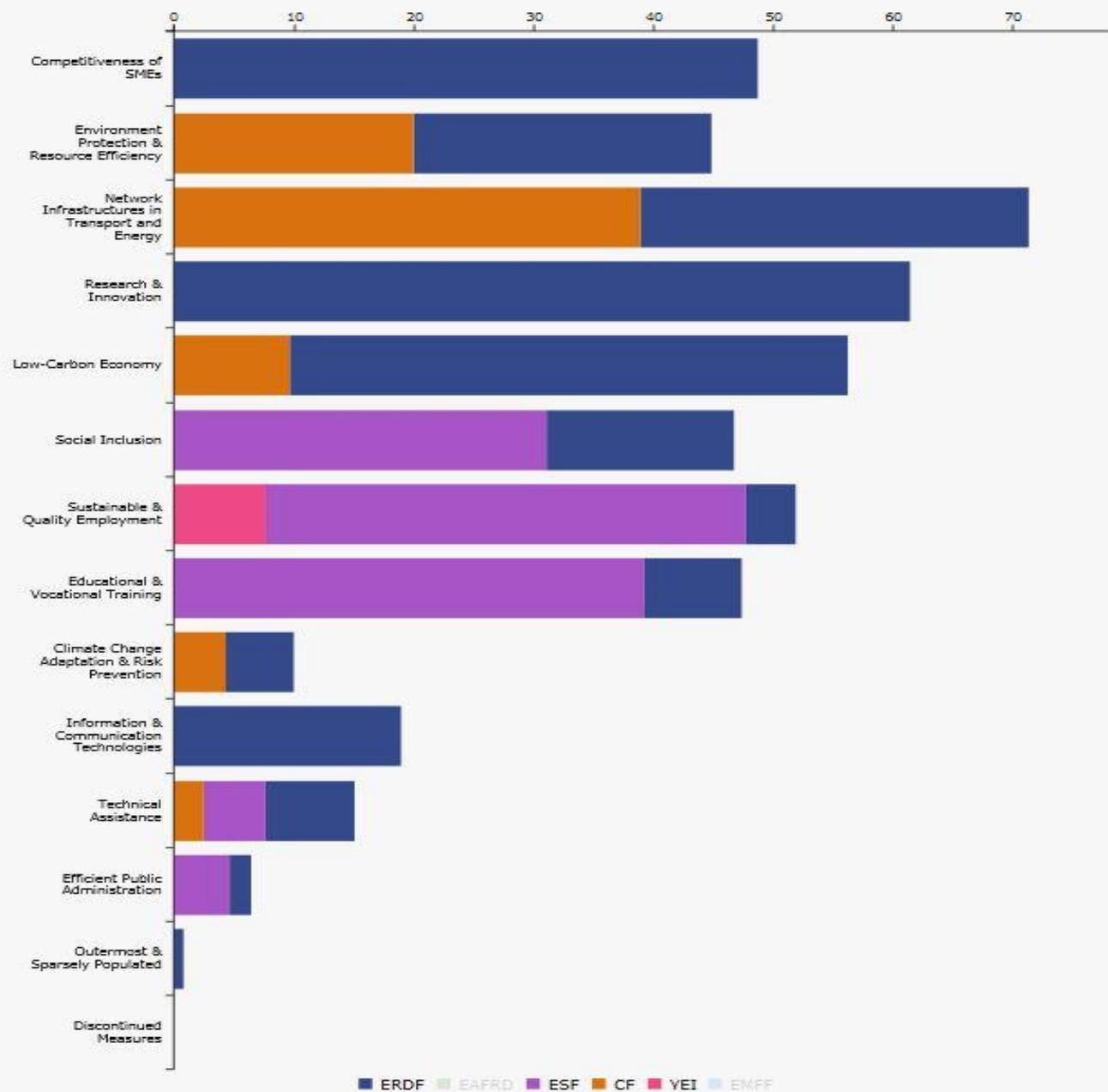
1. Strengthen research, technological development & innovation
2. Access to and use of information and communication technologies (ICT)
3. Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
4. Support the shift towards a low-carbon economy
5. Climate change adaptation & risk prevention and management
6. Environmental protection & resource efficiency
7. Sustainable transport & removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
8. Promoting employment & supporting labour mobility
9. Promoting social inclusion & combating poverty
10. Investing in education, skills & lifelong learning
11. Institutional capacity building & efficient public administrations

TOs 1-4 are the basis for thematic and financial concentration for ERDF/CF
(Investment priorities are used by ESF.)

2014-2020 – Cohesion policy by Thematic Objective

Total Budget by Theme, EUR Billion (daily update)

Explore and Share this Data [↗](#)



3. Cohesion policy reform post-2020

Part of a wider debate on the future EU budget (post-Brexit)

- 1. New priorities: Migration, Security, Climate Change, SDGs (2015 UN sustainable development goals)*
- 2. Performance: Learning from 2014-2020, further aligning with EU priorities, performance (reserve / perf. based payments)*
- 3. Flexibility: Budgetary reserve, re programming*
- 4. Simplification: reduce complex rules, financial control and audit*

Commission to propose Multiannual Financial Framework May 2018

4. References + Links

2007-2013:

- Ex post Evaluation: [LINK](#)

2014-2020:

- Article 16 Report (12/15 - [LINK](#))
- 7th Cohesion report – Forthcoming (10/17)
(6 th Cohesion report: [LINK](#) and 9th Progress report [LINK](#))
- Strategic report forthcoming (12/17): [LINK](#)
- Open Data platform: [LINK](#) FAQ [LINK](#)

OTHER

- DG REGIO Annual Activity Report 2016: [LINK](#)
- UK Balance of Competences review 2013: [LINK](#)

Reinforcing effectiveness and performance

Result Orientation => Focus on results - Guidance [LINK](#)

- Intervention rationale + result indicators
- common + programme-specific indicators,
- reporting, monitoring & evaluation obligations

Performance framework for all programmes

- clear and measurable milestones and targets
- 6% of national allocations (by Member State, fund and category of region)

Ex-ante conditionalities

- ensuring conditions for effective investment are in place

Macro-economic conditionality

- alignment with the new economic governance

Ex ante conditionalities: for 2014-2020

Research and innovation
Digital growth
SME competitiveness

Energy efficiency
Renewable energies

Risk prevention and risk
Management

Waste sector
Water sector

Road infrastructure
Rail infrastructure

Labour market:

2017 report: Value Added of Ex ante Conditionalities in the ESI Funds

[LINK](#)

Core Indicators :

Key outputs 2007-2014 (prelim.)

- **1.2 m jobs created (450 000 in SMEs, 46 000 RDT jobs)**
- **45 000 Research Inst. / firm cooperations**
- **Broadband access for 15 mio citizens**
- **132 000 start-up companies supported**
- **940 financial instruments in 25 Member States rising 8.36B€ funding for equity, loans and guarantees (2015)**
- **New renewable energy capacity 4 800 mw**
- **Access to clean drinking water for 9.6 mio citizens**
- **Access to wastewater treatment for 11.2 mio citizens**
- **4 228 km of reconstructed Railway**
- **41 000 km of new or reconstructed roads**
- **ESF: 15 Million participations per year**