


## EU FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES 2014-2020

# PRACTICAL GUIDE

**Author: FRANCESCA ROMANA ZOTTA**

**Research Advisor: Dino Babić**

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IUIES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES
EUROPEAN ACADEMY for education and social research

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# PRACTICAL GUIDE

**Author: FRANCESCA ROMANA ZOTTA** / f.zotta@europeanprojects.org

**Research Advisor: Dino Babić /** d.babic@europeanprojects.org

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs
www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu




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# INTRODUCTION

2014-2020 EU funding programmes and the budgetary provisions of the Multiannual Financial Framework serve as the roadmap toward the renewal of a highly competitive social market economy in Europe and globally. The complex economical challenges the EU countries are tackling, make the Union resources useful tools to re-launch its economy, to deliver high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion and to generate a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

This guide wants to address enterprises, institutions, universities or citizens on the funding programmes most suitable for their project ideas. Whoever wishes to be oriented within the complex opportunities offered by the European Union will find in this guide a streamline presentation of the Programmes, containing their general and specific objectives, eligibility criteria, supported actions, implementation criteria and budget provisions. The links to legal basis, press releases and to the website of the Programmes are reported on the bottom of the schedules.

Budgets indicated are those approved within the political agreement reached on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) by the EU institutions on the 27th June 2013, and set out in legal terms by the MFF Regulation adopted by the Council the 2nd December 2013. The amounts indicated for each Programme are in the majority of cases calculated both in 2011 and in current prices. The sources of information provided in the summary documents of the funding Programmes consist of the sector-specific Regulations and Decisions of the European Parliament and Council, legislative proposals of the Commission, documents disseminated by the DGs in charge and relevant EU Agencies, and official press releases.

## Europe 2020 strategy

The objectives of the funding Programmes for the period 2014-2020 follow the framework of EU's growth strategy for the coming decade. Europe 2020 stems from the necessity of taking charge of the EU future, tackling its structural weaknesses and facing the new societal long-term challenges: globalisation, pressure on resources, ageing.

The **priorities** of the Europe 2020 strategy mean to lead to a growth that is: smart, through more effective investments for developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation; sustainable, thanks to a decisive move towards a more resource efficient, greener and a more competitive economy; and inclusive, fostering job creation and poverty reduction.

Concretely, the Union has set five ambitious **targets** to be reached by 2020 within the framework set by its priorities on:

- EMPLOYMENT**:** 75% of the 20-64 year-olds to be employed;
- Innovation: 3% of the EU's GDP to be invested in R&D;
- Education: Reducing the rates of early school leaving below 10%; at least 40% of young generation completing third level education;
- Social inclusion: 20 million less people at risk of poverty;

Climate change and energy sustainability: greenhouse gas emissions 20% (eventually even 30%) lower than 1990; 20% of energy from renewables; 20% increase in energy efficiency.

To catalyse progress under each priority theme the Commission put forward seven **flagship** initiatives, which will commit both the EU and the Member States: "Innovation Union", "Youth on the move", "A digital agenda for Europe", "Resource efficient Europe", "An industrial policy for the globalization era", "An agenda for new skills and jobs", "European platform against poverty".

## The Multiannual Financial Framework

The Multiannual Financial Framework translates the EU priorities into financial terms, laying down the maximum annual amounts that the EU may spend in different political fields over the next seven years.

By defining in which areas the EU should invest more or less over the 2014-2020 period, the MFF is an expression of political priorities as much as a budgetary planning tool.

The intense negotiations engaged by the EU institutions toward the agreement on the 2014-2020 MFF resulted in the approval of an overall ceiling of €960 billion in commitments and €908 billion for payment appropriations, that is 3.5% and 3.7% respectively less than under the MFF 2007-2013. This discipline reflects the compromise reached in two years and a half by the EU institutions, between the EU policy of investments for growth and the budgetary pressure that member states have been facing at national levels.

The MFF is divided into categories of expense, also named "**Headings**" corresponding to different areas of EU activities: Smart and inclusive growth (47% of the overall budget), Sustainable growth (39%), Global Europe (6%), Administration (6%), Security and citizenships (2%).

## The main features of the 2014-2020 EU funding Programmes

A strong emphasis has been put on expenditure aimed at boosting growth and creating jobs, in line with the political priorities of the EU: the expenditure ceiling for subheading 1a **"competitiveness for growth and jobs"** is increased by more than 37% compared to the 2007-2013 MFF. This category of expenses includes, among the others, funding opportunities for research and innovation, education and training, trans-European networks in energy, transport and telecommunications, social policy, development of enterprises. A pivotal role in the creation of growth and jobs in Europe is played by the **new programme for research and innovation Horizon 2020**, which is equipped with a budget of almost EUR 80 billion in current prices, around 30% more than in the 2007-2013 period. The Programme intends to boost to top-level research in Europe, strengthen industrial leadership in innovation, and promote investments in key technologies, greater access to capital and support for SMEs. Horizon 2020 helps to address major societal challenges, contributes to bridge the gap between research and the market, and plays an important role in International cooperation. The new **COSME** programme is another crucial instrument for competitiveness, it makes €2.3 billion available for SMEs to foster their competitiveness and boost growth and jobs in Europe. COSME is a EU programme targeted to SMEs, it aims at facilitating their access to markets inside and outside the EU and offer easier access to finance through loan guarantees and risk-capital.

Subheading 1b **"Economic, social and territorial cohesion"** covers regional policy to help the least developed EU countries and regions to catch up with the rest, strengthening all regions' competitiveness and developing inter-regional cooperation. The reformed cohesion policy will make available up to €366.8 billion (current prices) to invest in Europe's regions, cities and the real economy. It is considered the EU's principle investment tool for delivering the Europe 2020 goals.

Heading b deals with **"Sustainable Growth and Natural Resources"**; it includes the common agricultural policy, common fisheries policy, rural development and environmental measures. Heading c **"Security and Citizenship"** includes justice and home affairs, border protection, immigration and asylum policy, public health, consumer protection, culture, youth, information and dialogue with citizens. "**Global Europe"** under Heading d covers all external action ('foreign policy') by the EU such as development assistance or humanitarian aid with the exception of the European Development Fund (EDF) which provides aid for development cooperation with African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, as well as overseas countries and territories. **Instruments for unforeseen circumstances**, like the Emergency Aid Reserve, the European Globalisation Fund, the Solidarity Fund, the Flexibility instrument and the European Development Fund are situated outside the ceilings of the MFF; if fully activated, they represent an additional €6.8 billion (or 0.04% of EU GNI).

## Structural and Investment Funds

The Structural Funds and Investment Funds (ESI) aim to improve the economic well-being of European regions and reduce regional disparities in terms of income, wealth and opportunities. The ESI funds are the financial tools set up to implement the EU 2014-2020 **Regional Policy**, also referred to as the EU **Cohesion Policy**, as from article 174 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

The ESI funds include the Structural Funds (European Regional Development Fund – ERDF and the European Social Fund – ESF), the Cohesion Fund (CF), the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), and operate under the **Common Strategic Framework (CSF).** The Common Strategic Framework replaces the previous separate sets of strategic guidelines, strengthening the integration of EU policies and ensuring greater impact for citizens and businesses on the ground.

The Cohesion Policy is the EU's main investment tool for delivering the goals of Europe 2020 strategy. Its budget amounts to around one third of the MFF overall budget. The Cohesion Policy will invest €325 billion (2011 prices) in European Member States, regions and cities. Taking into account the national contribution of Member States, and the leverage effect of financial instruments, the overall impact is likely to be more than €500 billion. The reform of Cohesion Policy aims at ensuring maximum impact for these investments, adapting them to the specific needs of regions and cities.

The Regional Policy addresses all European countries and regions, although the kind and the amount of support depend on the **region's level of economic development**.

**Less developed regions** (GDP/head: < 75% compared to EU28 average)

| **Population** | **Budget (2011 prices)** | **EU co-financing rate** | **Spending rules** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 119.2 million people | €164 billion | 75%-85% | At least 25% from ESF |

**Transition regions** (GDP/head: >75% < 90% compared to EU28 average)

| **Population** | **Budget (2011 prices)** | **EU co-financing rate** | **Spending rules** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 72,4 million people | €32 billion | 60% | At least 40% from ESF |

**More developed regions** (GDP/head: > 90% compared to EU28 average)

| **Population** | **Budget (2011 prices)** | **EU co-financing rate** | **Spending rules** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 307 million people | €49 billion | 50% | At least 52% from ESF |

European Structural and Investment Fund are implemented in close cooperation between the Commission and the Member States. The Commission negotiates with the

national authorities on the final content of the Partnership Agreement, as well as each Operational Programme (OPs). The programmes present the priorities of the country and/or regions or the cooperation area concerned. Workers, employers and civil society bodies can all participate in the programming and management of the OPs. Programmes are elaborated and implemented by Member States and their regions. This means selecting, monitoring and evaluating hundreds of thousands of projects. This work is organised by managing authorities in each country and/or region.

Each Fund supports the following **thematic objectives** in accordance with its mission in order to contribute to the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth:

- strengthening research, technological development and innovation;
- enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies;
- enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, the agricultural sector (for the EAFRD) and the fisheries and aquaculture sector (for the EMFF);
- supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors;
- promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management;
- protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency;
- promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures;
- promoting employment and supporting labour mobility;
- promoting social inclusion and combating poverty;
- investing in education, skills and lifelong learning;
- enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration.

Investments under the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** will be concentrated on 4 key priorities: innovation and research, the digital agenda, support for small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) and the low-carbon economy. Around €100 billion will be dedicated to these sectors, of which at least €23 billion will support the shift to a low-carbon economy (energy efficiency and renewable energies). Around €66 billion will be focused on priority Trans-European transport links and key environmental infrastructure projects through the Cohesion Fund. The percentage of funds dedicated to each of the above-mentioned sectors depends on the economic development of regions (these are divided in Less developed, in Transition and More developed regions).

ERDF can support additional activities under the **European territorial cooperation goal** with the purpose of sharing facilities and human resources, and all type of infrastructures across borders in all regions. Regulation N. 1299/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishes that, with regard to the European territorial cooperation goal, the ERDF shall support the following components:

- cross-border cooperation between adjacent regions to promote integrated regional development between neighbouring land and maritime border regions in two or more Member States or between neighbouring border regions in at least one Member State and one third country on external borders of the Union other than those covered by programmes under the external financial instruments of the Union;
- transnational cooperation over larger transnational territories, involving national, regional and local partners and also covering maritime cross-border cooperation in cases not covered by cross-border cooperation, with a view to achieving a higher degree of territorial integration of those territories;
- interregional cooperation to reinforce the effectiveness of cohesion policy by promoting exchange of experience focusing on thematic objectives among partners throughout the Union.

Resources for the European territorial cooperation goal shall amount to 2,75 % of the global resources available for budgetary commitment from the ERDF, ESF and the Cohesion Fund for the 2014-2020 programming period, as set out in Article 91(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013. Funds for territorial cooperation goal shall be allocated as follows: 74,05 % (i.e. € 6.6 billion) for cross- border cooperation; 20,36 % (i.e. € 1.8 billion) for transnational cooperation; 5,59 % (i.e. € 500 million) for interregional cooperation.

Through the **European Social Fund (ESF)**, Cohesion Policy will provide a significant contribution to EU priorities in the field of employment, for example through training and life-long learning, education and social inclusion (at least 20% of the ESF in each Member State will have to be used to support this objective). The ESF allocation will be established according to the needs of each Member State, subject to a pre-defined minimum, resulting in a total of at least €70 billion. The new **Youth Employment Initiative** linked to the ESF and worth at least 6 billion € will support the implementation of the Youth Guarantee.

The **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)** shall contribute to the Europe 2020 Strategy by promoting sustainable rural development throughout the

Union in a manner that complements the other instruments of the CAP, the Cohesion Policy and the Common Fisheries Policy. It shall contribute to the development of a Union agricultural sector that is more territorially and environmentally balanced, climate-friendly and resilient and competitive and innovative. It shall also contribute to the development of rural territories.

The **Cohesion Fund** concerns Member States with a Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant of less than 90% of the EU-average. Compared to 2007-2013, Spain will no longer be eligible for funding from the Cohesion Fund (Spain is currently eligible to a phase-out fund because its GNI is less than the EU-15 average). In 2014-2020 Cyprus will receive phasing-out support. Besides these two countries, the Cohesion Fund eligible countries will continue to be the same as in the programming period 2007-2013.

The **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)** will help fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing; support coastal communities in diversifying their economies; finance projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts; make it easier to access financing. The new Fund will be used to co-finance projects, along with national funding. Each country will be allocated a share of the total Fund budget, based on the size of its fishing industry.

Following the entry into force of the Common Provisions Regulation for the European Structural and Investment Funds, the Commission is empowered to adopt a delegated act on a European code of conduct to support Member States in organising the partnership. The code of conduct is intended to provide a **framework for partnership**, in accordance with Member States' institutional and legal frameworks, taking account of national and regional competences. Partnership implies close cooperation between public authorities, economic and social partners, and bodies representing civil society at national, regional and local levels, including environmental partners, community-based and voluntary organisations.

The new rules and legislation governing the next round of EU Cohesion Policy investment for 2014-2020 have been formally endorsed by the Council of the European Union and have been published in 24 languages on December 20 in the 'Official Journal of the EU'.

In contrast to the 2007-2013 programming period, the rules for 2014-2020 financial instruments are non-prescriptive with regards to sectors, beneficiaries, types of projects and activities that are to be supported. Member States and managing authorities may use financial instruments in relation to all thematic objectives covered by Operational

Programmes, and for all Funds, where it is efficient and effective to do so. The new framework also contains clear rules to enable better combination of financial instruments with other forms of support, in particular with grants, as this further stimulates the design of well-tailored assistance schemes that meet the specific needs of Member States or regions.

Member States now move to finalising their strategic plans with investment priorities for regional development, following months of preparation. Partnership Agreements will presumably be adopted in the early part of 2014.

# SMART AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH

**SMART AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH**

# COMPETITIVENESS FOR GROWTH AND JOBS




# HORIZON 2020

Horizon 2020 is the European Program for research and innovation for the funding period 2014-2020. It brings together into a single, coherent and flexible framework all research and innovation funding provided during the previous funding period 2007-2013 through the Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). Horizon 2020 provides funding for every stage of the innovation process from basic research to market uptake. It is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union.

Horizon 2020 structure consists of three priorities or pillars, which are implemented through specific programmes and a dedicated financial contribution:

- Excellent science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges

## General objectives

Horizon 2020 aims at:

- Promoting scientific excellence and the European research system;
- Increasing and supporting competitiveness and European industrial leadership;
- Responding to the major societal challenges Europe is facing by helping to bridge the gap between research and the market.

In particular, *Excellent Science* pillar aims at raising the level of excellence in Europe's science base and ensuring a steady stream of world-class research to secure Europe's long-term competitiveness. It supports the best ideas and the best talents by providing

training and career development opportunities, developing future and emerging technologies and EU research infrastructures.

*Industrial Leadership* objective is to make Europe a more attractive location to invest in research and innovation by supporting major investments in key industrial technologies, facilitating access to risk finance for innovative companies and projects, and providing Union wide support for innovation in small and medium-sized enterprises.

*Societal Challenges* pillar addresses major concerns shared by citizens in Europe and elsewhere and covers activities from research to market with a new focus on innovation-related activities, such as piloting, demonstration, test-beds, and support for public procurement and market uptake.

The specific programme named "*Non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre (JRC)*" is a in-house science service of the European Commission. Its mission is to provide scientific and technical support to EU policy making, thus operating at the interface between research and EU policy and to complement other Horizon 2020 funded research. It provides input throughout the whole policy cycle from conception to implementation and evaluation.

## Specific objectives

The primary aim of Horizon 2020 is to strengthen the EU's position as a world leader in science, in order to help make Europe a more attractive location for investing in research and innovation and to bring excellent research results to market, with direct benefits for citizens, such as affordable health-care and transition to a resource-efficient, low-carbon economy.

*Excellent Science specific objectives:*

- Boosting frontier research, through the activities of the European Research Council (ERC);
- Strengthening research in Future and Emerging Technologies (FET);
- Enhancing skills, training and career development, through the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions ( "Marie Curie actions");
- Supporting European research infrastructures, including e-infrastructures.

*Industrial leadership specific objectives:*

- Increasing job creation;
- Supporting innovation, increase market uptake;
- Stimulating private investment in R&I;
- Strengthening participation of innovative SMEs.

*Societal challenges specific objectives:*

- Improving lifelong health and wellbeing;
- Securing sufficient supply of safe, healthy and high quality food and other bio-based products;
- Making the transition to a reliable, affordable and sustainable energy system;
- Achieving a European transport system that is resource-efficient, climate- and environmentally-friendly, safe and seamless;
- Achieving a resource - and water-efficient and climate change resilient economy and society, the protection and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems, and a sustainable supply and use of raw materials;
- Fostering a greater understanding of Europe, providing solutions and supporting inclusive and innovative European societies.

## Supported actions

*Excellent Science supported actions:*

- European Research Council (ERC) provides substantial grants to top-level individual researchers working in Europe;
- Future and emerging technologies (FET) opens up new fields of research and innovation;
- Marie Curie Actions develops research and innovation skills through the training, mobility and career development of researchers;
- Funding is also available for supporting access to, and networking of priority research infrastructures across Europe.

*Industrial leadership supported actions:*

- Development of industrial capabilities in Key Enabling Technologies (KETs) which include (including ICT - Nanotechnologies - Advanced materials - Biotechnology - Advanced manufacturing and processing – Space);

- Access to risk finance (Debt facility, Equity facility and Specific implementation aspects);
- Innovation in SMEs (Mainstreaming SME support and Specific support).

*Societal challenges supported actions deal with:*

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing;
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research, and the bio-economy;
- Secure, clean and efficient energy;
- Smart, green and integrated transport;
- Inclusive, innovative and secure societies;
- Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials.

## Eligible countries

- 27 EU Member States;
- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation;
- Third countries that fulfil these criteria:
  - have a good capacity in science, technology and innovation;
  - have a good track record of participation in Union research and innovation programmes;
  - have close economic and geographical links to the Union.

## Eligible partners

- Independent researchers;
- Public bodies/entities;
- Private bodies/entities.

## Budget

- Overall: € 79.401, 83 million (current prices); € 70.200.0 million (2011 prices);
- Excellence Science: € 24.441 million (current prices);
- Industrial Leadership: € 17.015 million (current prices);
- Societal Challenges: € 29.670 million (current prices);

## EU financial contribution

- For research and development projects the share of the EU contribution can be up to 100% of the total eligible costs;
- For innovation projects up to 70% of the costs, with the exception of non-profit legal entities which can also receive up to 100% in these actions;
- In all cases indirect costs will be covered by a flat rate of 25% of the direct costs.

## Responsible body

- DG Research and Innovation

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1906/2006*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1291/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) and repealing Decision No 1982/2006/EC*

*Press release: Horizon 2020 approval*




# COSME

The new Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME) aims at supporting the competitiveness, growth and sustainability of EU's enterprises, in particular SMEs, and promoting entrepreneurship. To reach this goal, the programme eases SME's access to finance by providing loan guarantees and risk-capital, facilitates access to new markets inside and outside the EU and improves the framework conditions for businesses, e.g. by reducing the administrative burden on SMEs.

COSME builds on results and lessons learnt from the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP), such as the Enterprise Europe Network. It ensures continuity with initiatives and actions undertaken under EIP and continues the many successful features of the EIP, while simplifying management to make it easier for entrepreneurs and small businesses to benefit.

## General objective

COSME aims at strengthening the competitiveness and sustainability of the EU's enterprises, at encouraging an entrepreneurial culture and promoting the creation and growth of SMEs. These objectives will be met by improving:

- access to finance for SMEs;
- access to markets, inside the Union but also at global level;
- framework conditions for businesses;
- entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial culture.

## Supported actions

- Access to finance for SMEs through dedicated financial instruments in the different phases of their lifecycle: creation, expansion and business transfer. An Equity Facility for Growth provides venture capital to enterprises, in particular in their growth phase. A Loan Guarantee Facility covers loans up to EUR 150 000 and is available for all types of SMEs.

- Enterprise Europe Network: a network of business service centres. The Enterprise Europe Network is a "one-stop shop" for the business needs of SMEs in the EU and beyond. It brings together more than 600 business support organisations from across 60 countries, including chambers of commerce and industry, technology centres or development agencies. It provides enterprises with information and a range of quality and free-of-charge business support services to make them more competitive, such as:
  - free of charge information, guidance and customised assistance on EU funding opportunities, including in the Research and Innovation area;
  - support for SME partnering, especially for cross-border activities.

- Promotion of entrepreneurship trans-national networks, to exchange good practices and identify scope for expanding business activities.

  A broad range of specific actions is organised every year in the EU to support SMEs or specific target groups, such as young or women entrepreneurs. Established initiatives such as the SME week and the Network of Woman Entrepreneurs are continued. Mobility exchanges for entrepreneurs are maintained and expanded.

- Improvement of framework conditions for the competitiveness of enterprises and policy development

  Analytical work is undertaken to facilitate evidence-based policy-making by national and regional policymakers. Such work includes the compilation and analysis of data on performances and policies of the Member States and regions, as well as other economies, and also studies on the latest trends and development in certain sectors in European and global markets. Examples include the annual EU Competitiveness Report and the analysis on reducing the administrative burden in EU legislation affecting SMEs. A number of conferences and other public events are organised to assemble and disseminate sectoral knowledge, inform policy-makers, and make policy suggestions to increase the coherence and cooperation between EU Member States' policies to foster entrepreneurship.

- Internationalisation of SMEs

The COSME programme provides SMEs with support to facilitate business expansion in the EU Single Market and in markets outside the EU. International business cooperation is fostered, in particular, to reduce the differences in regulatory and business environments, between the EU and its main trading partners. Free of charge services are continued, such as those offered by the IPR Helpdesk for China, which helps managing the intellectual property rights and related issues in that country.

## Eligible partners

- Existing entrepreneurs (small businesses in particular) – easier access to funding for development, consolidation and growth of their business;
- Future entrepreneurs (including young people) – assistance in setting up their own business;
- National, regional and local authorities – tools for effectively reforming policy: reliable, EU wide data and statistics, best practice and financial support to test and scale up sustainable solutions for improving global competitiveness.

## Eligible countries

- Member States;
- EFTA countries;
- Accession countries, candidate countries and potential candidates;
- Countries under the scope of the European neighbourhood policies, when admitted;
- Other third countries with no financial contribution.

## Budget

- € 2.298, 24million (current prices)
- € 2.030,0 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

- The Loan Guarantee Facility (LGF) shall, except for loans in the securitized portfolio, cover loans up to € 150.000 and with a minimum maturity of 12 months (> €150 000 financing possible if the SME does not fulfil criteria to be eligible under the Risk Sharing Instrument of Horizon 2020).
- The investment from Equity Facility for Growth (EFG) in conjunction with the equity facility for RDI under Horizon 2020 shall not exceed 20% of the total EU investment except in cases of multi-stage funds.

## Responsible body

- DG Enterprise and Industry

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1287/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC*

*Press release: COSME: € 2.3 billion to foster the competitiveness of SMEs over the next seven years*




# ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ is the new programme proposed by the European Commission for education, training, youth and sport.

The Programme focuses on three types of key actions:

- transnational and international learning mobility of students, young people, teachers and staff;
- cooperation for innovation and good practices between education institutions and bodies active in the youth field, and the support to the policy agendas,
- support to capacity building in third countries, including enlargement countries, with a particular focus on neighbouring countries and the international policy dialogue.

It particularly aims to contribute to reach the following Europe 2020 headline targets:

- reduction of early school leaving rates;
- increase of 30-34 years old students having completed third level of education.

Erasmus+ replaces seven previous existing programmes in the areas of education, training and youth to increase efficiency, reduce duplication and fragmentation, and make it easier to apply for grants. Erasmus+ integrates previous international programmes (Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, Edulink and Alfa) and cooperation programmes with industrialised countries. To this end, the budget of the Programme is complemented by financial allocations coming from the different external cooperation instruments. A new financial instrument – a loan guarantee facility - is introduced to enable students to take their Masters degree in another European country.

## General objective

Erasmus+ aims at boosting skills and employability. The objective of the Programme is to increase the quality and relevance of Europe's education systems by providing funding for the professional development of education and training staff, as well as youth workers and for cooperation between universities, colleges, schools, enterprises, and not-for-profit organizations.

## Specific objectives

The Programme pursues the following specific objectives:

- to improve the level of key competences and skills regarding in particular their relevance for the labour market and society, as well as the participation of young people in democratic life in Europe, notably through increased learning mobility opportunities for young people, learners, staff and youth workers, and through strengthened cooperation between education youth and the world of labour market;
- to foster quality improvements, innovation excellence and internationalisation at the level of educational institutions, as well as in youth work, notably through enhanced transnational cooperation between education and training providers/youth organisations and other stakeholders;
- to promote the emergence of a European lifelong learning area, trigger policy reforms at national level, support the modernisation of education and training systems, including non-formal learning, and support European cooperation in the youth field, notably through enhanced policy cooperation, better use of recognition and transparency tools and the dissemination of good practices;
- to enhance the international dimension of education, training and youth notably in higher education by increasing the attractiveness of the Union higher education institutions and supporting the Union external action, including its development objectives through the promotion of mobility and cooperation between EU and third country higher education institutions and targeted capacity building in third countries;
- to improve the teaching and learning of languages and promote linguistic diversity;
- to promote excellence in teaching and research activities in European integration through the Jean Monnet activities worldwide.

*Sport area specific objectives:*

- to tackle transnational threats to sport such as doping, match fixing, violence, racism and intolerance;
- to support good governance in sport and dual careers of athletes;
- to promote social inclusion, equal opportunities and health-enhancing physical activity through increased participation in sport.

## Supported actions

In the field of education, training and youth, the Programme pursues its objectives through the following types of actions:

*Learning mobility of individuals* – supported actions:

- transnational mobility of higher education and vocational training students as well as of young people involved in non-formal activities between the participating countries;
- transnational mobility of staff, within the participating countries. Cooperation for innovation and good practices.

*Cooperation for innovation and good practices* – supported actions:

- transnational strategic partnerships between organisations involved in education, training and/or youth activities or other relevant sectors developing and implementing joint initiatives and promoting exchanges of experience and know-how;
- transnational partnerships between enterprises and education institutions;
- IT support platforms, including e-Twinning, covering educational sectors and youth allowing peer learning, virtual mobility and exchanges of best practices and opening access for participants from neighbour countries;
- development, capacity building, regional integration, knowledge exchanges and modernisation processes through partnerships between Union and third countries' higher education institutions as well as in the youth sector.

*Support for policy reform* – supported actions:

- activities related to the implementation of the Union policy agenda on education, training and youth (Open Methods of Coordination), as well as the Bologna and Copenhagen processes and the structured dialogue with young people;
- implementation in participating countries of Union transparency tools, in particular Europass, the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) and the support to EU-wide networks;
- policy dialogue with relevant European stakeholders in the area of education, training and youth, European Youth Forum, the National Academic Recognition Centres (NARIC), the Eurydice, Euroguidance and Eurodesk networks, as well as the eTwinning National Support Centres, the Europass National Centres, and the National Information Offices in the neighbourhood countries and acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates not fully participating in the programme.

*Jean Monnet activities* – supported actions:

- promote teaching and research on European integration world-wide among specialist academics, learners and citizens, notably through the creation of Jean Monnet Chairs and other academic activities, as well as by providing aid for other knowledge-building activities at higher education institutions;
- support the activities of academic institutions or associations active in the field of European integration studies and support a Jean Monnet label for excellence;
- support the following European academic institutions pursuing an aim of European interest: the European University Institute of Florence and the College of Europe (Bruges and Natolin campuses);
- promote policy debate and exchanges between the academic world and policymakers on Union policy priorities.

*Sport area* - supported activities:

- support to transnational collaborative projects;
- support to non-commercial European sport events involving several European countries;
- support the strengthening of the evidence base for policy making ;
- support to capacity building of sport organisations;
- dialogue with relevant European stakeholders.

## Eligible partners

- Individuals
- Educational institutions
- Youth organisations
- Enterprises
- Local authority
- Regional authorities
- Non-profit organizations

## Eligible countries

- Member States
- Iceland
- Liechtenstein
- Norway
- Switzerland
- Accession countries
- Candidate countries
- Potential candidates
- Countries from the Western Balkans

## Budget

- €14.774,52 million (current prices)
- € 13.010,0 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

- The maximum EU co-financing rate will be from 50% to 80%.

## Responsible body

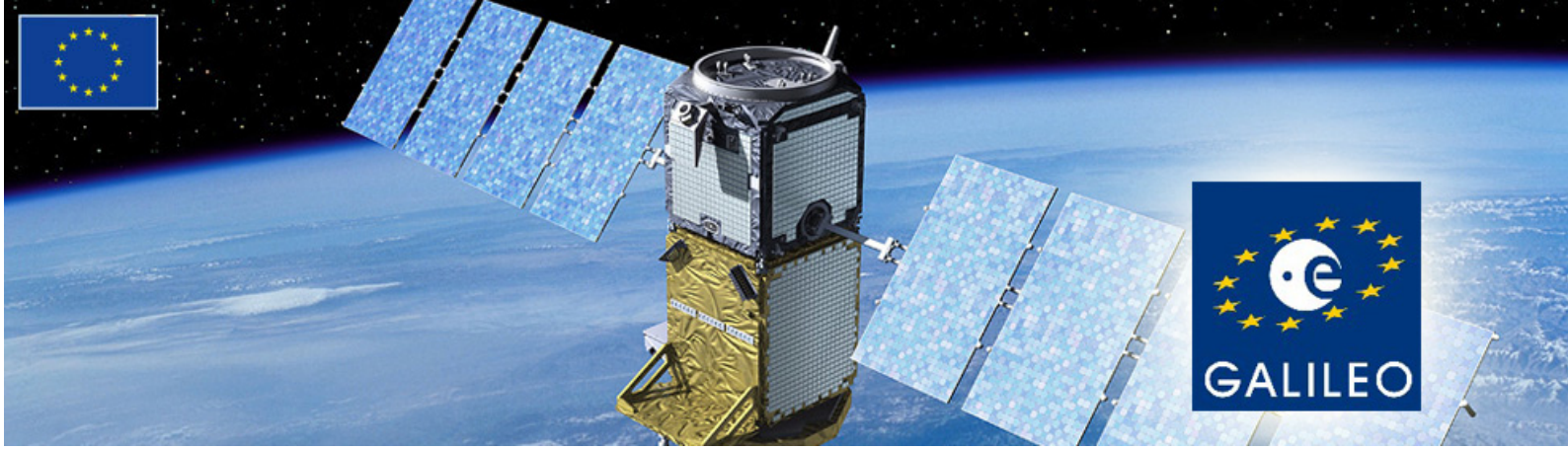
- DG Education and Culture

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1288/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing "Erasmus +": the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Decisions No 1719/2006/EC, No 1720/2006/EC and No 1298/2008/EC*

*Press release*




# GALILEO and EGNOS 2014-2020

Galileo is supporting the implementation and operation of satellite navigation systems. Galileo and EGNOS (European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service) programmes are flagship projects of the Union. In the period 2014-2020 the programme finances the completion of the deployment phase of the Galileo programme, the exploitation phase of the same programme and operation of the EGNOS system.

The European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) is the first step towards independent satellite navigation in Europe. It was developed to increase satellite navigation reliability and accuracy by complementing the American GPS system. EGNOS makes existing satellite navigation services suitable for safety-critical applications such as flying and landing aircraft or navigating ships through narrow channels.

## General objectives

- The aim of the Galileo programme is to establish and operate the first global satellite navigation and positioning infrastructure specifically designed for civilian purposes;
- The aim of the EGNOS programme is to improve the quality of signals from existing global navigation satellite systems (GNSS).

## The specific objectives of the Galileo programme

- to offer an open service (OS), which is free to the user and provides positioning and synchronisation information intended for high-volume satellite navigation applications;
- to offer a safety-of-life service (SoL) aimed at users for whom safety is essential. This service also fulfils the requirements of certain sectors for continuity, availability and accuracy and includes an integrity function alerting the user to any failure in the system;

- to offer a commercial service (CS) for the development of applications for professional or commercial use by means of improved performance and data with greater added value than those obtained through the open service;
- to offer a public regulated service (PRS) restricted to government-authorised users, for sensitive applications which require a high level of service continuity; this service uses strong, encrypted signals;
- to offer a public regulated service (PRS) restricted to government-authorised users, for sensitive applications which require a high level of service continuity; this service uses strong, encrypted signals.

## The specific objectives of the EGNOS programme

- to offer an open service (OS), which is free to the user and provides positioning and synchronisation information intended for high-volume satellite navigation applications in the area covered by the system;
- to offer a service for the dissemination of commercial data, the EGNOS Data Access Service (EDAS), to promote the development of applications for professional or commercial use by means of improved performance and data with greater added value than those obtained through the open service;
- to offer a safety-of-life service (SoL) service aimed at users for whom safety is essential; in particular, this service fulfils the requirements of certain sectors for continuity, availability and accuracy and includes an integrity message alerting the user to any failure in the system over the coverage area;
- extending geographic coverage to these services throughout the territory of the Union and, subject to technical constraints and on the basis of international agreements, to other regions of the world, in particular territories of third countries covered by the single European sky.

## Supported actions

- activities relating to the deployment phase of the Galileo programme, including actions to manage and monitor this phase;
- activities relating to operation of the system established under the Galileo programme, including advance or preparatory actions for this phase;
- activities associated with the operation of the EGNOS system.
- The Union budget appropriations assigned to the programmes may also cover Commission expenditure relating to preparation, monitoring, inspection, audit

and assessment activities required for their management and the implementation of the objectives, in particular expenditure covering:

- studies and meetings with experts;
- information and communication activities, including institutional communication on the policy priorities of the Union where they are directly linked to the objectives of this programme;
- IT technology networks, with the objective of processing or transferring data;
- any other technical or administrative assistance given to the Commission for the management of programmes.

## Eligible countries

- EU and ESA Member States;
- Third countries after approval by the European Council.

## Eligible partners

Within the deployment and exploitation phases of the programmes, public procurement procedures will be conducted. Galileo itself will not launch call for proposals, only calls for tenders.

## Budget

- € 7.071,73 million (current prices)
- € 6.300,0 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Enterprises and Industry

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*
*REGULATION (EU) No 1285/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the implementation and exploitation of European satellite navigation systems and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 876/2002 and Regulation (EC) No 683/2008 on the European Parliament and of the Council*

*Press release*




# PERICLES 2020

The Pericles Programme funds exchanges, assistances and training for authorities, banks and others involved in combating euro-counterfeiting – both in the eurozone and in EU countries outside the eurozone. The aim is better protection for euro banknotes and coins in Europe and worldwide – by ensuring anti-counterfeiting measures throughout the EU have equivalent effect while respecting distinct national traditions and by improving cooperation between authorities.

## General objective

The general objective of the Programme is to prevent and combat counterfeiting and fraud thus enhancing the competitiveness of the European economy and securing the sustainability of public finances.

## Specific objectives

The specific objective of the Programme is to protect the euro banknotes and coins against counterfeiting and related fraud, by supporting and supplement the measures undertaken by the Member States and assisting the competent national and European authorities in their efforts to develop between themselves and with the European Commission a close and regular cooperation, also including third countries and international organisations.

## Eligible partners

- national law enforcement agencies, national central banks, issuing institution, judicial authorities in the public sector;
- commercial banks, money exchange offices and the cash-operated industry in the private sector.

## Implementation

- The technical, scientific and operational support provided by Pericles takes two forms:
- Grants – co-financing for specific projects proposed by the relevant national authorities in response to calls for proposals;
- Projects initiated by the Commission (OLAF) – transnational conferences, training and workshops, in EU countries and outside the EU.

## Budget

- € 1 million per year (Proposal budget);

## EU financial contribution

The maximum EU co-financing rate will be of 90 % of eligible costs, in duly substantiated exceptional cases.

## Responsible body

- European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

## Links and more info

*OLAF webpage*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (the 'Pericles 2020' programme)*

*Press release: New anti-fraud programmes adopted to protect EU financial interests until 2020*




# HERCULE III

The Hercule III programme is established to promote activities against fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union. The programme contributes to an increased transnational cooperation and more effective prevention of fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union, by offering joint specialised training for staff of national, regional administrations and to other stakeholders.

## General objective

The general objective of the Programme is to protect the financial interest of the Union thus enhancing the competitiveness of the European economy and ensuring the protection of the taxpayers' money.

## Specific objective

The specific objective of the Programme is to prevent and combat fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities against the Union's financial interest.

## Eligible countries

- the Member States;
- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements, Association Council Decisions or similar Agreements;
- partner countries under the European Neighbourhood Policy provided that these countries have reached a sufficient level of alignment of the relevant legislation and administrative methods with those of the Union. The partner countries

concerned shall participate to the Programme in accordance with provisions to be determined with those countries following the establishment of Framework Agreements concerning their participation in Union programmes;

- the EFTA/EEA countries, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the EEA Agreement;
- representatives of countries forming part of the stabilisation and association process for countries of South-Eastern Europe, the Russian Federation, and certain countries with which the Union has concluded an agreement for mutual assistance in fraud-related matters, and representatives of international and other relevant organizations.

## Eligible partners

- national or regional administrations of a Member State or a third country which promote the strengthening of action at Union level to protect the Union's financial interests;
- research and educational institutes and non-profit making entities provided that they have been established and have been operating for at least one year, in a Member State or in a third country and promote the strengthening of action at Union level to protect the Union's financial interests.

## Supported actions

Provision of specialised technical assistance for national authorities through:

- providing specific knowledge, specialised and technically advanced equipment and effective information technology (IT) tools facilitating transnational cooperation and cooperation with the Commission;
- ensuring the necessary support and facilitating investigations, in particular the setting up of joint investigation teams and cross border operations;
- supporting Member States' capacity to store and destroy seized cigarettes as well as independent analytical services for the analysis of seized cigarettes;
- enhancing staff exchanges for specific projects, in particular in the field of the fight against cigarette smuggling and counterfeiting;
- providing technical and operational support for the law enforcement authorities of the Member States in their fight against illegal cross border activities and fraud affecting the Union financial interests, including in particular support for customs authorities;

- building information technology capacity throughout the Member States and third countries by developing and providing specific databases and IT tools facilitating data access and analysis;
- increasing data exchange, developing and providing IT tools for investigations, and monitoring intelligence work.

Organisation of specialised training, and risk analysis training workshops, as well as conferences, aimed at:

- further fostering better understanding of Union and national mechanisms;
- exchanging experience between the relevant authorities in the Member States, and third countries as well as representatives of international organizations, including specialised law enforcement services;
- coordinating the activities of Member States, third countries, and international public organizations;
- disseminating knowledge, particularly on better identification of risk for investigative purposes;
- developing high-profile research activities, including studies;
- improving cooperation between practitioners and academics;
- further raising the awareness of the judiciary and other branches of the legal profession for the protection of the financial interests of the Union.

## Implementation

Union funding shall take the form of grants, public procurement or reimbursement of costs for participation in activities under the programmes incurred by representatives.

## Budget

- €110 million (Proposal budget)

## EU financial contribution

The co-financing rate for grants awarded under the programme shall not exceed 80 % of the eligible costs. In exceptional and duly justified cases, defined in the annual work programme, the co-financing rate shall not exceed 90 % of the eligible costs.

## Responsible body

- European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

## Links and more info

*OLAF webpage*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the Hercule III programme to promote activities in the field of the protection of the European Union's financial interests*

Press release: New anti-fraud programmes adopted to protect EU financial interests until 2020




# CUSTOMS 2020

## General objective

The general objective of the programme shall be to strengthen the internal market through an efficient and effective customs union.

## Specific objective

The specific objective of the programme shall be to support the functioning of the customs union, in particular through cooperation between participating countries, their customs authorities, other competent authorities, their officials and external experts.

## Eligible countries

- Member States;
- Acceding Countries;
- Candidate Countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements, Association Council Decisions or similar Agreements;
- Partner Countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy, provided that those countries have reached a sufficient level of approximation of the relevant legislation and administrative methods to those of the Union.

## Supported actions

- Joint Actions pursuing the exchange of knowledge and good practice between customs officials of the participating countries (seminars, workshops, studies, project groups, public administration capacity building, other supported actions);

- European Information Systems facilitating the exchange of information and access to common data;
- training activities leading to human competency building for customs officials across Europe.

## Budget

- € 547,3 million (current prices)

## EU financial contribution

The co-financing rate for grants shall be up to 100 % of the eligible costs where the latter are travel and accommodation costs, costs linked to organisation of events and daily allowances. That rate shall apply to all eligible actions with the exception of expert teams. For this category of eligible actions, the annual work programmes will specify the applicable co-financing rate when these actions require the awarding of grants.

## Responsible body

- DG Taxation and Customs Union

## Links and more info

*Customs 2020 programme proposal webpage*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1294/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing an action programme for customs in the European Union for the period 2014-2020 (Customs 2020) and repealing Decision N°624/2007/EC*




# FISCALIS 2020

The Fiscalis 2020 Programme is created to fight against tax fraud and support revenue collection for the EU and Member States' budgets. It is a key element in efforts to strengthen an EU Internal Market.

## General objective

The general objective of the programme shall be to strengthen the internal market through an efficient and effective taxation systems.

## Specific objective

The specific objective of the programme shall be to improve the operation of the taxation systems, in particular through cooperation between participating countries, their tax authorities, their officials and external experts.

## Eligible actions

- Joint Actions pursuing the exchange of knowledge and good practice between tax officials of the participating countries (seminars, workshops, studies, project groups, public administration capacity building, expert teams, other supported actions);
- IT capacity building: development, maintenance, operation and quality control of Union components of European Information Systems;
- Human competency building: common training actions to support the necessary professional skills and knowledge relating to taxation.

## Eligible countries

- Member States;
- Acceding Countries;
- Candidate Countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements, Association Council Decisions or similar Agreements;
- Partner Countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy, provided that those countries have reached a sufficient level of approximation of the relevant legislation and administrative methods to those of the Union.

## Implementation

- participating countries shall integrate, where appropriate, jointly developed training content, including e-learning modules, training programmes and commonly agreed training standards in their national training programmes;
- participating countries shall ensure that their officials receive the initial and continuing training necessary to acquire common professional skills and knowledge in accordance with the training programmes;
- participating countries shall provide the linguistic training necessary for officials to ascertain a sufficient level of linguistic competence for participation in the programme.

## Budget

- € 234,3 million (current prices)

## EU financial contribution

The co-financing rate for grants shall be up to 100 % of the eligible costs where the latter are travel and accommodation costs, costs linked to organisation of events and daily allowances. That rate shall apply to all eligible actions with the exception of expert teams. For this category of eligible actions, the annual work programmes will specify the applicable co-financing rate when these actions require the awarding of grants.

## Responsible body

- DG Taxation and Customs Union

## Links and more info

*Fiscalis 2020 programme proposal for 2014-2020 webpage*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1286/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing an action programme to improve the operation of taxation systems in the European Union for the period 2014-2020 (Fiscalis 2020) and repealing Decision N°1482/2007/EC*




# CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY

Connecting Europe Facility supports projects in the field of transport, energy and telecommunications infrastructure and enables the preparation and implementation of projects of common interest within the framework of the trans-European networks policy. In particular the Connecting Europe Facility supports the implementation of projects aiming at the development and construction of new or upgrading of existing infrastructure.

## General objectives

Contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth by developing modern and high performing trans-European networks, thus bringing forward benefits for the entire European Union in terms of competitiveness and economic, social and territorial cohesion within the Single Market and creating an environment more conducive to private and public investment through a combination of financial instruments and Union direct support and by exploiting synergies across the sectors. The achievement of this objective will be measured by the volume of public and private investment in projects of common interest realised through the financial instruments under this Regulation.

Enable the Union to achieve its targets of a 20% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, a 20% increase in energy efficiency and raising the share of renewable energy to 20% up to 2020, while ensuring greater solidarity among Member States.

## Specific objectives

In the field of transport, the Connecting Europe Facility supports projects of common interest pursuing the objectives set out below:

- removing bottlenecks and bridging missing links, to be measured by the number of new and improved cross-border connections and removed bottlenecks on transport routes which have benefited from CEF;
- ensuring sustainable and efficient transport in the long run, to be measured by the length of the conventional railway network in the EU-27 and the length of high-speed railway network in the EU-27;
- optimise the integration and interconnection of transport modes and enhancing interoperability of transport services. The achievement of this objective will be measured by the number of ports and airports connected to the railway network.

In the field of energy, the Connecting Europe Facility supports projects of common interest pursuing the following objectives:

- promoting the further integration of the internal energy market and the interoperability of electricity and gas networks across borders, including by ensuring that no Member State is isolated from the European network, to be measured by the number of projects effectively interconnecting Member states' networks and removing internal bottlenecks;
- enhancing Union security of supply, to be measured by the evolution of system resilience and security of system operations as well as number of projects allowing diversification of supply sources, supplying counterparts and routes;
- contributing to sustainable development and protection of the environment, notably by fostering the integration of energy from renewable sources into the transmission network and developing carbon dioxide networks, to be measured by the transmission of renewable energy from generation to major consumption centres and storage sites, and the sum of CO2 emissions prevented by the construction of the projects which benefited from CEF.

In the field of telecommunications networks the Connecting Europe Facility provides for action to support projects of common interest pursuing the following objectives:

- accelerating the deployment of fast and ultrafast broadband networks and their uptake, including by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), to be measured

by the level of broadband and ultrafast broadband coverage and the number of households having subscribed for broadband connections for above 100 Mbps;

- promoting the interconnection and interoperability of national public services online as well as access to such networks, to be measured by the percentage of citizens and businesses using public services on-line and the availability of such services across borders.

## Eligibility criteria

- Proposals may be submitted by one or several Member States, international organisations, joint undertakings, or public or private undertakings or bodies established in Member States.
- For that purpose, proposals may be submitted by entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law, provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and offer guarantee for the protection of the Union's financial interests equivalent to that offered by legal persons.
- Proposals submitted by natural persons shall not be eligible.
- Where it is needed to achieve the objectives of a given project of common interest, third countries and entities established in third countries may participate in actions contributing to the projects of common interest.

## Budget

- € 21.936,76 million (current prices)
- € 19.300,0 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

*In the field of transport:*

- with regard to grants for studies, the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 50% of the eligible costs;
- with regard to grants for works:
- rail and inland waterways: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 20% of the eligible cost; the funding rate may be increased to 30% for actions

addressing bottlenecks; the funding rate may be increased to 40% for actions concerning cross-border sections;

- inland transport connections to ports and airports, actions to reduce rail freight noise by retrofitting of existing rolling stock, as well as development of ports and multi-modal platforms: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 20% of the eligible cost.
- with regard to grants for traffic management systems and services:
- the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS): the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 50% of the eligible cost;
- traffic management systems, freight transport services, secure parkings on the road core network, as well as actions to support the development of Motorways of the Seas: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 20% of the eligible cost.

In the field of energy:

- the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 50% of the eligible cost of studies and/or works;
- co-financing rates may be increased to a maximum of 80% for actions.

In the field of telecommunications:

- actions in the field of broadband networks: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 50% of the eligible cost;
- actions in the field of generic services: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 75% of the eligible costs;
- core service platforms shall be typically funded by procurement. In exceptional cases, they may be funded by a grant covering up to 100% of eligible costs, without prejudice to the co-financing principle;
- programme support actions including infrastructure mapping, twinning and technical assistance: the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed 75% of the eligible costs.

## Responsible bodies

- DG Communication Networks, Content and Technology, DG Mobility and Transport, DG Energy

## Links and more info

*Digital agenda for Europe – Connecting Europe Facility*

*Infrastructures – TEN-t – Connecting Europe Facility*

*REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the Connecting Europe Facility*

*Communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the council, the European court of justice, the Court of auditors, the European investment bank, the*

*European economic and social committee and to the Committee of the regions - A growth package for integrated European infrastructures*

*Brochure CEF*




# INSTRUMENT FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY CO-OPERATION (INSC)

The Nuclear Safety Co-operation Instrument (NSCI) finances measures to support a higher level of nuclear safety, radiation protection and the application of efficient and effective safeguards of nuclear materials in third countries.

## Objectives

- promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety standards and radiation protection;
- responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, decommissioning and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations;
- establishment of frameworks and methodologies for the application of efficient and effective safeguards for nuclear material in third countries.

## Supported actions

The promotion of an effective nuclear safety culture and implementation of the highest nuclear safety standards and radiation protection at all levels, in particular through:

- continuous support for regulatory bodies, technical support organisations, and the reinforcement of the regulatory framework;
- the promotion of effective regulatory frameworks, procedures and systems to ensure adequate protection against ionising radiations from radioactive materials;
- the establishment of effective arrangements for the prevention of accidents with radiological consequences as well as the mitigation of such consequences should they occur, and for emergency-planning, preparedness and response, civil protection and rehabilitation measures;

- support to nuclear operators, in exceptional cases, under specific and well justified circumstances in the framework of follow-up measures of the comprehensive safety and risk assessments ('stress tests').

Responsible and safe management of spent fuel and radioactive waste, decommission and remediation of former nuclear sites and installations, in particular through:

- cooperation with third countries in the domain of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste management (i.e. transport, pre-treatment, treatment, processing, storage and disposal), including the development of specific strategies and frameworks for the responsible management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste;
- the development and implementation of strategies and frameworks for decommissioning existing installations, for the remediation of former nuclear sites and legacy sites related to uranium mining, and for the recovery and management of sunken radioactive objects and material at sea;
- the establishment of the necessary regulatory framework and methodologies (including nuclear forensics methods) for the implementation of nuclear safeguards, including for the proper accounting and control of fissile materials at State and operators' level;
- measures to promote international cooperation (including in the framework of relevant international organisations, notably IAEA) in the above fields, including the implementation and monitoring of international Conventions and Treaties, exchange of information, capacity building and training in the area of nuclear safety and research.

These measures shall include a substantial element of know-how transfer in order to reinforce sustainability of the results achieved. They must be implemented through cooperation with third countries' authorities, nuclear regulators and their technical support organisations and, in specific cases, with nuclear operators. The measures should also be supported by exploiting further synergies with the direct and indirect actions of the Euratom Framework Programmes in nuclear research and training.

## Eligibility criteria

The geographic scope of the Instrument includes decentralized bodies, private companies, non-state actors such as non-governmental organizations or professional associations, natural persons, the Joint Research Centre or EU agencies, international organizations and

financial institutions from third countries (with special focus on Russia, Ukraine, Armenia and Kazakhstan, Northern African, ACP and Latin American countries).

**Budget**

- € 225, 32 million (current prices)
- € 200,0 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution:

The assistance is implemented on the basis of multiannual strategy papers and multiannual indicative programmes.

The financing may take the form of projects or programmes, grants to fund measures, contributions to guarantee funds and national or international funds, or even human or material resources. Actions financed may be either entirely funded by the EU or co-financed with one or more partners.

## Responsible body

- Development and Cooperation - Europe Aid

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*COUNCIL REGULATION establishing an Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation*

**SMART AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH**

# ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION




# EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF) 2014-2020

The ERDF aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions. The ERDF supports regional and local development by co-financing investments in R&D and innovation, climate change and environment, business support to SMEs, services of common economic interest, telecommunication, energy and transport infrastructures, health, education and social infrastructures, and sustainable urban development.

## Specific objectives

The ERDF supports:

- productive investment, which contributes to creating and safeguarding sustainable jobs, through direct aid to investment in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);
- investments in infrastructure providing basic services to citizens in the areas of energy, environment, transport, and information and communication technologies (ICT);
- investments in social, health and educational infrastructure;
- development of endogenous potential by supporting regional and local development and research and innovation. These measures includes:
- fixed investment in equipment and small-scale infrastructure;
- support for and services to enterprises, in particular SMEs;
- support to public research and innovation bodies and investment in technology and applied research in enterprises;
- networking, cooperation and exchange of experience between regions, towns, and relevant social, economic and environmental actors;
- technical assistance.

In more developed regions, the ERDF does not support investments in infrastructure providing basic services to citizens in the areas of environment, transport, and ICT.

## Supported priorities

The ERDF supports the following investment priorities:

- strengthening research, technological development and innovation;
- enhancing access to and use and quality of ICT;
- enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs;
- supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors;
- promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management;
- protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency;
- promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures;
- promoting employment and supporting labour mobility;
- promoting social inclusion and combating poverty;
- investing in education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure;
- enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration by strengthening of institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to implementation of the ERDF, and in support of actions in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administration supported by the ESF.

## Thematic concentration of resources

The mechanism proposed provides that:

- at least 80% of resources are focused on energy efficiency and renewables, research and innovation and SME support in more developed and transition regions of which 20% for energy efficiency and renewables.
- given the ongoing restructuring needs in regions phasing out from the Convergence objective, the minimum percentage shall be reduced for those regions to 60%, of which 15% for energy efficiency and renewables;

- at least 50% of resources are focused on energy efficiency and renewables, research and innovation and SME support in less developed regions, of which 6% for energy efficiency and renewables.

## EU financial contribution

- The maximum EU co-financing rates will be: 75-85% in less developed and outermost regions, 60% in transition regions, and 50% in more developed regions.

## Responsible body

- DG Regional policy – Inforegio

## Links and more info

*Programme website*

*Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 website*

*REGULATION (EU) No 130/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on the European Regional Development Fund and on specific provisions concerning the Investment for growth and jobs goal and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1080/2006*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

*Press release: EU Cohesion Policy: Commission welcomes European Parliament's support for fundamental reforms*




# EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND 2014-2020 (ESF)

The European Social Fund (ESF) supports policies and priorities aiming to achieve progress towards full employment, enhance quality and productivity at work, increase the geographical and occupational mobility of workers within the Union, improve education and training systems, and promote social inclusion, thereby contributing to economic, social and territorial cohesion.

## Specific objectives

- promoting employment and supporting labour mobility;
- investing in education, skills and life-long learning;
- promoting social inclusion and combating poverty;
- enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration;
- supporting the shift towards low-carbon, climate resilient and resource efficient economy;
- enhancing the use of information and communication technologies, strengthening research;
- technological development and innovation and enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises.

## Supported actions

*Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility:*

- access to employment for job-seekers and inactive people, including local employment initiatives and support for labour mobility;
- sustainable integration of young people not in employment, education or training into the labour market;

- self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation;
- equality between men and women and reconciliation between work and private life;
- adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change;
- active and healthy ageing;
- modernisation and strengthening of labour market institutions, including actions to enhance transnational labour mobility.

*Investing in education, skills and life-long learning:*

- reducing early school-leaving and promoting equal access to good- quality early-childhood, primary and secondary education;
- improving the quality, efficiency and openness of tertiary and equivalent education with a view to increasing participation and attainment levels;
- enhancing access to lifelong learning, upgrading the skills and competences of the workforce and increasing the labour market relevance of education and training systems.

*Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty:*

- active inclusion;
- integration of marginalised communities such as the Roma;
- combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
- enhancing access to affordable, sustainable and high-quality services, including health care and social services of general interest;
- promoting the social economy and social enterprises;
- community-led local development strategies.

*Enhancing institutional capacity and efficient public administration:*

- investment in institutional capacity and in the efficiency of public administrations and public services with a view to reforms, better regulation and good governance;
- capacity building for stakeholders delivering employment, education and social policies and sectorial and territorial pacts to mobilise for reform at national, regional and local level.
- supporting the shift towards a low-carbon, climate-resilient, resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable economy, through reform of education and training

systems, adaptation of skills and qualifications, up-skilling of the labour force, and the creation of new jobs in sectors related to the environment and energy;

- enhancing the accessibility, use and quality of information and communication technologies, through the development of digital literacy, investment in e-inclusion, e-skills and related entrepreneurial skills;
- strengthening research, technological development and innovation, through the development of post-graduate studies, the training of researchers, networking activities and partnerships between higher education institutions, research and technological centers and enterprises;
- enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises, through promoting the adaptability of enterprises and workers and increased investment in human capital.

## Eligibility criteria

A wide range of organisations, both from the public and private sector can apply for funding, from regional and local authorities, educational and training institutions, non-governmental institutions, trade unions, works councils, industry and professional associations to individual companies.

## Implementation

Each Member State, in partnership with the European Commission, agrees on one or more Operational Programmes for ESF funding for the seven-year programming period. Operational Programmes describe the priorities for ESF activities and their objectives. The EU distributes ESF funding to the Member States and regions to finance their operational programmes. Programmes fund employment-related projects which are run by a range of public and private organisations called beneficiaries. These projects benefit their participants – usually individuals, but also companies or organisations.

## EU financial contribution

- The maximum EU co-financing rates will be: 75-85% in less developed and outermost regions, 60% in transition regions, and 50% in more developed regions.

## Responsible body

- DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1304/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

*Adoption of the ESF Regulation by the European Parliament*




# YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES

The European Council has decided to create a Youth Employment Initiative to add to and reinforce the very considerable support already provided through the EU structural funds. The Initiative is open to all regions (NUTS level 2) with levels of youth unemployment above 25%.

## Objective

The Youth Employment Initiative aims to ensure that all young people aged 15-24 not in employment, education or training (so-called NEETs) receive a good-quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or traineeship within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education.

## Supported actions

The support provided by the European Social Fund for the implementation of the Youth Guarantee covers funding activities to directly help young such as job provision, traineeships and apprenticeships, business start-up support, etc.

## Eligible countries

- European Union Member States

## Eligible beneficiaries

The YEI supports targets all young persons (aged 15-24) not in employment, education or training, residing in the eligible regions, which are inactive or unemployed (including long-term unemployed).

## Implementation

The Youth Employment Initiative is integrated in the programming of the ESF. The precise measures will be agreed between the Commission and the Member States in the context of the cohesion policy programming process. The YEI will thus be complementary to operations undertaken at national level, including those with ESF support, with a view to setting up or implementing the Youth Guarantee schemes. To achieve this complementarity, the implementation of the YEI should be fully integrated in ESF programming under the investment priority on support to the sustainable integration of young NEETs into the labour market.

Member States will design the scheme according to national, regional and local circumstances, considering issues such as the fact that young people are not a homogenous group, principles of mutual obligation and the need to address the risk of cycles of inactivity. Macroeconomic conditionality should apply. When taking into account the economic and social circumstances of the Member State concerned, attention should be paid to the labour market situation and prospects of young people.

The arrangements may take one or several of the following forms:

- a dedicated operational programme;
- a dedicated priority axis within an operational programme;
- a part of a priority axis.

## Budget

- € 3. 211, 22 million (current prices)
- € 3.000,o million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1304/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on the European Social Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006*

*COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS. Youth Employment Imitative*




# COHESION FUND 2014-2020

The Cohesion Fund helps Member States who's GNI per inhabitant is less than 90% of the EU27 average in making investments in TEN-T transport networks and the environment. Part of the Cohesion Fund allocation (€10 billion) is ring-fenced to finance core transport networks under the "Connecting Europe" Facility. The Cohesion Fund can also support projects related to energy, as long as they clearly present a benefit to the environment, for example by promoting energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

## Objectives

The Cohesion Fund, ensuring an appropriate balance and according to the investment and infrastructure needs specific to each Member State, supports:

- investments in the environment, including areas related to sustainable development and energy which present environmental benefits;
- trans-European networks in the area of transport infrastructure, in compliance with the guidelines adopted by Decision No 661/2010/EU;
- technical assistance.

### Investment priorities

The Cohesion Fund supports the following investment priorities:

- supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors by:
- promoting the production and distribution of renewable energy sources;
- promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy use in small and medium-sized enterprises;
- supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy use in public infrastructures;
- developing smart distribution systems at low voltage levels ;
- promoting low-carbon strategies for urban areas;
- promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management by:

- supporting dedicated investment for adaptation to climate change;
- promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems;
- protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency by:
- addressing the significant needs for investment in the waste sector to meet the requirements of the Union's environmental acquis;
- addressing the significant needs for investment in the water sector to meet the requirements of the Union's environmental acquis;
- protecting and restoring biodiversity, including through green infrastructures;
- improving the urban environment, including regeneration of brownfield sites and reduction of air pollution.
- promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures, by:
- supporting a multi-modal Single European Transport Area by investing in the Trans-European Transport Network;
- developing environment-friendly and low-carbon transport systems including promoting sustainable urban mobility;
- developing comprehensive, high quality and interoperable railway systems;
- enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration by strengthening of institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administrations and public services related to implementation of the Cohesion Fund.

## Budget

- € 74.928,36 million (current prices)
- € 66.362,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution:

- The maximum EU co-financing rates will be: 75-85% in less developed and outermost regions, 60% in transition regions, and 50% in more developed regions.

## Responsible body

- DG Regional Policy - Inforegio

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1300/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on the Cohesion Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1084/2006*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

Press release on cohesion policy adoption




# EU PROGRAMME FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL INNOVATION (EaSI)

The European Union Programme on Employment and Social Innovation aims to increase coherence of EU action in the employment and social areas by bringing together and building on the implementation of the Progress Programme (Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity), EURES (European Employment Services) and the European Progress Microfinance facility. In addition, the Programme supports Member States efforts in the design and implementation of employment and social reforms at European, national as well as regional and local levels by means of policy coordination, the identification, analysis and sharing of best practices.

## Structure of the Programme

The Programme contains three complementarity axes:

- the Progress axis (61% of the total budget), which supports the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Union employment and social policy and legislation on working conditions and promotes evidence-based policy-making and innovation, in partnership with the social partners, civil society organisations and other interested parties. For the period 2014-2020, the 'Progress' element of EaSI continues its current activities (analysis, mutual learning and grants) and has a specific budget for social innovation and social policy experimentation, i.e. testing of innovative policies on a small scale, with the aim that the most successful ones can be up-scaled, including with ESF support;
- the EURES axis (18% of the total budget), which supports activities carried out by the EURES network, i.e. the specialist services designated by the EEA Member States and the Swiss Confederation, together with other interested parties, to develop information exchanges and dissemination and other forms of cooperation to promote workers' geographical mobility;

- the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis (21% of the total budget), which facilitates access to finance for entrepreneurs, especially those furthest from the labour market, and social enterprises.

## Objectives

- strengthen ownership of the Union objectives in the employment, social and working conditions fields among key Union and national policy-makers, as well as other interested parties in order to bring about concrete and coordinated actions at both Union and Member State level;
- support the development of adequate, accessible and efficient social protection systems and labour markets and facilitate policy reform, by promoting good governance, mutual learning and social innovation;
- modernise Union law in line with the Smart Regulation principles and ensure that Union law on matters relating to working conditions is effectively applied;
- promote workers' geographical mobility and boost employment opportunities by developing Union labour markets that are open and accessible to all;
- promote employment and social inclusion by increasing the availability and accessibility of microfinance for vulnerable groups and micro-enterprises, and by increasing access to finance for social enterprises;
- promote equality between women and men and combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
- ensure that the requirements linked to the promotion of a high-level of employment, a guarantee of adequate social protection and the fight against social exclusion are taken into account in defining and implementing of the Union's policies and activities.

## Supported actions

*Analytical activities:*

- gathering of data and statistics, as well as development of common methodologies, classifications, indicators and benchmarks;
- surveys, studies, analyses and reports, including through the funding of networks of experts;
- evaluations and impact assessments;
- monitoring and assessment of the transposition and application of Union law;

- preparation and implementation of social experimentation as a method for testing and evaluating innovative solutions with a view to scaling them up;
- dissemination of the results of these analytical activities.

*Mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities:*

- exchanges and dissemination of good practice, innovative approaches and experience, peer reviews, benchmarking and mutual learning at European level;
- council Presidency events, conferences and seminars;
- training of legal and policy practitioners, and EURES advisers;
- drafting and publication of guides, reports and educational material;
- information and communication activities;
- development and maintenance of information systems in order to exchange and disseminate information on Union policy and legislation as well as labour market information.

*Support for main actors with regard to:*

- the operating costs of key Union-level networks whose activities relate and contribute to the objectives of the Progress axis;
- capacity-building of national administrations and specialist services responsible for promoting geographical mobility designated by the Member States and microcredit providers;
- organisation of working groups of national officials to monitor the implementation of Union law;
- networking and cooperation among specialist bodies, national, regional and local authorities, and employment services at European level;
- funding of European-level observatories;
- exchange of personnel between national administrations.
- Actions to promote mobility of individuals in the Union, in particular the development of a multilingual digital platform for the clearance of job vacancies and applications, and targeted mobility schemes to fill vacancies where labour market shortcomings have been identified and/or to help specific groups of workers such as young people.
- Support to microfinance and social enterprises in particular through the financial instruments on the financial rules applicable to the annual budget of the Union, and grants.

## Eligible countries

*PROGRESS axis:*

- the Member States;
- the EFTA and EEA member countries, in accordance with the EEA Agreement;
- the candidate countries and potential candidates, in accordance with the general principles and the general terms and conditions laid down in the framework agreements concluded with them on their participation in Union programmes.

*EURES Axis:*

- the Member States;
- the EFTA and EEA member countries in accordance with the EEA Agreement and with the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons

## Eligible partners

*PROGRESS axis:*

- the Progress axis is open to all public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions, and in particular: national, regional and local authorities, employment services, specialist bodies provided for under Union law, the social partners, non-governmental organisations, and in particular those organised at Union level, higher education institutions and research institutes, experts in evaluation and in impact assessment, national statistical offices, the media;
- the Commission may cooperate with international organisations, and in particular the Council of Europe, the OECD, the ILO and the World Bank;
- the Commission may cooperate with third countries not participating in the Programme. Representatives of such third countries may attend events of mutual interest (such as conferences, workshops and seminars) that take place in countries participating in the Programme and the cost of their attendance may be covered by the Programme.

*EURES Axis:*

- the EURES axis is open to all public and private bodies, actors and institutions designated by a Member State or the Commission which fulfil the conditions for participating in the EURES network. Such bodies and organisations includes in particular: national, regional and local authorities, employment services, social partner organisations and other interested parties.

Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship Axis:

- Participation under the Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis is open to public and private bodies established at national, regional or local level: microfinance for persons and micro-enterprises and financing for social enterprises.

## Budget

- € 919,47 million (current prices)
- € 815,0 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Employment, social affairs and inclusion

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1296/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on a European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) and amending Decision No 283/2010/EU establishing a European Progress Microfinance Facility for employment and social inclusion*

*Press release: Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI)*




# INTERREG EUROPE

Interreg Europe will contribute to a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in Europe by supporting and facilitating knowledge sharing and good practice transfer among actors of regional relevance to improve Regional/Cohesion policy.

## General objective

The overall objective of the INTERREG EUROPE Programme is to improve the implementation of policies and programmes for regional development, principally of programmes under the Investment for Growth and Jobs goal and, where relevant, of programmes under the ETC goal, by promoting exchange of experience and policy learning among actors of regional relevance.

## Specific objectives

Specific objectives of the Programme are:

- to facilitate ongoing EU-wide policy learning and capitalisation of practices among actors of regional relevance in order to strengthen regional policies, and in particular the implementation of Programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs and, where relevant, European Territorial Cooperation (ETC).
- to support exchange of experience and sharing of practices among actors of regional relevance with the aim to integrate the learning from the cooperation into regional policies, in particular through their Programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs and, where relevant, ETC.

At the same time, the Programme will address four thematic objectives:

- strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs
- supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
- protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.

## Eligible partners

Regional and local authorities and other actors of regional relevance.

## Eligible countries

INTERREG EUROPE targets the whole EU territory and Norway and Switzerland

## Supported actions

- the programme will fund interregional cooperation projects which allow partners from the different EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland to work together on a shared regional policy issue under the four thematic objectives supported. By adopting successful approaches from other project partners, the regions involved in these projects should improve the way their programmes and policies are implemented.
- the programme will provide assistance to all European regions through policy learning platforms covering the four thematic objectives. These platforms will offer services such as individual advice, peer reviews, thematic seminars and recommendations on the design and implementation of Structural and Investment Funds programmes.

## Budget

- € 359.326 million

## EU financial contribution

The EU co-financing average rate is 81%, and is based on the 3 different co-financing rates that will be applied. For Interregional Cooperation Projects two co-financing rates apply at

partner level: 75% (partners from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom) and 85% (partners from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia).

The Policy Learning Platforms will be financed at 100%.

## Responsible body

- DG for Regional Policy

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Cooperation Programme document - Final Draft - 10 January 2014*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1299/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL*

*of 17 December 2013 on specific provisions for the support from the European Regional Development Fund to the European territorial cooperation goal*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

# PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES




# COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY 2014-2020 (CAP - pillar I)

The CAP aims at promoting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for EU agriculture and rural areas in line with the Europe 2020 strategy. Its structure is based around two pillars that use complementary instruments in pursuit of the same objectives. Pillar I covers direct payments and market measures providing a basic annual income support to EU farmers and support in case of specific market disturbances, while Pillar II covers rural development where Member States draw up and co-finance multiannual programmes under a common framework.

## General objectives

- viable food production;
- sustainable management of natural resources and climate action;
- balanced territorial development.

## Specific objectives

*policy area:*

- to provide environmental public goods;
- to compensate for production difficulties in areas with specific natural constraints;
- to pursue climate change mitigation and adaptation actions;
- to manage the EU budget (CAP) in accordance with high standards of financial management.

*interventions in agricultural markets:*

- to improve the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and enhance its value share in the food chain.

*direct aids:*

- to contribute to farm incomes and limit farm income variability;

*rural development:*

- to foster green growth through innovation;
- to support rural employment and maintain the social fabric of rural areas;
- to improve the rural economy and promote diversification;
- to allow for structural diversity in farming systems.

## Eligible countries

- All parts of the EU, including less favoured areas.

## Budget

- € 277.851,0 million (2011 prices)
- € 252.238. 5 million (current prices )

## EU financial contribution

The maximum EU co-funding rates will be up to 85% in less developed regions, the outermost regions and the smaller Aegean islands, 75% in transition regions, 63% in other transition regions and 53% in other regions for most payments, but can be higher for the measures supporting knowledge transfer, cooperation, the establishment of producer groups and organisations and young farmer installation grants, as well as for LEADER projects and for spending related to the environment and climate change under various measures.

## Responsible body

- DG Agriculture and Rural Development

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008*

*Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 637/2008 and Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009*

*Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007*

*Press release: Political agreement on the CAP reform*

*Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 and the financing of the CAP*




# EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EARDF, CAP - pillar II)

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) contributes to the Europe 2020 Strategy by promoting sustainable rural development throughout the Union in a complementary manner to the other instruments of the common agricultural policy (CAP), to cohesion policy and to the common fisheries policy. It supports to a more territorially and environmentally balanced, climate-friendly and resilient**,** and innovative Union agricultural sector.

## General objectives

- the competitiveness of agriculture;
- the sustainable management of natural resources, and climate action;
- a balanced territorial development of rural areas.

## Specific objectives

Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas with a focus on the following areas:

- fostering innovation and the knowledge base in rural areas;
- strengthening the links between agriculture and forestry and research and innovation;
- fostering lifelong learning and vocational training in the agricultural and forestry sectors.

Enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability, with a focus on the following areas:

- facilitating restructuring of farms facing major structural problems, notably farms with a low degree of market participation, market-oriented farms in particular sectors and farms in need of agricultural diversification;
- facilitating generational renewal in the agricultural sector.

Promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture, with a focus on the following areas:

- better integrating primary producers into the food chain through quality schemes, promotion in local markets and short supply circuits, producer groups and inter-branch organizations;
- supporting farm risk management.

Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry, with a focus on the following areas:

- restoring and preserving biodiversity, including in Natura 2000 areas and high nature value farming, and the state of European landscapes;
- improving water management;
- improving soil management.

Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors, with a focus on the following areas:

- increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture;
- increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing;
- facilitating the supply and use of renewable sources of energy, of by-products, wastes, residues and other non food raw material for purposes of the bio-economy;
- reducing nitrous oxide and methane emissions from agriculture;
- fostering carbon sequestration in agriculture and forestry.
- promoting social inclusion poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas, with a focus on the following areas:
- facilitating diversification, creation of new small enterprises and job creation;
- fostering local development in rural areas;

- enhancing accessibility to, use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT) in rural areas.

## Eligible countries

- Member States

## Eligible partners

- Local and Regional authorities
- Administrations States
- Interested applicants should contact their responsible Ministry of Agriculture.

## Supported actions

- Individual measures
- knowledge transfer and information actions;
- advisory services, farm management and farm relief services;
- quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs;
- investments in physical assets;
- restoring agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and catastrophic events and introduction of appropriate prevention actions;
- farm and business development;
- basic services and village renewal in rural areas;
- investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests;
- afforestation and creation of woodland;
- establishment of agro-forestry systems;
- prevention and restoration of damage to forests from forest fires and natural disasters and catastrophic events;
- investments improving the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems;
- investments in new forestry technologies and in processing and marketing of forest products;
- setting up of producer groups;
- organic farming;
- Natura 2000 and Water framework directive payments;

- payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints;
- designation of areas facing natural and other specific constraints;
- animal welfare;
- forest-environmental and climate services and forest conservation;
- co-operation;
- risk management;
- crop, animal, and plant insurance;
- mutual funds for animal and plant diseases and environmental incidents;
- income stabilisation tool.

## LEADER local action groups

Support to LEADER local development from the EAFRD covers all aspects of the preparation and implementation of local development strategies and operation of local action groups as well as cooperation among territories and groups which carry out bottom-up and community-led local development. In order to enable partners in rural areas not yet applying LEADER to test and prepare for the design and operation of a local development strategy a "LEADER start-up kit' is also financed. At least 5% of the total EAFRD contribution to the rural development programme is reserved for Leader.

*European network for rural development*

The EAFRD finances the set up of a European network for rural development, the EIP network, a European evaluation network for rural development and a national rural network. EIP stands for European Innovation Partnership "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability". The EAFRD also contributes to the aims of the EIP for agricultural productivity and sustainability through support of the EIP operational groups.

## Budget

- € 95.577,05 million (current prices)
- € 84.936,0 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

The maximum EU co-funding rate will be:

- 85% of the eligible public expenditure in the less developed regions, the outermost regions and the smaller Aegean islands within the meaning of Regulation (EEC) No 2019/93 ;
- 50% of the eligible public expenditure in the other regions.
- The minimum EAFRD contribution rate shall be 20%.

## Responsible body

- DG Agriculture and Rural Development

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1305/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARILAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on support for the rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005*

*Regulation (EU) No 1310/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down certain transitional provisions on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), amending Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards resources and their distribution in respect of the year 2014 and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009 and Regulations (EU) No 1307/2013, (EU) No 1306/2013 and (EU) No 1308/2013of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards their application in the year 2014*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

*Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008*

*Press release: Political agreement on the CAP reform*

*Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 and the financing of the CAP*




# EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)

The new Fund helps fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing, supports coastal communities in diversifying their economies, finances projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts, makes it easier to access financing.

## General objectives

- promoting sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture;
- fostering the development and implementation of the Union's Integrated Maritime Policyin a complementary manner to cohesion policy and to the Common Fisheries Policy;
- promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries areas;
- fostering the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

## Specific objectives

Increasing employment and territorial cohesion through the following objectives:

- promotion of economic growth, social inclusion, creation of jobs and supporting labour mobility in coastal and inland communities depending on fishing and aquaculture;
- diversification of fisheries activities into other sectors of maritime economy and growth of maritime economy, including mitigation of climate change.

Fostering innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries through the focus on the following areas:

- support to strengthening technological development, innovation and knowledge transfer;
- enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries, in particular of small scale coastal fleet, and improvement of safety or working conditions;
- development of new professional skills and lifelong learning;
- improved market organisation for fishery products.

Fostering innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture through the focus on the following areas:

- support to strengthening technological development, innovation and knowledge transfer;
- enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of aquaculture enterprises, SMEs in particular;
- development of new professional skills and lifelong learning;
- improved market organisation for aquaculture products.

Promoting a sustainable and resource efficient fisheries through the focus on the following areas:

- reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment;
- protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems including the services they provide.

Promoting a sustainable and resource efficient aquaculture through the focus on the following areas:

- enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture;
- promotion of aquaculture with high level of environmental protection and of animal health and welfare and of public health and safety.

Fostering the implementation of the CFP through:

- the supply of scientific knowledge and collection of data;
- the support to control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration.

## Supported actions

Measures financed under shared management:

- sustainable development and fisheries:
- innovation in fisheries (developing or introducing new or substantially improved fisheries products, new or improved processes and techniques, new or improved management and organisation systems, including at the level of processing and marketing);
- advisory services (feasibility studies assessing the viability of projects, the provision of professional advice on business and marketing strategies and environmental strategies);
- partnerships between scientists and fishermen (the creation of a network and activities carried out by network);
- promoting human capital and social dialogue (lifelong learning, innovative practices, acquisition of new professional skills in particular linked to the sustainable management of marine ecosystems, safety,activities in the maritime sector, innovation and entrepreneurship, network building, promoting the social dialogue at national, regional or local level);
- facilitating diversification and job creation (buisness start-ups outside commercial fishing, retrofitting of small scale coastal fishing vessels);
- new forms of income (activities outside fisheries such as environmental services, educational activities or tourism);
- health and safety (investments on board or in safety equipments for individuals, temporary or permanent cessation of fishing activities);
- support to systems of transferable fishing concessions of the CFP or new systems adapting fishing activities to fishing opportunities;
- support to the implementation of conservation measures under the CPF, and fishery related conservations measures under NATURA 2000 and Marin Strategy Framework Directive;
- innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources;

- limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species;
- protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems in the framework of sustainable fishing activities;
- mitigation and climate change (investments in equipment or on board, energy efficiency audits and schemes);
- added value and product quality (improving the quality of the fisheries products);
- fishing ports, landing sites and shelters (compliance with the obligation to land all catches, control and traceability of fishery and aquaculture products, investements in construction or modernisation of shelters);
- inland Fishing and inland aquatic fauna and flora (investment in individual or on board equipment, shelters, ports, audits, schemes, value and quality of fishing caught).
- sustainable development of aquaculture:
- innovation (developing technical innovation or knowledge in aquaculture, improves animal welfare and new sustainable production methods);
- productive investments in aquaculture (diversification in production, reducing negative impact on environment, enhancing quality of products, restoration of existing ponds and lagoons);
- new forms of income and added value (supporting aquaculture enterprise and complementary activities outside aquaculture).
- management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms;
- promoting human capital and networking (lifelong learning, networking and exchange of experience);
- increasing the potential of aquaculture sites (identification and mapping of most suitable areas for developing aquaculture, improvement and development of support facilities and infrastructures);
- conversion to eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture;
- aquaculture providing environmental services;
- public health measures;
- animal health and welfare measures;
- aquaculture stock insurance (which may cover the losses due to disasters listed in Article 57).

Sustainable development of fisheries areas:

- integrated local development strategies;
- fisheries local action group.

Marketing and processing related measures:

- production and marketing plans;
- storage aid;
- marketing measures (creating producer organisations, associations of producer organisations or inter-branch organizations, improving the conditions for the placing on the market, promoting the quality and value added, contributing to the transparency of production and the markets and conducting market surveys, contributing to traceability of fishery or aquaculture products, drawing up standard contracts for SMEs, conducting regional, national or transnational promotional campaigns for fishery and aquaculture products);
- processing of fisheries and aquaculture products.

Measures financed under shared management:

- integrated maritime policy (studies, projects, conferences, seminars, for a, workshops, public information and sharing best practice, campaigns, events, websites, platforms, collection, pooling, monitoring).

## Eligible countries

This Regulation applies to operations carried out in the territory of the Union unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Regulation.

## Implementation

The new Fund is used to co-finance projects, along with national funding:

- each country is allocated a share of the total Fund budget, based on the size of its fishing industry;
- each country is then draw up an operational programme, saying how it intends to spend the money;

- once the Commission approves this programme, it is up to the national authorities to decide which projects is funded.

The national authorities and the Commission are jointly responsible for the implementation of the programme.

## Budget

- € 7.404,84 million (current prices)
- € 6.574,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

- The operational programme shall establish the EMFF contribution rate applicable to each of the objectives defined under the Union priorities for EMFF, as referred to in Article 6. The maximum EMFF contribution rate shall be 75% of the eligible public expenditure.
- The minimum EMFF contribution rate shall be 20%.

## Responsible body

- DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MARE)

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund [repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 and Council Regulation(EC) No861/2006 and Council Regulation No XXX/2011 on integrated maritime policy*

*22.04.2013 Amended Proposal COM (2013) 245*

*15.07.2013 Amended Proposal General approach of the EMFF by the Fischeries Council*

*Press release*




# Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

## General objectives

The general objectives of the programme are:

- to contribute to the shift towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate resilient economy, to the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment and to halting and reversing biodiversity loss;
- to improve the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation, and to catalyse and promote integration and mainstreaming of environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies and public and private sector practice, including by increasing their capacity;
- to support better environmental and climate governance at all levels;

## Specific objectives - sub-programme I: Environment

*Environment and Resource Efficiency:*

- to develop, test and demonstrate policy or management approaches, best practices, and solutions to environmental challenges, suitable for being replicated, transferred or mainstreamed, including with respect to the link between environment and health, and in support of resource efficiency-related policy and legislation;
- to support the application, development, testing and demonstration of integrated approaches for the implementation of plans and programmes pursuant to Union environmental policy and legislation, primarily in the areas of water, waste and air;
- to improve the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of Union environmental policy and legislation, and for the assessment

and monitoring of the factors, pressures and responses that impact on the environment within and outside the Union.

*Biodiversity:*

- to contribute to the implementation of Union policy and legislation in the area of biodiversity, including the Union Biodiversity Strategy 2020, in particular by applying, developing, testing and demonstrating approaches, best practices and solutions;
- to support the further development, implementation and management of the Natura 2000 network set up, in particular the application, development, testing and demonstration of integrated approaches for the implementation of the Prioritised Action Frameworks;
- to improve the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of Union biodiversity policy and legislation, and for the assessment and monitoring of the factors, pressures and responses that impact on the biodiversity within and outside the Union.

*Environmental Governance and Information:*

- to promote awareness raising on environmental matters, including generating public and stakeholders support to Union policy-making in the field of environment, and to promote education for sustainable development;
- to support communication, management, and dissemination of information in the field of environment, and to facilitate knowledge sharing on successful environmental solutions and practice, including by developing cooperation platforms between stakeholders and training;
- to promote and contribute to a more effective compliance with and enforcement of Union environmental legislation, in particular by promoting the development and dissemination of best practices and policy approaches;
- to promote better environmental governance by broadening stakeholder involvement, including NGOs, in policy consultation and implementation.

## Specific objectives - sub-programme II: Climate Action

*Climate Change Mitigation:*

- to contribute to the implementation and development of Union policy and legislation on mitigation, including mainstreaming across policy areas, in particular by developing, testing and demonstrating policy or management approaches, best practices and solutions for climate change mitigation;
- to improve the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring, evaluation and implementation of effective mitigation actions and measures and to enhance the capacity to apply that knowledge in practice;
- to facilitate the development and implementation of integrated approaches, such as for mitigation strategies and action plans, at local, regional or national level;
- to contribute to the development and demonstration of innovative mitigation technologies, systems, methods and instruments that are suitable for being replicated, transferred or mainstreamed.

*Climate Change Adaptation:*

- to contribute to the development and implementation of Union policy and legislation on adaptation, including mainstreaming across policy areas, in particular by developing, testing and demonstrating policy or management approaches, best practices, and solutions, for climate change adaptation;
- to improve the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring, evaluation and implementation of effective adaptation actions and measures and to enhance the capacity to apply that knowledge in practice;
- to facilitate the development and implementation of integrated approaches, such as for adaptation strategies and action plans, at local, regional or national level;
- to contribute to the development and demonstration of innovative adaptation technologies, systems, methods and instruments that are suitable for being replicated, transferred or mainstreamed.

*Climate Governance and Information:*

- to promote awareness raising on climate matters, including generating public and stakeholders support to Union policy-making in the field of climate, and to promote education for sustainable development;
- to support communication, management, and dissemination of information in the field of climate and to facilitate knowledge sharing on successful climate solutions

and practice, including by developing cooperation platforms between stakeholders and training;
- to promote and contribute to a more effective compliance with and enforcement of Union climate legislation, in particular by promoting the development and dissemination of best practices and policy approaches;
- to promote better climate governance by broadening stakeholder involvement.

## Eligible criteria

The participation is open for all the EU Member States as well as for the following countries:

- European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries which are parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA);
- Candidate countries, potential candidates and acceding countries to the Union;
- Countries to which the European Neighbourhood Policy applies;
- Countries which have become members of the European Environmental Agency on the establishment of the European Environmental Agency and the European environment information and observation network.

The LIFE Programme funds both public and private bodies.

## Implementation

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

- pilot projects;
- demonstration projects;
- best practice projects;
- integrated projects primarily in the areas of nature, water, waste, air, and climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- technical assistance projects;
- preparatory projects.

## Budget

- € 3.456, 66 million (current prices)
- € 3.057, 2 million (2011 prices)

*Subprogramme I:*

- Environment: € 2.713,5 million (2011 prices) of which half is dedicated to projects financed by way of action grants and shall be allocated to support the conservation of nature and biodiversity.

*Subprogramme II:*

- Climate Action: € 904,5 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

The maximum co-financing rate for LIFE projects will be 70 % of eligible costs. By way of exception, the co-financing rate for Integrated Projects and preparatory projects will be up to 80 % of eligible costs. The 75 % LIFE co-financing for priority habitats and species has been removed because the focus of the new LIFE sub-programme for Environment is now on the Natura 2000 network rather than on specific species or habitats.

## Responsible body

- DG environment

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1293/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE Programme) and Repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007*




# EUROPEAN GLOBALISATION ADJUSTMENT FUND (EGF)

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) was established to provide the Union with an instrument to demonstrate solidarity with, and give support to, workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns caused by globalisation where these redundancies have a significant adverse impact on the regional or local economy. By co-funding active labour market policy measures, the EGF aims to facilitate the re-integration of workers in areas, sectors, territories or labour markets suffering the shock of serious economic disruption.

## Objective

The aim of the EGF is to contribute to economic growth and employment in the Union by enabling the Union to show solidarity towards workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation, trade agreements affecting agriculture, or an unexpected crisis, and to provide financial support for their rapid reintegration into employment, or for changing or adjusting their agricultural activities.

## Supported actions

A financial contribution may be made for active labour market measures that form part of a coordinated package of personalised services, designed to facilitate the integration of the targeted redundant workers into employment or self-employment or, in the case of farmers, to change or adjust their previous activities. The coordinated package of personalised services may include in particular:

- job-search assistance, occupational guidance, advisory services, mentoring, outplacement assistance, entrepreneurship promotion, aid for self-employment and business start-up or for changing or adjusting activity (including investments in

physical assets), co-operation activities, tailor-made training and re-training, including information and communication technology skills and certification of acquired experience;

- special time-limited measures, such as job-search allowances, employers' recruitment incentives, mobility allowances, subsistence or training allowances (including allowances for carers or farm relief services), all of which limited to the duration of the documented active job search or life-long learning or training activities;
- measures to stimulate in particular disadvantaged or older workers to remain in or return to the labour market;

At the initiative of the applicant Member State, a financial contribution may be made for the preparatory, management, information and publicity, control and reporting activities.

## Eligible criteria

This programme shall apply to applications by the Member States for financial contributions to be provided to:

- workers made redundant as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalisation, demonstrated, in particular, by a substantial
- increase in imports into the Union, a rapid decline of the Union market share in a given sector or a delocalisation of activities to non-member countries, where these redundancies have a significant adverse impact on the local, regional or national economy;
- workers made redundant as a result of a serious disruption of the local, regional or national economy caused by an unexpected crisis, provided that a direct and demonstrable link can be established between the redundancies and that crisis;
- workers changing or adjusting their previous agricultural activities during a period starting upon initialling of the trade agreement by the Union containing trade liberalisation measures for the relevant agricultural sector and ending three years after the full implementation of these measures and provided that these trade measures lead to a substantial increase in Union imports of an agricultural product or products accompanied by a significant decrease in prices of such products at the Union or, where relevant, the national or regional level.

Individuals, representative organisations or companies affected by redundancies and wishing to benefit from the Fund should contact their national authorities.

## Implementation

The Commission would designate agricultural sectors or products and, where relevant, regions as eligible for possible EGF support. Member States would have the possibility to submit applications for an EGF contribution, provided that they can prove that eligible sectors experience significant trade-related losses, that farmers operating in these sectors are affected and that they have identified and targeted the affected farmers.

In order to ensure that EGF support is available to workers independently of their contract of employment or employment relationship, the notion of 'workers' is extended to include not only workers with contracts of employment of indefinite duration, but also workers with fixed-term contracts, temporary agency workers and owner-managers of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and self-employed workers (including farmers).

As the access to EGF support is conditioned by the fact that the workers must have been made redundant, or for farmers that they are adjusting that part of their activity affected by the relevant trade agreement, the proposal contains specific provisions on how the redundancy should be counted for each worker.

Member States shall accredit bodies responsible for the proper management and control of the actions supported by the EGF.

## Budget

- € 73, 5 million (current prices)

## EU financial contribution:

- 50% co-financing rate will be set as a basis. Co-financing rate can be increased to 65% for less-developed regions.

## Responsible body

- DG Employement, Social Affairs and Inclusion

## Links and more info

*Programme website*

*Regulation (EU) No 1309/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the European Globalization Adjustement Fund (2014-2020) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1927/2006*

*Press release*

# SECURITY AND CITIZENSHIP




# ASYLUM AND MIGRATION FUND

## General objective

The general objective of the Fund is to contribute to an effective management of migration flows in the Union as part of the area of freedom, security and justice, in accordance with the common policy on asylum, subsidiary protection and temporary protection and the common immigration policy. The Asylum and Migration Fund draws on the capacity building process developed with the assistance of the European Refugee Fund, the European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals and the European Return Fund and extends it to cover more comprehensively different aspects of the common Union asylum and immigration policy.

## Specific objectives

- to strengthen and develop the Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension;
- to support legal migration to the Union in line with the economic and social needs of Member States and promote the effective integration of third-country nationals, including of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection;
- to enhance fair and effective return strategies in the Member States with emphasis on sustainability of return and effective readmission in the countries of origin;
- to enhance the solidarity and responsibility sharing between the Member States, in particular towards those most affected by migration and asylum flows.

## Target groups

The Fund contributes to the financing of actions targeting third-country national or stateless person who are:

- refugees or asylum seekers;
- beneficiaries of subsidiary protection or those who have applied for this form of protection;
- enjoying temporary protection within the meaning of Directive 2001/55/EC;
- resettled in a Member State;
- legally residing in a Member State or in the process of acquiring legal residence in a Member State;
- on the territory of a third country and intend to migrate to the EU and who comply with specific pre-departure measures and/or conditions;
- enjoying the right to stay within the meaning of Directive 2004/83/EC or Directive 2001/55/EC in a Member State, and who have chosen to make use of voluntary return;
- no longer fulfilling the conditions for entry and/or stay in a Member State.

The target group shall include family members of persons referred to above.

## Supported actions

*COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM*

Actions related to reception and asylum systems:

- provision of material aid, education, training, support services, health and psychological care;
- provision of social assistance, information or help with administrative and/or judicial formalities and information or counselling;
- provision of legal aid and language assistance;
- specific assistance for vulnerable persons;
- information for local communities and training for the staff of local authorities;
- provision of integrative actions.

For specific Member States also:

- establishment, development and improvement of accommodation infrastructure and services;
- setting up of administrative structures, systems and training of staff and relevant judicial authorities;

Member States' capacity to develop, monitor and evaluate their asylum policies;

- actions enhancing the capacity of Member States to collect, analyse and disseminate data and statistics;
- actions directly contributing to the evaluation of asylum policies.

*Actions related to resettlement and relocation:*

- establishment and development of national resettlement and relocation programmes;
- establishment of appropriate infrastructure and services;
- setting up of structures, systems and training of staff to conduct missions;
- assessment of potential resettlement and/or relocation cases;
- pre-departure health assessment, medical treatment, material provisions, information measures and travel arrangements;
- information and assistance upon arrival, including interpretation services;
- strengthening of infrastructure and services in the countries designated for the implementation of Regional Protection Programmes.

*INTEGRATION OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS AND LEGAL MIGRATION*

Immigration and pre-departure measures:

- information packages and awareness-raising campaign;
- assessment of skills and qualifications;
- vocational training;
- civic orientation courses and language tuition.
- *Integration measures at local and regional level:*
- setting up and developing such integration strategies;
- advice and assistance;
- education and training;

- self-empowerment;
- intercultural dialogue;
- equality of access and equality of outcomes;
- capacity building of implementing organizations.

*Capacity building measures:*

- building up strategies promoting legal migration;
- reinforcing the capacity of Member States to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate their immigration strategies, policies and measures;
- furthering intercultural capacities of implementing organisations providing public and private services;
- building sustainable organisational structures for integration and diversity management.

*RETURN*

*Measures accompanying return procedures:*

- establishment and improvement of accommodation infrastructure or services and reception or detention conditions;
- setting up of administrative structures, systems and training of staff to ensure smooth return procedures;
- provision of material aid, health and psychological care;
- provision of social, legal and language assistance;
- specific assistance for vulnerable persons.

*Return measures :*

- co-operation with consular authorities and immigration services of third countries;
- assisted voluntary return measures;
- measures to launch the progress of reintegration for the returnee's personal development;
- specific assistance for vulnerable persons.

*Practical co-operation and capacity building measures :*

- actions to promote and reinforce the operational cooperation between the return services of Member States and immigration services of third countries;

- actions enhancing the capacity to develop effective and sustainable return policies;
- actions enhancing the capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate data and statistics;
- actions directly contributing to the evaluation of return policies.

## Budget

- € 3.137,42 million (current prices)
- € 2.780,3 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG home affairs

## Links and more info

*Home affairs fund web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund*




# INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (POLICE COMPONENT)

The Internal Security Fund is a comprehensive financial framework composed of two separate acts, setting up the different components of the Fund and laying down the objectives, the eligible actions and the envelopes of each component:

- a Regulation setting up, as part of the Fund, the component for police co-operation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management;
- a Regulation setting up, as part of the Fund, the border management and common visa policy component.

Within the comprehensive framework of the Internal Security Fund, this Regulation provides financial support to police cooperation, exchange and access to information, crime prevention and the fight against cross-border as well as serious and organised crime, including terrorism, the protection of people and critical infrastructure against security-related incidents and the effective management of security-related risks and crisis, taking into account common Union policies (strategies, programmes and action plans), legislation, practical co-operation and threat and risk assessments.

## General objectives

- preventing and fighting against cross-border, serious and organised crime;
- raising the levels of security for citizens and business in cyberspace;
- preventing terrorism and addressing radicalisation and recruitment;
- raising capabilities to protect critical infrastructure in all economic sectors;
- increasing Europe's resilience to crisis and disaster.

## Specific objectives

- preventing and combating cross-border, serious and organised crime including terrorism, and reinforcing coordination and cooperation between law enforcement authorities of Member States and with relevant third-countries;
- enhancing the capacity of Member States and the Union for managing effectively security-related risks and crisis, and preparing for and protecting people and critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks and other security related incidents.

## Supported actions

- actions improving police cooperation and coordination between law enforcement authorities, including joint investigation teams and any other form of cross-border joint operation, the access to and exchange of information and interoperable technologies;
- networking, mutual confidence, understanding and learning, the identification, exchange and dissemination of know-how, experience and good practices, information sharing, shared situation awareness and foresight, contingency planning and interoperability;
- analytical, monitoring and evaluation activities, including studies and threat, risk and impact assessments;
- awareness raising, dissemination and communication activities;
- acquisition and/or further upgrading of technical equipment, secure facilities, infrastructures, related buildings and systems, especially ICT systems and their components, including for the purpose of European cooperation on cyber crime, notably with the European Cybercrime Centre;
- exchange, training and education of staff and experts of relevant authorities, including language training and joint exercises or programmes;
- measures deploying, transferring, testing and validating new methodology or technology, including pilot projects and follow-up measures to Union funded security research projects.

## Total budget for the Internal Security Fund

- € 3.764,23million (current prices)
- € 3.318,0million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Home Affairs

## Links and more info

*Home affairs fund web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing, as part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management*




# INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (BORDER COMPONENT)

The Internal Security Fund is a comprehensive financial framework composed of two separate acts, setting up the different components of the Fund and laying down the objectives, the eligible actions and the envelopes of each component:

- a Regulation setting up, as part of the Fund, the component for police co-operation, preventing and combating crime, and crisis management;
- a Regulation setting up, as part of the Fund, the border management and common visa policy component.

The Regulation setting up the border management and common visa policy component aims to support more systematically the services provided by individual Member States in securing the border free area ("operating support mechanism"), to enhance the interagency cooperation between border and other law enforcement authorities and to increase the available specialised equipment in Member States to be put at the disposal of the Frontex Agency for joint operations in the interest of safeguarding the border free area.

## General objective

The general objective of the Instrument is to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the European Union.

## Specific objectives

- supporting a common visa policy to facilitate legitimate travel, ensure equal treatment of third country nationals and tackle irregular migration;

- supporting borders management, to ensure, on one hand, a high level of protection of external borders and, on the other hand, the smooth crossing of the external borders in conformity with the Schengen acquis.

## Operational objectives

- promoting the development and implementation of policies ensuring the absence of any controls on persons, whatever their nationality, when crossing the internal borders, carrying out checks on persons and monitoring efficiently the crossing of external borders;
- gradually establishing an integrated management system for external borders, including the reinforcement of interagency co-operation between migration and law enforcement authorities of Member States at the external borders and measures within the territory and the necessary flanking measures related to document security and identity management;
- promoting the development and implementation of the common policy on visas and other short-stay residence permits, including consular co-operation;
- setting up and running IT systems, their communication infrastructure and equipment supporting the management of migration flows across the external borders of the Union;
- ensuring the efficient and uniform application of the Union's acquis on borders and visa, including the functioning of the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism;
- reinforcing the co-operation between Member States operating in third countries as regards the flows of third-country nationals into the territory of Member States, as well as the co-operation with third countries in this regard.

## Supported actions in or by Member States

- border crossing infrastructures, buildings and systems required at border crossing points and for surveillance between border crossing points and effective tackling of illegal crossing of the external borders;
- operating equipment, means of transport and communication systems required for effective border control and the detection of persons, such as fixed terminals for VIS, SIS and the European Image Archiving System (FADO), including state-of-the-art technology;
- IT systems for the management of migration flows across borders;

- infrastructures, buildings and operating equipment required for the processing of visa applications and consular co-operation;
- studies, pilot projects and actions aiming to foster interagency cooperation within Member States and between Member States, and implementing the recommendations, operational standards and best practices resulting from the operational cooperation between Member States and Union Agencies.

## Supported actions in relation to and in third countries

- information systems, tools or equipment for sharing information between Member States and third countries;
- actions aiming to foster operational co-operation between Member States and third countries, including joint operations;
- studies, events, training, equipment and pilot projects to provide ad hoc technical and operational expertise to third countries;
- studies, events, training, equipment and pilot projects implementing specific recommendations, operational standards and best practices, resulting from the operational cooperation between Member States and Union agencies in third countries.

## Implementation

The global resources shall be implemented through the following means:

- national programmes;
- operating support, within the framework of the national programmes;
- the functioning of the Special Transit Scheme;
- Union actions;
- emergency assistance;
- technical assistance.

## Total budget for the Internal Security Fund

- € 3.764,23million (current prices)
- € 3.318,0million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Home Affairs

## Links and more info

*Programme Website*
*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing, as a part of the Internal Security Fund, the instrument for financial support for external borders and visa*




# JUSTICE

## General objective

The general objective of the Programme is to contribute to the creation of a European area of justice by promoting judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters.

To achieve the general objective the Programme has the following specific objectives:

- to promote effective, comprehensive and consistent application of Union legislation in the areas of judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters;
- to facilitate access to justice;
- to prevent and reduce drug demand and supply.

The Programme aims to promote equality between women and men and combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation in all its activities.

Within this framework and aiming at simplification and rationalisation, the Justice programme is the successor of three 2007-2013 programmes financed within the Fundamental Rights and Justice Framework Programme:

- Civil Justice (JCIV);
- Criminal Justice (JPEN);
- Drug Prevention and Information Programme (DPIP).

## Supported actions

- enhancing public awareness and knowledge of Union law and policies;
- supporting the implementation of Union law and policies in the Member States;
- promoting transnational cooperation and building up of mutual knowledge and mutual trust;

- improving the knowledge and understanding of potential issues affecting the smooth functioning of a European area of justice with a view to ensuring evidence-based policy making and legislation.

The Programme finances inter alia the following types of actions:

- analytical activities, such as collection of data and statistics; development of common methodologies and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks; studies, researches, analyses and surveys; evaluations and impact assessments; elaboration and publication of guides, reports and educational material; monitoring and assessment of the transposition and application of Union legislation and of the implementation of Union policies; workshops, seminars, experts meetings, conferences;
- training activities for members of the judiciary and judicial staff, such as staff exchanges, workshops, seminars, train-the-trainer events, development of online or other training modules;
- mutual learning, cooperation, awareness raising and dissemination activities, such as identification of, and exchanges on, good practices, innovative approaches and experiences, organisation of peer review and mutual learning; organisation of conferences and seminars; organisation of awareness-raising and information campaigns, media campaigns and events, including corporate communication of the political priorities of the European Union; compilation and publication of materials to disseminate information as well as results of the Programme; development, operation and maintenance of systems and tools using information and communication technologies;
- support for main actors, such as support for Member States when implementing Union law and policies; support for key European level networks whose activities are linked to the implementation of the objectives of the Programme; networking among specialised bodies and organisations, national, regional and local authorities at European level; funding of experts' networks; funding of European level observatories.

## Eligibility criteria

Access to the Programme is open to all public and/or private bodies and entities legally established in:

- Member States;

- EFTA countries;
- accession countries, candidate countries and potential candidates;
- Denmark, on the basis of an international agreement.
- Public and/or private bodies and entities legally established in other third countries, notably countries where the European Neighbourhood Policy applies, may be associated to actions of the Programme, if this serves the purpose of these actions.
- Under the Programme, the Commission may cooperate with international organisations active in the areas covered by the Programme, such as the Council of Europe, the United Nations and the Hague Conference on Private International Law. Access to the Programme is open to those international organisations.

## Budget

- € 377, 60 million (current prices)
- € 334,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

## Responsible body

- DG Justice

## Links and more info

*EU Funding programmes in the field of Justice*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1382 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 establishing a Justice Programme for the period 2014 to 2020*




# RIGHTS, EQUALITY AND CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME

The Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme is the successor of three 2007-2013 programmes: Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Daphne III, the Sections "Antidiscrimination and Diversity" and "Gender Equality" of the Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (PROGRESS).

## General objective

The general objective of the Programme is to contribute to the further development of an area, where equality and the rights of persons, as enshrined in the TEU, in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in the Charter and in the international human rights conventions to which the Union has acceded, are promoted, protected and effectively implemented.

## Specific objectives

The Programme shall have the following specific objectives:

- to promote the effective implementation of the principle of non -discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and to respect the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter;
- to prevent and combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance;
- to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities;
- to promote equality between women and men and to advance gender mainstreaming;

- to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence;
- to promote and protect the rights of the child;
- to contribute to ensuring the highest level of protection of privacy and personal data;
- to promote and enhance the exercise of rights deriving from citizenship of the Union;
- to enable individuals in their capacity as consumers or entrepreneurs in the internal market to enforce their rights deriving from Union law, having regard to the projects funded under the Consumer Programme.

The specific objectives of the Programme shall be pursued through, in particular:

- enhancing awareness and knowledge of Union law and policies as well as of the rights, values and principles underpinning the Union;
- supporting the effective, comprehensive and consistent implementation and application of Union law instruments and policies in the Member States and the monitoring and evaluation thereof;
- promoting cross-border cooperation, improving mutual knowledge and enhancing mutual trust among all stakeholders;
- improving knowledge and understanding of potential obstacles to the exercise of rights and principles guaranteed by the TEU, the TFEU, the Charter, international conventions to which the Union has acceded, and secondary Union legislation.

## Supported actions

The Programme finances inter alia the following types of actions:

- analytical activities, such as the collection of data and statistics; the development of common methodologies and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks; studies, researches, analyses and surveys; evaluations; the elaboration and publication of guides, reports and educational material; workshops, seminars, experts' meetings and conferences;
- training activities, such as staff exchanges, workshops, seminars, train-the-trainer events and the development of online training tools or other training modules;

- mutual learning, cooperation, awareness-raising and dissemination activities, such as the identification of, and exchanges concerning, good practices, innovative approaches and experiences; the organisation of peer reviews and mutual learning; the organisation of conferences, seminars, media campaigns, including in the online media, information campaigns, including institutional communication on the political priorities of the Union as far as they relate to the objectives of the Programme; the compilation and publication of materials to disseminate information about the Programme and its results; the development, operation and maintenance of systems and tools using information and communication technologies;
- support for main actors whose activities contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Programme, such as support for NGOs in the implementation of actions with European added value, support for key European actors, European-level networks and harmonised services of social value; support for Member States in the implementation of Union law and policies; and support for networking activities at European level among specialised bodies and entities as well as national, regional and local authorities and NGOs, including support by way of action grants or operating grants.

## Eligibility criteria

Access to the Programme is open to all public and/or private bodies and entities legally established in:

- Member States;
- EFTA countries;
- Accession countries, candidate countries and potential candidates.
- Public and/or private bodies and entities legally established in other third countries, notably countries where the European Neighbourhood Policy applies, may be associated to actions of the Programme, if this serves the purpose of these actions.

## Budget

- € 439, 47 million (current prices)
- € 389,2 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Justice

## Links and more info

*DG Justice website*

*Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 2013 establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020*




# EUROPE FOR CITIZENS

## Objective

Under the global aim of contributing to the understanding about the European Union and of promoting civic participation, the programme contributes to strengthen remembrance and enhances capacity for civic participation at the Union level.

## Specific objectives

- raise awareness on remembrance, the Union's history, identity and aim by stimulating debate, reflection and networking;
- encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at European Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for societal engagement and volunteering at Union level.

## Structure of the programme and supported actions

The programme consists of the following two strands:

- "Remembrance and European citizenship";
- "Democratic engagement and civic participation".
- The two strands are complemented by horizontal actions for analysis, dissemination and exploitation of project results ("Valorisation" actions).

In order to achieve its objectives, the programme finances inter alia the following types of actions, implemented on a transnational level or with a clear European dimension:

- citizens' meetings, town-twinning;
- creation and operations of transnational partnerships and networks;
- support for organizations of a general European interest;

- community building and debates on citizenship issues based on the use of ICT and/or social media;
- European Union level events;
- debates/studies and interventions on defining moments in European history, in particular to keep the memory alive of the crimes committed under Nazism and Stalinism;
- reflection/debates on common values;
- initiatives to raise awareness on the EU institutions and their functioning;
- actions that exploit and further valorise the results of the supported initiatives;
- studies on issues related to citizenship and civic participation;
- support of programme information/advice structures in the Member States.

## Measures

Measures take the form of grants or public procurement contracts:

- union grants are provided through specific forms such as operating grants, or action grants;
- public procurement contracts covers the purchase of services, such as for organising events, studies and research, information and dissemination tools, monitoring and evaluation.

## Eligible countries

The programme shall be open to the participation of the following countries:

- Member States;
- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates;
- EFTA countries.

## Eligible partners

- stakeholders promoting European integration, in particular local authorities and organisations, European public policy research organisations (think-tanks), citizens' groups and other civil society organisations (such as survivors' associations), and educational and research institutions.

## Budget

- € 185,47 million (current prices)
- € 164,3 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution:

The maximum EU co-financing for the following strands will be rate will be:

- 50% for Town Twinning
- 70% for Civil society organisations for European remembrance (strand 1)
- 70% for Civil society organisations working at European level (strand 2)
- 70% for European public policy research organisations (think tanks) (strand 1 and 2)
- 90% for Platforms of pan-European organisations (strand 2)
- 50% for Action grants awarded to Europe for Citizens Contact Points in Member States and participating countries (ECP) without a call for proposals

## Responsible body

- EACEA – Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing form the period 2014-2020 the Programme "Europe for Citizens"*




# HEALTH FOR GROWTH

## Objectives

- to develop common tools and mechanisms at EU level to address shortages of resources, both human and financial and to facilitate up-take of innovation in healthcare in order to contribute to innovative and sustainable health systems;
- to increase access to medical expertise and information for specific conditions also beyond national borders and to develop shared solutions and guidelines to improve healthcare quality and patient safety in order to increase access to better and safer healthcare for EU citizens;
- to identify, disseminate and promote the up-take of validated best practices for cost-effective prevention measures by addressing the key risk factors, namely smoking, abuse of alcohol and obesity, as well as HIV/AIDS, with a focus on the cross border dimension, in order to prevent diseases and promote good health;
- to develop common approaches and demonstrate their value for better preparedness and coordination in health emergencies in order to protect citizens from cross-border health threats.

## Eligible countries

- Member States;
- third countries, in particular of acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy;
- EFTA/EEA countries;
- neighbouring countries and the countries to which the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) applies;
- other countries in accordance with the conditions laid down by a relevant bilateral or multilateral agreement.

## Eligible actions

Contributing to innovative and sustainable health systems:

- develop EU cooperation on Health Technology Assessment in the context of Directive 2011/24/EU on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare;
- promote the uptake of health innovation and e-Health by increasing the interoperability of e-Health applications;
- support the sustainability of EU health workforce by promoting effective forecasting and planning and efficient recruitment and retention strategies;
- provide expertise to assist Member States undertaking health systems reforms;
- support to the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing, a pilot project under Europe2020 flagship initiative Innovation Union;
- actions required by or contributing to the objectives of EU legislation in the fields of medical devices as well as-Health and Health Technology Assessment provisions in legislation on cross border healthcare;
- foster a health knowledge system, including Scientific Committees, to contribute to evidence-based decision making;

Increasing access to better and safer healthcare for citizens:

- set up accreditation and support European Reference Networks;
- support action on rare diseases including creation of European Reference Networks, information and registries based on the common criteria for accreditation;
- strengthen collaboration on patient safety and quality of healthcare, by increasing the availability of information to patients, exchange of best practices and development of guidelines; support action on chronic diseases care and research including development of European guidelines;
- develop guidelines to improve the prudent use of antimicrobials in human medicine and reduce the practices that increase antimicrobial resistance;
- actions required by or contributing to the objectives of EU legislation in the fields of tissues and cells, blood, organs, patients' rights in cross-border healthcare and medicinal products;
- foster a health knowledge system, to contribute to evidence-based decision making

Promoting good health and preventing diseases:

- exchange best practices on key health issues such as smoking prevention, abuse of alcohol and obesity;
- supporting the prevention of chronic diseases including cancer, by sharing knowledge and best practice and developing joint activities;
- actions required by or contributing to the objectives of EU legislation in the fields of tobacco products and advertisement;
- foster a health knowledge system, to contribute to evidence-based decision making.

Protecting citizens from cross border health threats:

- strengthen preparedness and response for serious cross border health threats;
- improve risk assessment capacity by providing additional capacities for scientific expertise and map existing assessments;
- support capacity building against health threats in Member States by inter alia developing preparedness and response planning and coordination, common approaches to vaccination, developing guidelines and mechanisms for joint procurement of medical countermeasures;
- actions required by or contributing to the objectives of EU legislation in the fields of communicable diseases and other health threats

## Eligible partners

Legally established organisations, public authorities, public sector bodies, in particular research and health institutions, universities and higher education establishments and undertakings.

## Budget

- € 449, 39 million (current prices)
- € 398,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution:

The level of Union co-financing for grants for actions, actions co-financed by the competent authorities of the Member States or third countries, or by non-governmental bodies mandated by these authorities and operating grants will be harmonised at 60% of eligible costs and up to 80% in cases of exceptional utility.

## Responsible body

- DG Health and Consumers

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on establishing a Health for Growth Programme, the third multiannual programme of EU action in the field of health for the period 2014-2020*




# CONSUMERS

## General objective

The aim of the Consumer Programme is to support the policy objective of placing the empowered consumer at the centre of the Single Market. The Programme does so by contributing to protecting the health, safety and economic interests of consumers, as well as to promoting their right to information, education and to organise themselves in order to safeguard their interests. The Programme complements, supports and monitors the policies of Member States.

## Specific objectives

*Safety:*

- to consolidate and enhance product Safety through effective market surveillance throughout the EU.

*Information and education:*

- to improve consumers' education, information and awareness of their rights, to develop the evidence base for consumer policy and to provide support to consumer organizations.

*Rights and redress:*

- to consolidate consumer rights in particular through regulatory action and improving access to redress including alternative dispute resolution.

*Enforcement:*

- to support enforcement of consumer rights by strengthening cooperation between national enforcement bodies and by supporting consumers with advice.

## Eligible actions

*under objective 1- safety:*

- scientific advice and risk analysis relevant to consumer health and safety;
- coordination of market surveillance and enforcement actions on product safety;
- maintenance and further development of databases on cosmetics.

*under objective 2 – information and education:*

- building the evidence base for policy-making in areas affecting consumers;
- support to consumer organizations;
- enhancing the transparency of consumer markets and consumer information;
- enhancing consumer education.

*under objective 3 – rights and redress:*

- preparation by the Commission of consumer protection legislation and other regulatory initiatives, monitoring the transposition by Member States and the subsequent evaluation of its impact and the promotion of co-regulatory and self-regulatory initiatives;
- facilitating access to and monitoring of the functioning and the effectiveness of dispute resolution mechanisms for consumers, in particular of alternative dispute resolution schemes, including on-line, also through the development and maintenance of relevant IT tools.

*under objective 4 – enforcement:*

- coordination of surveillance and enforcement actions on cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protections laws;
- financial contributions for joint actions with public or non-profit bodies constituting Union networks which provide information and assistance to consumers to help them exercise their rights and obtain access to appropriate dispute resolution, including out of court online resolution schemes (the European Consumer Centres Network).

## Eligible countries

- Member States;
- EEA countries;
- Candidate Countries;
- Western Balkan countries;
- Third countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy.

## Eligible partners

- non-profit organizations;
- non-governmental, non-profit and independent European consumer organizations;
- consumer protection officials;
- public bodies.

## Budget

- €188,83 million (current prices)
- €167,3 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

- The EU contribution can be up to 50% or 70%, depending on the action.

## Responsible body

- DG Executive Agency for Health and Consumers

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on a consumer programme 2014-2020*




# Creative Europe

The Creative Europe programme supports European cinema and the cultural and creative sectors, enabling them to increase their contribution to jobs and growth. The programme provides support to safeguard and promote the European cultural and linguistic diversity and give assistance to strengthen the competitiveness of the sector, thereby it contributes to the EU 2020 strategy and its flagship initiatives.

"Creative Europe" framework programme brings together the 2007-2013 Culture, MEDIA and MEDIA Mundus programmes, and includes a new financial facility to improve access to finance for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and organisations in the cultural and creative sectors.

## General objectives

- to foster the safeguarding and promotion of European cultural and linguistic diversity;
- to strengthen the competitiveness of the cultural and creative sectors with a view to promoting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

## Specific objectives

- to support the capacity of the European cultural and creative sectors to operate transnationally;
- to promote the transnational circulation of cultural and creative works and operators and reach new audiences in Europe and beyond;
- to strengthen the financial capacity of the cultural and creative sectors, and in particular small and medium-sized enterprises and organizations;
- to support transnational policy cooperation in order to foster policy development, innovation, audience building and new business models.

## Supported actions

The programme consists of the following strands:

Cross-sectoral Strand addressed to all cultural and creative sectors

*The Cultural and Creative Sectors Facility*

- facility access to finance for small- and medium-sized enterprises and organizations in the European cultural and creative sector;
- capacity of financial institutions to assess cultural and creative projects, including technical assistance and networking measures.

*Transnational policy cooperation*

- transnational exchange of experiences and knowhow on new business models, peer learning activities and networking among cultural operators and policy makers related to the development of the cultural and creative sectors, anticipations skills and jobs' tools;
- market data, studies;
- testing of new and cross-sectoral business approaches to funding, distributing, and monetising creation;
- conferences, seminars and policy dialogue;
- support to the national members of the Creative Europe Desks' network.

Culture Strand addressed to the cultural and creative sectors

- cooperation measures bringing together operators from different countries to undertake
- sectoral or cross-sectoral activities;
- activities by European bodies comprising networks of operators from different countries;
- activities by organisations providing a promotional European platform for the development of emerging talent and stimulating the circulation of artists and works, with a systemic and large scale effect;
- support for literary translation;
- special actions aiming to achieve greater visibility for the richness and diversity of European cultures, and stimulate intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

including European cultural prizes, the European Heritage Label, and the European Capitals of Culture.

MEDIA Strand addressed to the audiovisual sector:

- support the development of a comprehensive offer of new skills acquisition, knowledge
- sharing and networking initiatives;
- support audiovisual operators to develop European audiovisual works with enhanced cross-border circulation potential;
- support activities aiming at facilitating European and international co-productions including television;
- facilitate access to professional audiovisual trade events and markets and the use of online business tools inside and outside Europe;
- establish systems of support for the distribution of non-national European films on all platforms and for international sales activities;
- facilitate circulation of European films worldwide and of international films in Europe on all platforms;
- support of European cinema owners' network screening a significant proportion of non-national European films, including the integration of digital technologies;
- support initiatives presenting and promoting a diversity of European audiovisual works;
- support activities aiming at increasing knowledge and interest of audiences;
- support innovative actions testing new business models and tools in areas likely to be influenced by the introduction and the use of digital technologies.

## Eligible countries

Creative Europe programme is open to the participation of the following countries provided that the conditions are met, including those contained on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services for the MEDIA strand, and additional appropriations are paid:

- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates benefiting from a pre-accession strategy, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes

established in the respective Framework Agreements, Association Council Decisions or similar agreements;

- EFTA countries which are members of the EEA, in accordance with the provisions of the EEA Agreement;
- The Swiss Confederation, on the basis of a bilateral agreement to be concluded with that country;
- countries of the European neighbourhood area in accordance with the procedures defined with those countries following the framework agreements providing for their participation in European Union programmes.

## Implementation

In order to implement the programme, the Commission adopts annual work programmes by way of implementing acts in accordance with the advisory procedure. The annual work programmes sets out the objectives pursued, the expected results, the method of implementation and the total amount of the financing plan. They also contain a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action and an indicative implementation timetable. For grants they include the priorities, the essential evaluation criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing.

## Budget

- € 1.462,72 million (current prices)
- € 1.923,7 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Education and Culture

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*REGULATION (EU) No 1295/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 establishing the Creative Europe Programme (2014 to 2020) and repealing Decisions No 1718/2006/CE, No 1855/2006/EC and No 104172009/EC*

*Press release: Commission welcomes approval of Creative Europe programme by European Parliament*

# GLOBAL EUROPE




# INSTRUMENT FOR PRE-ACCESSION ASSISTANCE (IPA)

## General objective

IPA aims to support candidate countries and potential candidates in implementing the political, institutional, legal, administrative, social and economic reforms required to bring the countries closer to Union values and to progressively align to Union rules, standards, policies and practices with a view to Union membership.

## Specific objectives

Support for political reforms:

- strengthening of democratic institutions and the rule of law, including its implementation;
- promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- the fight against corruption and organised crime;
- public administration reform and good governance;
- the development of civil society and social dialogue;
- reconciliation, peace building and confidence building measures.

Support for economic, social and territorial development through:

- the achievement of Union standards in the economy and economic governance;
- economic reforms necessary to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union, while pursuing economic, social and environmental goals;
- fostering employment and developing human capital;
- social and economic inclusion, in particular of minorities and vulnerable groups;

- development of physical capital, the improvement of connections with Union and regional networks.
- Strengthening of the ability of beneficiary countries to fulfil the obligations stemming from membership by supporting progressive alignment with and adoption, implementation and enforcement of the acquis communautaire, structural, cohesion, agricultural and rural development funds and policies of the Union.
- Regional integration and territorial cooperation involving beneficiary countries, Member States and, where appropriate, third countries within the scope of Regulation establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument.

## Eligible countries

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Iceland
- Kosovo
- Montenegro
- Serbia
- Turkey
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

## Budget

- € 11.698, 67 million (current prices)
- € 10.380, 0 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Enlargement (ELARG) - Inforegio

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II)*




# EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD INSTRUMENT (ENI)

European Neighbourhood Instrument replaces the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) as part of EU's proposed Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020. The new instrument aims to provide support to 16 partner countries to the east and south of the EU's borders, by an increasingly policy-driven approach providing for greater differentiation, more flexibility, stricter conditionality and incentives for best performers, reflecting the ambition of each partnership. Under the ENI, the EU offers its neighbours a privileged relationship, building on mutual commitment to values and principles.

## Objectives

- establishing an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness involving the European Union and the neighbours' countries and territories by developing a special relationship;
- EU support shall be used for the benefit of partner countries and can also be used for the common benefit of EU and partner countries;
- EU funding may also be used for the purpose of enabling the Russian Federation to participate in Cross- Border Cooperation and in relevant multi-country programmes, to reflect the specific status of the Russia Federation as both a Union neighbour and a strategic partner in the region.

## Specific objectives

- enhancing political cooperation and progressive economic integration between the Union and the partner countries (in particular the implementation of partnership and cooperation agreements, association agreements or other existing and future agreements and jointly agreed action plans);
- promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of low, principles of equality, establishing deep and sustainable democracy, promoting good governance and developing a thriving civil society including social partners;
- achieving progressive integration into the Union internal market and enhanced sector and cross-sectoral co-operation including through legislative approximation and regulatory convergence towards Union and other relevant international standards, related institutions building and investments, notably in interconnections;
- creating conditions for well managed mobility of people and promotion of people-to- people contacts;
- sustainable and inclusive development in all aspects, poverty reduction, including through private-sector development; promotion of internal economic, social and territorial cohesion, rural development, climate action and disaster resilience;
- promoting confidence building and other measures contributing to security and the prevention and settlement of conflicts;
- enhancing sub-regional, regional and Neighbourhood wide collaboration as well as Cross-Border Cooperation.

## Supported actions

- bilateral programmes covering support to one partner country;
- multi-country programmes which address challenges common to all or a number of partner countries, and regional and sub-regional cooperation between two or more partner countries, and which may include cooperation with the Russian Federation;
- Cross-Border Cooperation programmes addressing cooperation between one or more Member States on the one hand and one or more partner countries and/or the Russian Federation on the other hand taking place along their shared part of the external border of EU.

## Target countries

- Algeria,
- Armenia,
- Azerbaijan,
- Belarus,
- Egypt,
- Georgia,
- Israel,
- Jordan,
- Lebanon,
- Libya,
- The Republic of Moldova,
- Morocco,
- occupied Palestinian territory (oPt),
- Syria,
- Tunisia,
- Ukraine,
- Russia.

In duly justified circumstances and to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Union financing or to foster regional or trans-regional cooperation, the European Commission may decide to extend the eligibility of actions to countries, territories and regions which otherwise would not be eligible for financing.

## Eligible partners

- decentralised institutions and entities in partner countries and regions;
- mixed organizations;
- international and regional organizations;
- international financial institutions;
- European institutions and agencies to a certain extent;
- non-governmental players.

## Budget

- € 15.432,63 million (current prices)
- € 13.682,6 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Development and cooperation - Europeaid

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument*




# PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT (PI)

The Partnership Instrument (PI) replaces the financing Instrument for Cooperation with Industrialised and other high income countries and territories (ICI), which came into force in 2007, and which has been the EU's main vehicle for collaboration with developed countries. The aim for the Partnership Instrument is to externally project the EU's internal policies and to seek complementarities with EU programmes, such as Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+.

The PI is an integral part of the overall architecture of external action Financial Instruments organised around four main chapters: a policy-based chapter aiming primarily at cooperation with partner countries at all levels; chapters on working on cross-cutting priorities and values: human rights and democracy, humanitarian assistance and civil protection, and crisis management and prevention.

## Objective

The Partnership Instrument promotes EU and mutual interests and gives the "Europe 2020" strategy a global reach, by responding in an effective and flexible manner to cooperation objectives arising from the Union's relations with partner countries and by addressing challenges of global concern. It has a global reach with a particular focus on strategic partners and emerging economies.

## Specific objectives

- implementing the international dimension of the "Europe 2020" strategy by supporting EU bilateral, regional and inter-regional cooperation partnership strategies, by promoting policy dialogues and by developing collective approaches and responses to challenges of global concern such as energy security, climate change and environment;

- improving market access and developing trade, investment and business opportunities for European companies, in particular SMEs, by means of economic partnerships and business and regulatory cooperation;
- enhancing widespread understanding and visibility of the Union and its role on the world scene by means of public diplomacy, education/academic cooperation and outreach activities to promote Union's values and interests.

## Supported actions

- promotion of cooperation, partnership and joint undertakings between economic, academic and scientific actors in the EU and the partner countries;
- stimulation of bilateral trade, investment flows and economic partnership;
- promotion of dialogues between political, economic and social actors and NGOs;
- promotion of people-to-people links, education and training programmes and intellectual exchanges and enhancement of mutual understanding between cultures and civilizations;
- promotion of cooperative projects in the areas of research, science and technology, energy, transportation and environmental matters;
- the enhancement of awareness about and understanding of the European Union and of its visibility in partner countries;
- support for specific initiatives, including research work, studies, pilot schemes or joint projects.
- The Partnership Instrument gives priority to supporting external EU policies like trade as well as the external dimension of EU policies on climate change, the environment, energy, transport, employment and social policy, as well as information and communication technologies.

## Eligible countries

All third countries, regions and territories are eligible for cooperation under this Instrument.

However, the Partnership Instrument primarily supports cooperation measures with developed and developing countries which play an increasingly prominent role in the international economy and trade, in multilateral fora, in global governance and in addressing challenges of global concern and where the Union has significant interests.

## Budget

- € 954, 76 million (current prices)
- € 844,3 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body:

- Service for foreign policy instruments (FPI)

## Links and more info

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries*




# DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION INSTRUMENT (DCI)

The Development Co-operation Instrument (DCI) replaces a wide range of geographic and thematic instruments which was created over time. In this way, it increases the effectiveness of the EU development cooperation. It assists developing countries on their way to reducing poverty and enhancing sustainable development and social progress towards faster integration into the world economy.

The Development Cooperation Instrument covers three components:

- geographic programmes aimed at supporting cooperation with developing countries, territories and regions which are included in the list of recipients of Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the OECD/DAC;
- thematic programmes to address global public goods and challenges and support civil society organisations and local authorities in countries, territories and regions eligible for Union funding under geographic programmes;
- the Pan-African programme to support the Joint Africa-EU Strategy in the countries, territories and regions covered by that Strategy.

## General objective

The primary objective of cooperation under this Instrument is the reduction and, in the long term, the eradication of poverty.

## Specific objectives

- fostering sustainable economic, social and environmental development;
- promoting democracy, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights.

## Supported actions

Geographic programmes:

Union cooperation activities are implemented for activities of national, regional, trans-regional and continental nature. Within each country programme, the Union concentrates its assistance on three sectors. The geographic programmes cover the possible areas for cooperation and distinguish between regional and bilateral cooperation.

Thematic programmes:

*Global Public Goods and Challenges thematic programme*

The main fields of activities include, inter alia, environment and climate change, sustainable energy, human development (including health, education, gender equality, employment, skills, social protection and social inclusion as well as economic development-related aspects such as growth, jobs, trade and private sector engagement), food security and migration and asylum. This thematic programme enables swift response in view of unforeseen events and global crises (e.g. the food price crisis, avian flu). It reduces the fragmentation of the EU development cooperation and allows for appropriate reinforcement and consistency of internal and external actions.

*Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Local Authorities (LAs) thematic programme*

The programme promotes an inclusive and empowered civil society and local authorities, increases awareness and mobilisation on development issues, and strengthens the capacity for policy dialogue on development.

*Pan-African Programme*

This programme implements the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) and is complementary and coherent with ENI, EDF and the thematic programmes under DCI. It supports in particular activities of trans-regional, continental and trans-continental nature.

## Eligible countries

Geographic Programmes support cooperation with 46 developing countries in Latin America, Asia and Central Asia, the Gulf region (Iran, Iraq and Yemen) and South Africa. While, the Thematic Programmes are open for all developing countries (including those covered by the ENPI and the EDF). The full list of each eligible country can be found in the Annex I-III for this Instruments' Proposal.

## Eligible partners

- partner countries and regions, and their institutions;
- decentralised bodies in the partner countries (municipalities, provinces, departments and regions);
- joint bodies set up by the partner countries and regions with the Community;
- Non State Actors;
- international organizations;
- EU agencies

## Budget

- € 19.661,64 million (current prices)
- € 7.390,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution

The maximum co-financing rate is 50% in most regions.

## Responsible body

- DG Europe Aid

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation*




# INSTRUMENT FOR STABILITY (IFS)

## General objectives

- to act in a situation of crisis or emerging crisis, to swiftly contribute to stability by providing an effective response to help preserve, establish or re-establish the conditions essential to the proper implementation of the Union's development and cooperation policies;
- to prevent conflicts, ensure preparedness to address pre-and post-crisis situations and build peace;
- to address specific global and trans-regional threats having a destabilising effect, including climate change.

## Specific objectives

- to response to a situation of urgency, crisis or emerging crisis, a situation posing a threat to democracy, law and order, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, or the security and safety of individuals, or a situation threatening to escalate into armed conflict or severely to destabilise the third country or countries concerned;
- preserving peace, preventing conflicts, strengthening international security and assisting populations, countries and regions confronting natural or man-made disasters, crises and conflicts affecting countries world-wide and other factors such as terrorism, organised crime, climate change, cyber security challenges and threats and natural disasters pose a risk to world stability and security.

## Implementation

Union assistance is implemented in accordance with the Common Implementing Regulation and through the following programming documents and financial implementation measures:

- Thematic Strategy Papers and Multiannual Indicative Programmes;
- Exceptional Assistance Measures;
- Interim Response Programmes;
- Annual Action Programmes and Individual Measures;
- Special Measures.

## Eligible partners

- International and regional organisations, state and non-state actors.

## Budget

- € 2 338, 72 million (current prices)
- € 2.075,1 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG EuropeAid Development & Cooperation (DEVCO)

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing an Instrument for Stability*




# EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS (EIDHR)

## Objective

The general objective is to contribute to the development and consolidation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of low worldwide. The EIDHR is designed to help civil society to become an effective force for political reform and defence of human rights.

## Specific objectives

- enhancing respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in countries and regions where they are most at risk;
- strengthening the role of civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reform, in supporting the peaceful conciliation of group interests and in consolidating political participation and representation;
- supporting actions in areas covered by EU Guidelines: dialogue on Human rights, human rights defenders, the death penalty, torture, children and armed conflicts and violence against women and girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them;
- supporting and strengthening the international and regional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights, justice, the rule of law and the promotion of democracy;
- building confidence in and enhancing the reliability and transparency of democratic electoral processes, in particular through monitoring electoral processes.

## Eligibility criteria

The entities eligible for funding depending on the specific objectives of each action/ call for proposals are:

- civil society organizations;
- public and private sector non-profit organizations;
- national, regional and international parliamentary bodies, when the proposed measure cannot be financed under a related Community external assistance instrument;
- international and regional intergovernmental organizations;
- natural persons, when their help is necessary for achieving the aims of the EIDHR.

## Supported actions

- support for human rights defenders;
- education in the area of human rights and democracy;
- support for civil society organisations focusing on human rights;
- fostering cooperation of civil society with international organizations;
- supporting civil society activities aimed at monitoring the implementation of instruments concerning human rights;
- promoting observance of international humanitarian law.

## Implementation

The selection of projects funded under the EIDHR takes place in several ways:

- global calls for proposal: the projects cover all the objectives of EIDHR and are selected by the Commission in consultation with its local delegations;
- country calls for proposals: the projects are specific to one country (Country Based Support Schemes) and they cover local projects and are managed by local EU delegations;
- direct support to Human Rights Defenders through small grants: when quick intervention through small and targeted actions is needed, the European Commission manages a small facility to provide ad-hoc grants of up 10.000 Euro to be awarded to human rights defenders in need of urgent support either by headquarters or by EU delegations.

## Budget

- € 1.332,75 million (current prices)
- € 1 182,5 million (2011 prices)

## Responsible body

- DG Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a financing instrument for the promotion of democracy and human rights worldwide*




# CIVIL PROTECTION FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT (SCFI)

## General objective

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism aims to support, coordinate and supplement the actions of the Member States in the field of civil protection in improving the effectiveness of systems for preventing, preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters.

The protection to be ensured by the Mechanism covers primarily people, but also the environment and property, including cultural heritage, against all natural and man-made disasters, including acts of terrorism, technological, radiological or environmental accidents, marine pollution and acute health emergencies, occurring inside or outside the Union.

The Union intervention enhances prevention, preparedness and response capacity of Member States to face major disasters minimising human and material loss. The objective of this Decision cannot be sufficiently achieved by Member States operating alone and can be better achieved at Union level by reason of the scale or effects of the proposed action.

## Specific objectives

- to achieve a high level of protection against disasters by preventing or reducing their effects and by fostering a culture of prevention;
- to enhance the Union's state of preparedness to respond to disasters;
- to facilitate rapid and efficient emergency response interventions in the event of major disasters of their imminence.

## Supported actions

- studies, surveys, modelling and scenario building to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, best practices and information;
- training, exercises, workshops, exchange of staff and experts, creation of networks, demonstration projects and technology transfer;
- monitoring, assessment and evaluation actions;
- public information, education and awareness raising and associated dissemination actions, so as to minimize the effects of disasters on Union citizens and to help Union citizens to protect themselves more effectively;
- establishment of a programme of lessons learnt from interventions and exercises in the context of the Mechanism, including on areas relevant to prevention and preparedness;
- communication actions and measures to promote the visibility of the European civil protection work in the areas of prevention, preparedness and response.

## Eligible countries

This Decision shall apply to preventive and preparedness measures for all kinds of disasters inside the Union and in third countries such as:

- European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA);
- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union's programmes established in the respective Framework Agreements and Association Council Decisions, or similar arrangements.

Grants awarded under this Decision may be awarded to legal persons, whether governed by private or public law.

## Budget

- €144,65 million (current prices)
- €128,4 million (2011 prices)

## EU financial contribution:

The provisions relating to the support for transport under the current Instrument are amended and simplified and introduce revised conditions for financing increasing the co-financing rates up to 85% of the total eligible cost and up to 100% in limited cases when certain criteria are met.

## Responsible body

- Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

## Links and more info

*Programme web page*

*DECISION No 1313/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism*

# Annex 1

16 July 2013

## MFF 2014-2020: List of programmes adjusted following the political compromise on MFF

| 2011 prices | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2014-2020 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Galileo | 1 | 1 281.0 | 984.4 | 788.0 | 811.7 | 722.7 | 660.3 | 1 063.9 | 6 300.0 |
| *o/w: transfer to GSA agency* | | *12.7* | *14.5* | *15.0* | *14.3* | *16.3* | *15.6* | *15.3* | *103.7* |
| Copernicus (GMES) | 326 | 342.0 | 514.0 | 531.0 | 544.0 | 562.0 | 748.4 | 544.6 | 3 786.0 |
| Nuclear safety + decommissioning | 278 | 147.5 | 147.7 | 147.9 | 148.0 | 148.2 | 148.3 | 148.5 | 1 036.0 |
| *o/w: nuclear safety* | 22 | *24.6* | *24.8* | *25.0* | *25.2* | *25.3* | *25.5* | *25.6* | *176.0* |
| *o/w decommissioning* | 257 | *122.9* | *122.9* | *122.9* | *122.9* | *122.9* | *122.9* | *122.9* | *860.0* |
| ITER | 901 | 688.0 | 824.0 | 299.0 | 291.0 | 281.0 | 232.0 | 114.0 | 2 707.0 |
| Horizon 2020 | 9 832 | 8 788.0 | 9 111.1 | 9 546.8 | 9 976.3 | 10 349.3 | 10 831.4 | 11 597.1 | 70 200.0 |
| COSME | 183 | 259.6 | 259.7 | 257.7 | 275.5 | 288.6 | 317.5 | 380.4 | 2 030.0 |
| Erasmus for all | 1 330 | 1 466.5 | 1 470.9 | 1 564.5 | 1 788.5 | 2 013.2 | 2 239.5 | 2 466.9 | 13 010.0 |
| Social Change and Innovation | 114 | 112.5 | 113.8 | 114.8 | 116.0 | 117.1 | 118.4 | 122.4 | 815.0 |
| Fiscalis-Customs-Anti Fraud | 102 | 111.5 | 112.7 | 113.8 | 115.0 | 116.1 | 117.3 | 118.6 | 805.0 |
| Agencies before transfer* | 220 | 228.1 | 288.7 | 308.1 | 309.9 | 288.3 | 307.7 | 310.3 | 2 030.2 |
| Other | 308 | 248.7 | 250.8 | 252.2 | 254.1 | 255.5 | 257.3 | 258.3 | 1 776.7 |
| Margin | 41 | 100.0 | 169.7 | 239.7 | 259.8 | 280.3 | 369.7 | 398.9 | 1 818.0 |
| *Energy* | 22 | 388.8 | 452.9 | 675.5 | 764.2 | 807.2 | 919.8 | 1 119.8 | 5 128.0 |
| *Transport* | 1 428 | 1 396.1 | 1 517.5 | 1 760.5 | 1 881.8 | 2 124.8 | 2 246.3 | 2 246.9 | 13 174.0 |
| *ICT* | 3 | 69.9 | 85.1 | 128.7 | 157.0 | 164.8 | 188.4 | 208.3 | 1 000.0 |
| Connecting Europe Facility | 1 452 | 1 852.8 | 2 055.6 | 2 564.6 | 2 803.1 | 3 086.6 | 3 352.3 | 3 575.1 | 19 300.0 |
| **H1a Competitveness for growth and jobs** | 15 068 | 15 605.0 | 16 321.0 | 16 726.0 | 17 693.0 | 18 490.0 | 19 700.0 | 21 079.0 | 125 614.0 |
| Youth employement initiative (top-up) | | 1 700.0 | 1 300.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3 000.0 |
| Regional convergence | 30 684 | 22 271.6 | 22 762.9 | 23 198.0 | 23 536.5 | 23 865.9 | 24 184.2 | 24 459.9 | 164 279.0 |
| Transition regions | 1 982 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 4 525.3 | 31 676.9 |
| Competitiveness | 8 312 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 7 070.3 | 49 492.3 |
| Territorial cooperation | 1 303 | 476.1 | 684.4 | 958.2 | 1 709.9 | 1 709.9 | 1 709.9 | 1 709.9 | 8 848.3 |
| Cohesion fund | 11 882 | 8 434.0 | 8 862.3 | 10 085.0 | 9 507.6 | 9 670.8 | 9 828.4 | 9 984.4 | 66 362.4 |
| Outermost and sparsely populated regions | 249 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 198.1 | 1 386.8 |
| *margin* | | *0.7* | *0.7* | *0.1* | *0.3* | *0.7* | *0.8* | *0.1* | *3.3* |
| **H1b Cohesion policy** | 52 392 | 44 678.0 | 45 404.0 | 46 045.0 | 46 545.0 | 47 038.0 | 47 514.0 | 47 926.0 | 325 149.0 |
| **H1 TOTAL** | 67 460 | 60 283.0 | 61 726.0 | 62 771.0 | 64 238.0 | 65 528.0 | 67 214.0 | 69 004.0 | 450 763.0 |
| ** Including European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) that should be allocated to H3* | | | | | | | | | |
| Subceiling CAP (direct payments + market expenditur | 43 160.0 | 41 585.0 | 40 989.0 | 40 421.0 | 39 837.0 | 39 079.0 | 38 335.0 | 37 805.0 | 277 851.0 |
| Rural Development | 13 889.9 | 12 864.8 | 12 613.1 | 12 388.2 | 12 124.2 | 11 887.0 | 11 654.4 | 11 426.3 | 84 936.0 |
| EMFF (incl. market measures) + FPA's + RFMO's | 936.9 | 958.6 | 958.6 | 950.6 | 939.8 | 930.9 | 920.8 | 917.1 | 6 574.4 |
| Environment and climate action (Life+) | 352.4 | 381.3 | 402.0 | 419.2 | 438.4 | 455.8 | 474.3 | 486.3 | 3 057.2 |
| Agencies | 50.3 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 49.1 | 343.8 |
| Margin | 1 223.0 | 44.1 | 50.2 | 54.9 | 59.5 | 64.3 | 69.4 | 74.3 | 416.6 |
| **H2 TOTAL** | 59 632.5 | 55 883.0 | 55 060.0 | 54 261.0 | 53 448.0 | 52 466.0 | 51 503.0 | 50 556.0 | 373 179.0 |
| Asylum and Migration Fund | 474 | 380.0 | 385.0 | 390.0 | 395.0 | 400.0 | 415.0 | 415.3 | 2 780.3 |
| Internal Security Fund | 463 | 380.0 | 383.2 | 423.9 | 465.0 | 511.2 | 541.7 | 613.1 | 3 318.0 |
| IT systems (- IT scale agency) | 7 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 18.0 | 123.0 |
| Justice | 43 | 44.3 | 45.5 | 46.6 | 47.8 | 48.9 | 50.1 | 51.2 | 334.4 |
| Rights and Citizenship | 33 | 51.6 | 53.0 | 54.3 | 55.6 | 56.9 | 58.2 | 59.6 | 389.2 |
| Civil Protection Mechanism | 0 | 26.6 | 27.0 | 27.7 | 28.3 | 28.9 | 29.5 | 30.1 | 198.2 |
| Europe for Citizens | 27 | 22.0 | 22.4 | 23.0 | 23.5 | 24.0 | 24.5 | 24.9 | 164.3 |
| Food safety | 336 | 236.8 | 238.8 | 239.2 | 240.0 | 240.9 | 241.3 | 239.8 | 1 678.5 |
| Health for Growth | 53 | 55.2 | 55.2 | 56.3 | 57.3 | 57.8 | 58.3 | 58.3 | 398.4 |
| Consumer Programme | 23 | 22.7 | 22.8 | 23.5 | 23.9 | 24.3 | 25.0 | 25.2 | 167.3 |
| Creative Europe Programme | 179 | 188.3 | 184.1 | 173.7 | 183.7 | 194.1 | 204.9 | 204.8 | 1 293.7 |
| Agencies (+IT scale agency)* | 467 | 504.1 | 514.3 | 514.6 | 507.1 | 505.1 | 503.8 | 503.8 | 3 552.7 |
| Other | 106 | 80.6 | 82.0 | 84.0 | 85.9 | 87.8 | 89.6 | 91.3 | 601.2 |
| Margin | 283 | 61.3 | 64.2 | 79.8 | 101.4 | 114.6 | 131.8 | 133.9 | 686.9 |
| **H3 TOTAL** | 2 494 | 2 053.0 | 2 075.0 | 2 154.0 | 2 232.0 | 2 312.0 | 2 391.0 | 2 469.0 | 15 686.0 |
| **without the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) currently still in H1a* | | | | | | | | | |
| Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA) | 1 792 | 1 483.0 | 1 483.0 | 1 483.0 | 1 483.0 | 1 483.0 | 1 483.0 | 1 482.0 | 10 380.0 |
| Eur. neighborhood Instr. (ENI) | 2 279 | 1 991.1 | 1 872.9 | 1 887.9 | 1 917.9 | 1 952.9 | 2 012.9 | 2 047.1 | 13 682.6 |
| EIDHR | 189 | 169.0 | 169.0 | 169.0 | 168.8 | 168.7 | 168.8 | 169.3 | 1 182.5 |
| Stability(IfS) | 318 | 296.3 | 296.3 | 296.4 | 296.5 | 296.5 | 296.5 | 296.6 | 2 075.1 |
| Security (CFSP) | 381 | 296.3 | 296.3 | 296.4 | 296.5 | 296.5 | 296.5 | 296.6 | 2 075.1 |
| Partnership Instrument (PI) | 0 | 106.8 | 110.2 | 114.4 | 119.3 | 125.2 | 132.0 | 136.4 | 844.3 |
| Development Coop Instr. (DCI) | 2 519 | 2 176.3 | 2 279.8 | 2 397.6 | 2 491.1 | 2 601.4 | 2 714.2 | 2 740.0 | 17 360.4 |
| Humanitarian aid | 832 | 853.1 | 848.9 | 844.8 | 839.5 | 835.2 | 835.3 | 821.2 | 5 877.9 |
| Civil Protection (CPFI) + ERC | 5 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 17.9 | 128.4 |
| EVHAC | 0 | 11.9 | 13.8 | 16.2 | 19.5 | 22.9 | 22.9 | 23.0 | 130.1 |
| Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation (INSC) | 76 | 28.8 | 28.8 | 28.8 | 28.7 | 28.7 | 28.7 | 27.5 | 200.0 |
| Macro-financial assistance | 80 | 71.9 | 72.0 | 72.2 | 71.8 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 70.3 | 501.0 |
| Gurantee fund for External actions | 150 | 55.1 | 221.5 | 247.4 | 178.7 | 155.0 | 136.3 | 71.0 | 1 063.1 |
| Agencies | 20 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 19.5 | 136.7 |
| Other* | 134 | 141.9 | 141.9 | 188.0 | 141.8 | 141.7 | 141.7 | 139.8 | 1 036.8 |
| Margin | 377 | 134.8 | 210.9 | 210.9 | 286.0 | 335.9 | 385.9 | 435.9 | 2 000.0 |
| **H4 TOTAL** | 9 145 | 7 854.0 | 8 083.0 | 8 281.0 | 8 375.0 | 8 563.0 | 8 764.0 | 8 794.0 | 58 704.0 |

**This includes the financial assistance to the Turkish Cypriot community to be provided under Council Regulation No 389/2006 with an annual amount of €M 28 (in 2011 prices).*

(**source:**[http://register.consilium.europa.eu/doc/srv?l=EN&t=PDF&gc=true&sc=false&f=ST%2012602%202013%20INIT&r=http%3A%2F%2Fregister.consilium.europa.eu%2Fpd%2Fen%2F13%2Fst12%2Fst12602.en13.pdf](http://register.consilium.europa.eu/doc/srv?l=EN&t=PDF&gc=true&sc=false&f=ST%2012602%202013%20INIT&r=http%3A%2F%2Fregister.consilium.europa.eu%2Fpd%2Fen%2F13%2Fst12%2Fst12602.en13.pdf))

# Annex 2

**Total allocations of Cohesion Policy 2014-2020* (million €, 2011 prices)**

| | | ERDF and ESF | | | | ERDF | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Cohesion Fund** | Less developed regions | Transition regions | Special allocation for outermost and sparsely populated regions | More developed regions | Territorial Cooperation | Total |
| BE | - | - | 962 | - | 868 | 231 | **2.061** |
| BG | 2.384 | 4.623 | - | - | - | 145 | **7.153** |
| CZ | 6.562 | 13.646 | - | - | 79 | 298 | **20.585** |
| DK | - | - | 64 | - | 230 | 199 | **494** |
| DE | - | - | 8.750 | - | 7.609 | 847 | **17.207** |
| EE | 1.123 | 2.198 | - | - | - | 49 | **3.369** |
| IE | - | - | - | - | 869 | 148 | **1.017** |
| EL | 3.407 | 6.420 | 2.105 | - | 2.307 | 203 | **14.443** |
| ES | - | 1.858 | 12.201 | 432 | 10.084 | 542 | **25.116** |
| FR | - | 3.147 | 3.927 | 395 | 5.862 | 956 | **14.288** |
| HR | 2.676 | 5.225 | - | - | - | 128 | **8.029** |
| IT | - | 20.333 | 1.004 | - | 7.006 | 998 | **29.341** |
| CY | 286 | - | - | - | 388 | 29 | **703** |
| LV | 1.412 | 2.742 | - | - | - | 82 | **4.236** |
| LT | 2.145 | 4.189 | - | - | - | 100 | **6.434** |
| LU | - | - | - | - | 39 | 18 | **57** |
| HU | 6.313 | 13.452 | - | - | 416 | 318 | **20.498** |
| MT | 228 | - | 441 | - | - | 15 | **684** |
| NL | - | - | - | - | 908 | 342 | **1.250** |
| AT | - | - | 66 | - | 823 | 226 | **1.114** |
| PL | 24.274 | 45.917 | - | - | 2.017 | 615 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | **72.823** |
| PT | 3.000 | 15.008 | 232 | 103 | 1.148 | 108 | **19.599** |
| RO | 7.251 | 13.773 | - | - | 405 | 397 | **21.826** |
| SI | 939 | 1.134 | - | - | 763 | 55 | **2.891** |
| SK | 4.361 | 8.489 | - | - | 40 | 196 | **13.086** |
| FI | - | - | - | 272 | 911 | 142 | **1.325** |
| SE | - | - | - | 184 | 1.355 | 300 | **1.840** |
| UK | - | 2.126 | 2.335 | - | 5.144 | 760 | **10.364** |
| *interregional cooperation* | | | | | | *500* | ***500*** |
| **Total** | **66.362** | **164.279** | **32.085** | **1.387** | **49.271** | **8.948** | **322.332** |

*The youth employment initiative (top up) of EUR 3 billion is not included in the table

**(source: ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/.../overall_table.xls)**

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www.europeanprojects.org / www.my-europa.eu

**Cittalia-ANCI Research Foundation** carries out research into the main areas of interest for Italian municipalities such as environment, urban policies, smart cities, welfare, social inclusion, civic participation and the management of public spaces. Cittalia provides local authorities with information and services on European funding opportunities and supports them in the projects development. The ambition is to disseminate knowledge and techniques for boosting local innovation and developing efficient public policies. Cittalia participate as research, communication and dissemination partner in several European projects on a wide range of topics. At EU level it is currently National Dissemination Point for the Urbact Programme in Italy and Supporting Structure for the Covenant of Mayors, it monitors the European urban policies on behalf of ANCI, and supports the communication activities of the Committee of the Regions, producing the CoR Italian Delegation monthly Newsletter.

www.cittalia.it

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**Francesca Romana Zotta**, author of the EU Funding Opportunities 2014-2020 Practical Guide, is EU Project Manager with professional experiences and competences in the areas of EU Law, Innovation, Sustainable Development, Social Cohesion and EU project design and management. This publication is the result of the research on 2014-2020 funding opportunities she coordinated within the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Programme at EPA (European Project Association asbl) in Brussels. Based between Brussels and Rome, Francesca Romana Zotta collaborates with Es-Com (Esprit Coummunautaire Agency) and with LegalInternational law firm as consultant on EU projects development. Since April 2013 she has worked at the EU project management office of Cittalia-ANCI Research Fundation, in the EU project proposal and management. From 2008 to 2013 she has been working in the Welfare area of ANCI, supporting social policies of Italian municipalities.

**Dino Babić**, research advisor for the EU Funding Opportunities 2014-2020 Practical Guide, is a regional economy expert focusing on ICT applied to regional development projects. Higher professional collaborator for the development of International projects and Official representative of the Region of Istria (Croatia) to the EU institutions in Brussels, PhD in Transborder Policies for the Daily Life at the International University Institute for European Studies in Gorizia (Italy) researching the role of multimedia communication in the enhancement of the perception of the effects of EU policies by the citizens. 7 years of experience in developing and managing European projects. Project evaluator for the European Research Area Network and Euro-African Research Area Network. President of the European Projects Association (Brussels, Belgium). Advisor for Research&Development of the European Academy for Education and Social Research (Dublin, Ireland), External expert of the European Commission DG Communication (Brussels, Belgium).

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Author: **Francesca Romana Zotta**

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