



*Management and knowledge of European research model and promotion of research results*

## 2. European Funding Opportunities

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# Financing EU policies targets

In order to achieve the targets pursued through the EU policies a [wide range of Funding Programmes](#) are adopted providing to different types of beneficiaries financial support in the **fields related to the different EU policies.**





# EU Funding Programmes

**IMPORTANT**

## Funding follows Policy

Programmes exist to achieve EU priorities

## Programmes are individual

different requirements, procedures, rules, management

## **Don't chase the money**

(...at least not only the money 😊)

align your objectives with policy



# EU Funding Programmes...

Two broad categories of EU funding programmes

## direct funding

by EU Commission/Executive Agencies

- ♦ Direct management: Apply directly to Brussels
- ♦ Competitive bidding process
- ♦ transnational partnerships (with some exceptions)

## indirect funding

by National/Regional Authorities

- ♦ National multiannual allocation (funds from EU)
- ♦ Shared management: Apply at national/regional level

but also

**Financial Instruments** (mix of EU and EIB/ local financing institutes)

direction of travel = move from grants to loans, ventura capital



# ...follow Policies

Two broad categories of EU funding programmes

## **direct funding**

by EU Commission/Executive Agencies

supported by  
Europe 2020 policy

## **indirect funding**

by National/Regional Authorities

supported by  
Cohesion policy

but also

**Financial Instruments** (mix of EU and EIB/ local financing institutes)  
support different Programmes/ Juncker Plan Investment



# Programmes 2014-2020

## main evolutions

### Programmes 2014-2020 simplification

(wrt 2007-2013 Programmes)

- ♦ **Decreased number of separate programs** through grouping of the 2007-2013 programmes. Examples:
  - \* Erasmus+ include all branches of the 2007-2013 Lifelong Learning Programme (Erasmus, Comenius, Leonardo da Vinci, etc...)
  - \* Creative Europe programme: groups Youth in Action and 2007-2013 Culture and Media programmes
  - \* Horizon 2020 will be the big new 2014-2020 programme dedicated to research and innovation (former FP7).
- ♦ **Simplification of procedures** and the application of common principles for funding
- ♦ The **decentralisation of the management of funds**, with an increased role given to executive agencies

The system of Structural Funds nevertheless remains almost unchanged



# Main types of funding

## Grants

- ♦ awarded to implement specific projects, usually following a 'call for proposals'
- ♦ serves a specific purpose which is described in the call for proposals. In some cases the EU's contribution is conditional on the beneficiary providing co-financing.

## Public contracts

- ♦ awarded through calls for tender (public procurement)
- ♦ cover a wide range of areas (for ex. studies, technical assistance and training, consultancy, conference organisation, IT equipment). The contracts' purpose is to buy services, goods or works to ensure the smooth functioning of EU institutions or programmes

**Loans, guarantees and prizes are among other possible types of funding**

**Grant recipients and the contractors must apply clear financial rules which enable the EU Commission and any other auditing authorities to check how the EU funding is used.**





# European 2014-2020 “Indirect Funds”





# European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF) 2014-2020

1. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
2. The European Social Fund (ESF)
3. The Cohesion Fund



**Cohesion Policy**

4. The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)



**Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Pillar II  
- Rural Development Policy**

5. The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)



**Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)**

## **Common rules for ESI Funds**

- ♦ Simplified cost options
- ♦ E-governance
- ♦ Eligibility rules.
- ♦ Financial instruments.
- ♦ Community –Led Local Development ([CLLD](#)): is a dedicated tool for use at sub-regional level and thus complements other development support at local level



# European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF) 2014-2020

A single package of Funds comprising:

- ♦ **European Social Fund (ESF)** which supports skills, enhancing access to employment and social inclusion
- ♦ **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** which supports research, innovation, business development and infrastructure investment, EU territorial cooperation
- ♦ **Cohesion Fund (CF)\*** to support trans-European transport networks and environmental policies
- ♦ **European Agricultural for Rural Development Fund (EARDF)** which supports economic development in our rural areas
- ♦ **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)** which 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 and makes it easier for applicants to access financing.

\*For the 2014-2020 period, the Cohesion Fund concerns Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.



# The Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: thematic objectives

Any use of ESIF funds must support (some) **thematic objectives**.

When drawing up Partnership Agreements, and Operational Programmes, MS must have regard to thematic objectives, including a description of the expected results from the use of ESI funds in relation to each selected thematic.

EUROPE 2020

Smart

Sustainable

Inclusive

1. Research, technological development and innovation
2. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
3. Competitiveness of SMEs
4. Shift toward a low-carbon economy
5. Climate change adaptation and risk prevention and management
6. Protection of the environment and resource efficiency
7. Sustainable transport and key network infrastructure
8. Employment and labour mobility
9. Social inclusion and combating poverty
10. Education, skill building and life-long learning
11. Institutional capacity and efficient public administration



# European Social Funds (ESF)

Specific aimed to

- ♦ Promoting employment & supporting labour mobility
- ♦ Investing in education, skills & life-long learning (**Researchers' training is also eligible**)
- ♦ Promoting social inclusion & combating poverty
- ♦ Enhancing institutional capacity & efficient public administration

Reinforce social dimension:

- ♦ 20 % of ESF allocations for social inclusion
- ♦ Greater emphasis on fighting youth unemployment
- ♦ Mainstreaming & specific support for gender equality & non-discrimination





# Research and Innovation

## Investment priorities for ERDF

### **Strengthening research, technological development and innovation**

- ♦ Enhancing research and innovation **infrastructure (R&I) and capacities** to develop R&I excellence and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest ([ESFRI](#) - European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures)
- ♦ Promoting **business R&I investment**, product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation and public service application, demand simulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through “**smart specialisation**”
- ♦ Supporting **technological and applied research**, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advanced manufacturing capabilities and first production in Key Enabling Technologies ([KET](#)) and diffusion of general purpose technologies



# How are different regions funded?

274 regions based on population have been defined and each region falls into one of **three categories**:

- **Less developed region** (GDP per capita less than 75% of EU-27 average)
- **Transition region** (GDP per capita between 75% and 90% of EU-27 average)
- **More developed region** (GDP per capita greater than 90% of EU-27 average)

The level of funding for each region depends upon its category, with most resources being made available to the less developed regions

The rules about how funds can be used vary depending on the type of region





An aerial photograph of a modern architectural complex, possibly a university or government building. The image shows several large, curved walkways or ramps that spiral around a central area. In the background, there is a large, multi-story building with a grid of windows. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, showing the intricate layout of the building's exterior spaces.

European Competitive  
Programmes 2014-2020  
“Direct Funds”



# EU direct funding Programme

The **main goal** of EU 2014-2020 direct funding programme is to achieve the objectives of Europe 2020 strategy.

This means that:

- ♦ the programmes are oriented to this goal
- ♦ more resources will be allocated to those sectors that will play a decisive role in this regard

**Important** to consult carefully the rules of each programme: specific conditions that need to be fulfilled may vary from one programme to another



# (Part of) Programmes, thematic categories and beneficiaries / I

Programme	Thematic Categories	Beneficiaries
Ambient Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL JP)	Health Information and Communication Technologies	Private Sector Academic institutions and research centers
Baltic Sea Research and Development Programme (BONUS)	Environment	Private Sector Public Sector
Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs (COSME)	Trade and Commerce Economic growth and Competitiveness Information and Communication Technologies	Private Sector Public Sector
Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	Transport Energy Telecommunications	Public Sector Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers
Consumer Programme 2014-2020	Health Consumer Safety Education and Training Internal Market	Public Sector Non-Profit Organizations

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/cosme/>



# Programmes, thematic categories and beneficiaries / II

Programme	Thematic Categories	Beneficiaries
Creative Europe	Culture Media and Audiovisual Sector	Private Sector Public Sector Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers
Customs 2020	Internal Market Law Enforcement Education and Training	Public Sector Central Government
Employment and Social Innovation Programme (EASI)	Social Affairs and Human Rights Labour Market Entrepreneurship	Private Sector Academic institutions and research centers Non-Profit Organizations
Erasmus+	Education and Training Youth Sport	Private Sector Public Sector Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

<http://www.erasmusplus.it>



# Programmes, thematic categories and beneficiaries / III

Programme	Thematic Categories	Beneficiaries
Europe for Citizens	European Citizenship Democracy and Civic Participation	Public Sector Non-Profit Organisations Academic institutions and research centers
Fiscalis 2020	Internal Market Information and Communication Technologies Education and Training	Public Sector Central Government
Galileo and Egnos (European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service) Programmes	Space Information and Communication Technologies	Central Government Private Sector Public Sector Academic institutions and research centers
Health for Growth	Health	Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers

[http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index_en.htm)



# Programmes, thematic categories and beneficiaries /IV

Programme	Thematic Categories	Beneficiaries
Hercule III	Education and Training Law enforcement Internal Market	Central Government Academic institutions and research centers Non-Profit Organizations
Horizon 2020	Energy Environment Health Industry Information and Communication Technologies Justice Security Social Affairs and Human Rights Space Telecommunications Transport Youth Economic growth and competitiveness	Private Sector Public Sector Bodies Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>



# Programmes, thematic categories and beneficiaries / V

Programme	Thematic Categories	Beneficiaries
Internal Security Fund – Component for Police Cooperation	Justice and Security, Law Enforcement, Education and Training	Central Government
LIFE Programme	Environment	Private Sector Public Sector Non-Profit Organizations Academic institutions and research centers
Pericles 2020	Law enforcement Education and Training Justice and Security Internal Market	Central Government, Public sector
Rights and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020	European Citizenship Social Affairs and Human Rights, Labour Market	Public Sector Central Government

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>



# A hint: Juncker Investment Plan

## The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)

- 2015: Europe's economy begins to recover after the crisis, but the level of investment is still low. Investors have money, but little confidence
- **New EU fund from mid-2015**
- **The fund starts with € 21 billion** from EU sources
- Investments are made in viable business projects, for example in digital and energy infrastructure, transport, small businesses, green projects and innovation
- **Multiplier effect:** public money will trigger private investors to follow suit, with **up to € 315 billion**
- Could create 1.3 million new jobs over three years

