

Cohesion policy support for environmental protection



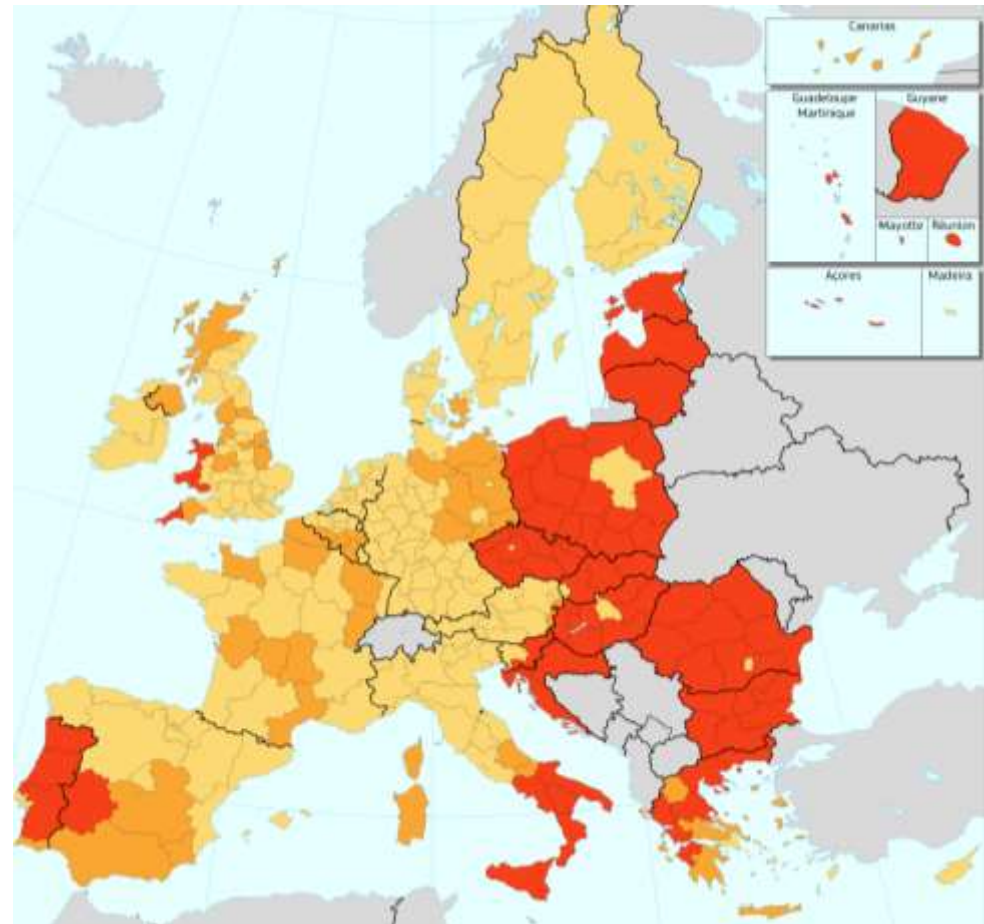
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Cohesion Policy 2014-2020



	Billion EUR
Less developed regions	182.2
Transition regions	35.4
More developed regions	54,4
Cohesion Fund	63.4
European territorial cooperation	10.1
<i>Of which</i>	
<i>Cross-border cooperation</i>	7.5
<i>Transnational cooperation</i>	2.0
<i>Interregional cooperation</i>	0.6
Outermost regions and northern sparsely populated regions	1.6
Youth Employment initiative	3.2
TOTAL	350.3*

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



* This figure does not include EUR 1.5b of Urban Innov. Actions and EC technical assistance

What funding?

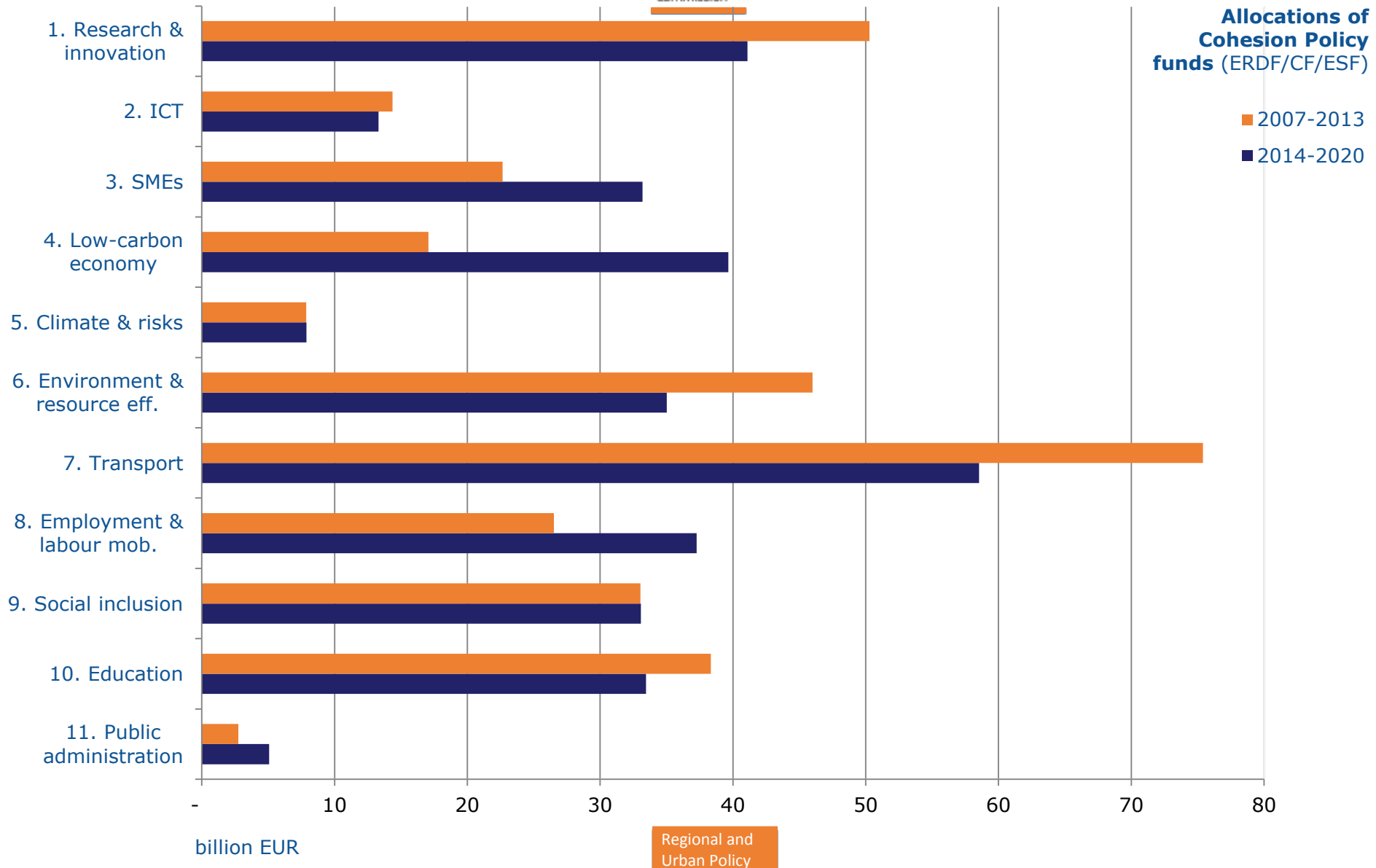


European
Commission

Allocations of Cohesion Policy funds (ERDF/CF/ESF)

■ 2007-2013

■ 2014-2020



Which environmental measures?



➤ Environment and resource efficiency

- Significant improvements to wastewater treatment and drinking water supply
- Improved waste management and additional recycling capacity
- Biodiversity protection and conservation measures
- Investments in natural and cultural heritage
- Other priorities: rehabilitation of industrial sites, air quality measures, etc.

➤ Climate change adaptation

- Prevention of natural disasters (floods, fires...) and other hazards

➤ Low-carbon economy

- Energy efficiency, renewable energy, smart grids, low-carbon urban mobility...



- Integrated territorial development and strategic planning – partnership agreements and operational programmes
- Broad engagement of stakeholders, partnership principle
- Territorial cooperation opportunities
- Possibilities for capacity building and technical assistance
- A tool for implementation of EU environmental policies
 - Pre-conditions for funding (ex ante conditionalities)
 - NATURA 2000 as an important focus for Cohesion Policy investments
 - Green infrastructure as a new opportunity to steer investments for environmental and socio-economic benefits

What new for 2014-2020?



Horizontal integration of the Sustainable development principle

"The Member States and the Commission shall ensure that environmental protection requirements, resource efficiency, **climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity**, disaster resilience, and risk prevention and management are promoted in the preparation and implementation of Partnership Agreements and programmes" (Art. 8 Common Provisions Regulation)

Greater role of cities and sustainable urban development:

"At least 5 % of the ERDF resources [...] shall be allocated to integrated actions for sustainable urban development" (Art. 7 ERDF Regulation)

GIF-T! Green Infrastructure For Tomorrow – Together!



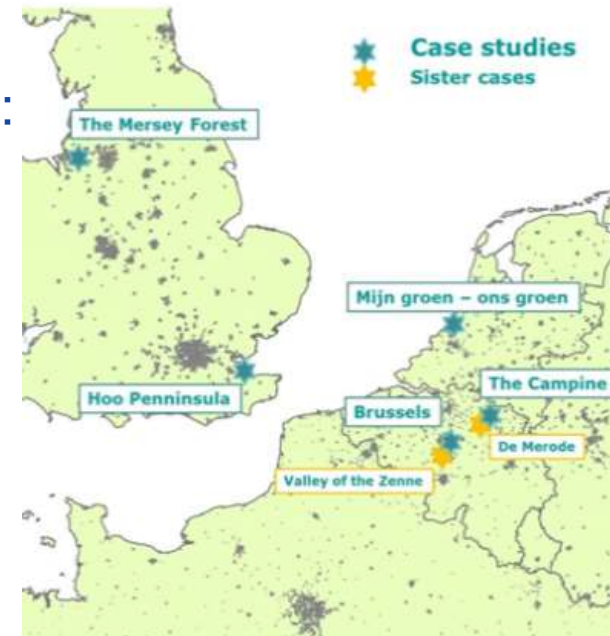
INTERREG IV B - BE – NL – GB, total € 3.6 M (ERDF €1.8 M), five years

A new way of community-based spatial planning and developing Green Infrastructure, three phases:

- Visioning and building the stakeholder network
- Diagnosis, design and valuation of GI
- Deploying the GI potential by developing GI Business Plan

Toolkit that has already helped communities, businesses and governments to enhance their GI :

- Stimulate collaboration between stakeholders
- Increasing social cohesion
- Increasing biodiversity and recreational value of environment
- Interacting regional and local level
- Increasing business opportunities



Conclusions



- **Important opportunities**
- Development and implementation of **high-quality projects** - now crucial for success
- **Continuous broad engagement** of stakeholders needed
- **Good governance and coordination** - essential at all levels

