



Biodiversity, nature and green infrastructure in 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy

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2007-2013 Cohesion Policy investments

- Significant support
 - € 2.6 billion for the promotion of **biodiversity** and **nature protection**
 - € 0.9 billion for the promotion of **natural assets**
 - € 1.1 billion for the protection and development of **natural heritage**
 - Plus several other indirect investments!
- Many interesting examples
- Projects match EU priorities

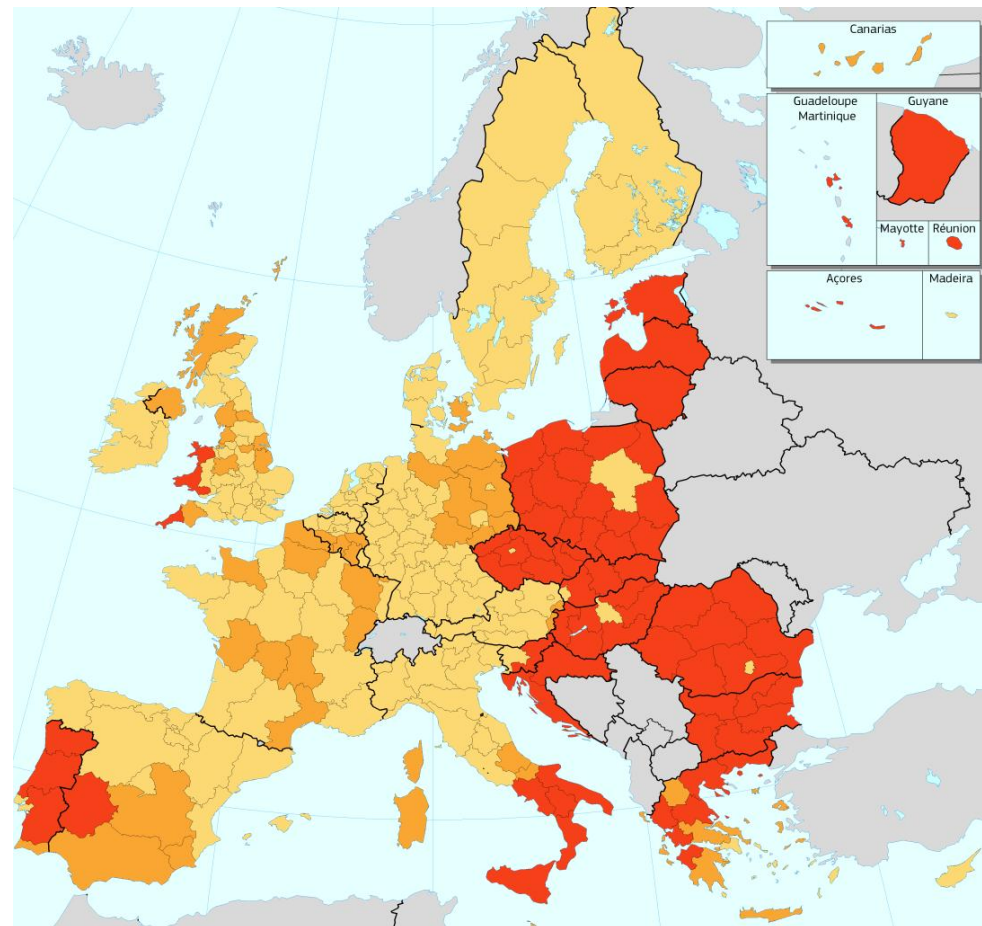


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Cohesion Policy 2014-2020

	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

Thematic Objectives for 2014-2020

Europe 2020

smart

sustainable

inclusive

1. Research and innovation
2. Information and communication technologies
3. Competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises
4. Shift to a low-carbon economy
5. Climate change adaptation and risk management & prevention
6. **Environmental protection and resource efficiency**
7. Sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
8. Employment and support for labour mobility
9. Social inclusion and poverty reduction
10. Education, skills and lifelong learning
11. Increased institutional capacity and effectiveness of public administration

Priorities: implementation of EU nature and biodiversity policies

- 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
- Based on preliminary analysis and assessment of needs
- Synergies with other investments
- Cross-border, interregional and macro-regional dimensions

Horizontal integration

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

Enabling conditions

- Ex-ante conditionalities
- Capacity-building and support
 - PEER2PEER
 - European Network of Environmental Authorities and Managing Authorities (ENEA-MA)
 - Smart Specialisation Platform (S³)
 - ...

Project example: Sustainable forest management in the Baltic Sea region - EFINORD

- Umbrella for forestry-related projects within the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
- Focuses on the development of sustainable bioeconomy
 - Increasing biomass production
 - Ensuring the provision of ecosystem services
 - Forestry and water protection
 - Conservation of forest tree genetic resources under climate change
 - Protection of specific species
 - ...





Questions or comments?

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