



Cohesion Policy 2007-13 National Strategic Reference Frameworks





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Foreword



The 27 National Strategic Reference Frameworks agreed on this year by the Member States and the Commission, set out the investment priorities for the new generation of regional and sectoral programmes to be supported by the European Union over the seven-year period 2007-13. They draw their inspiration from the priorities adopted by the Member States in October 2006 in the "Community Strategic Guidelines for Cohesion".

In accordance with the Guidelines, the strategies confirm that cohesion policy has today become the major source of investment from the European budget directly contributing to the Lisbon Strategy, as agreed in 2005 and which aims to boost economic growth and job creation throughout the Union. The programmes seek to support the modernisation and diversification of national and regional economies, improve competitiveness and underpin efforts to maintain macroeconomic stability.

This brochure sets out the strategies in detail, country-by-country, identifying the investment plans they contain, the regions targeted and the impacts expected. Also included is an initial indication of the level of investment Member States intend to undertake in support of the priority fields of the Lisbon Strategy such as research, innovation and new information technologies, energy efficiency and the development and use of renewable and alternative energies, the promotion of entrepreneurship, increasing the adaptability of the labour force, environmental protection and risk prevention, and Trans-European Transport Networks. In addition, the strengthening of institutions and institutional capacities is an important element in almost all countries receiving support for less developed ("Convergence") regions. The majority of the new programmes in the national strategies will be targeted geographically, at national or regional level, and will combine investments in the different fields using a fully integrated approach, exploiting synergies and extending the overall impact on growth and jobs. The strategies reflect the principle that a one-size-fits-all approach should not be taken and also address the diversity of national and regional circumstances and development potential.

The strategies and their programmes have been developed in partnership between the Commission and national, regional and local authorities as well as economic and social partners, NGOs and other key players. This involvement is important for exploiting local knowledge and spreading ownership of the Lisbon Strategy at grassroots level.

The implementation of 27 national strategies and over 420 operational programmes is only the beginning of the process. It now falls to the management authorities in Member States to ensure that by selecting the best projects, the programmes will have a real impact on growth and jobs for the benefit of citizens. The Commission stands ready to support the authorities over the coming period.

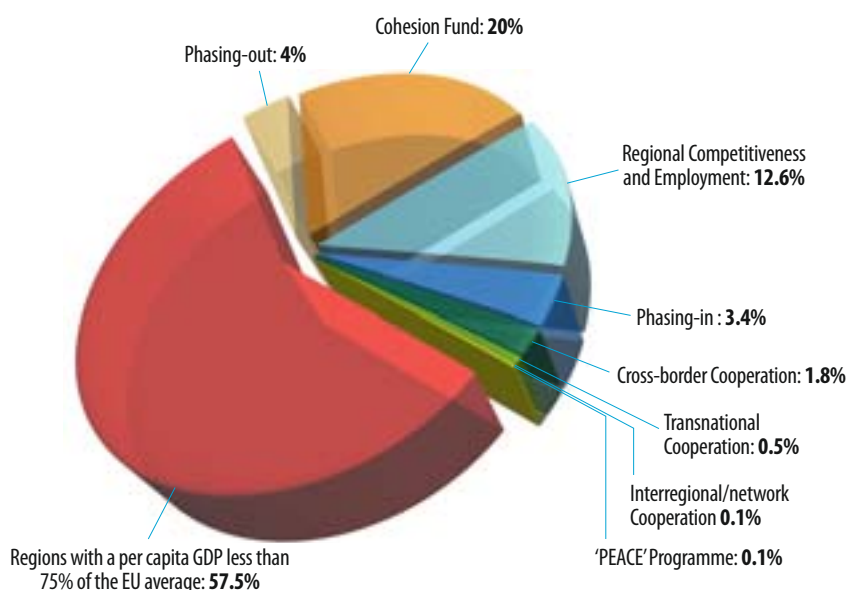
Danuta Hübner
Commissioner for Regional Policy

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Building a Union of modern, attractive and dynamic regions

Allocation by objective



Financial Resources

The available resources amount to €308.041 billion (in 2004 prices) or €347.410 billion (in today's prices)

- **81.5%** for the Convergence objective
- **16%** for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective
- **2.5%** for the European Territorial Cooperation objective

More growth and jobs for all regions and cities of the European Union – this is the message at the heart of the new Cohesion policy for 2007-13. The European Cohesion policy is designed to bring about concrete results, furthering economic and social cohesion and reducing gaps between development levels in the various regions. It brings added value to actions in the field by investing in real projects. The concept is to modernise our regions so that they can act as growth and competitiveness drivers in our common European home. Regions will also be provided with support for exchanging ideas and best practices. The largest investment ever made by the EU will amount to some €350 billion and is designed to support regional growth agendas and stimulate job creation.

During this period, the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund will contribute to three objectives: 81.5% of the total amount will be concentrated on the Convergence objective, under which the poorest Member States and regions are eligible; in the remaining regions, 16% of the Structural Funds will focus on supporting innovation, sustainable development, better accessibility and training projects under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective; the remaining 2.5% will be available for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Cohesion policy programmes at the heart of the Lisbon strategy

With the reforms proposed by the Commission in 2004 and endorsed by the Parliament and the Member States in 2006, European cohesion policy has become one of the principal Community policies for the delivery of the Union's growth and jobs agenda, the so-called "Lisbon strategy". To help achieve the Lisbon objectives, certain spending targets for the Structural Funds have been agreed (see box).

Setting targets for growth and jobs: the “Lisbon expenditure”

At the Lisbon summit in March 2000, European Union leaders set out a new strategy to stimulate growth and employment and make Europe’s economy the most competitive in the world by 2010. This became known as the “Lisbon Strategy”. After initially moderate results, the “Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs” was simplified and relaunched in 2005.

In agreeing a financial perspective for 2007-2013, the Member States also decided that a certain proportion of the resources for the next generation of programmes should be reserved for investment in areas directly linked to the Lisbon Strategy including a specific list of earmarked categories of expenditure for actions supporting areas such as research and innovation, the information society and sustainable development.

The Regulation sets earmarking targets of “Lisbon expenditure” at 60% for the Convergence Objective and 75% for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective. The earmarking of the Lisbon expenditure is compulsory for the 15 Member States of the Union as constituted before 1 May 2004 (EU-15). The objective is that all Member States concerned should achieve the earmarking target as an average over the period. Although the 12 newer Member States (EU-12) and acceding countries are not covered by earmarking, they are also encouraged to set Lisbon targets.

An initial review of the new generation of cohesion policy strategies and programmes for the period 2007-2013 (*) shows that most of the Cohesion Policy budget will be invested in key Lisbon-related priorities.

For the less developed Convergence regions, which together account for over 80% of cohesion policy resources, 65% of the funds are to be invested in Lisbon-related activities. This represents an 11% increase on the previous programming period. Regions with programmes falling under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective will invest around 82% of the funds for 2007-2013 in Lisbon-related priorities, well in excess of the 75% target.

Naturally, circumstances dictate that there are differences between “older” and “newer” Member States. For the EU-15 (older) Member States, the corresponding figures are somewhat higher at 74% for the Convergence Objective and 83% for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective. For the EU-12 (newer) Member States, the figure is 59% for the Convergence Objective, and a similar percentage for the very limited number of programmes in these Member States that are supported by the Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective.

The figures for individual Member States tend to vary considerably. At the top end, Convergence regions in Portugal and Spain have earmarked investments averaging 80% of the total, while for Competitiveness regions the highest figure is for Denmark, at 92% of the total. While the figures are more modest in the EU-12, in many of these regions there is still a need for investment in a range of sectors fundamental to economic progress. Encouragingly, however, Bulgaria, Poland and Romania, with extensive investment needs in basic national, regional and local infrastructure, have decided to concentrate a significant proportion of resources on Lisbon-related priorities.

Contributing to EU priorities

The 2006 Spring European Council identified four priority areas under the renewed Lisbon Strategy on which the EU and Member States should focus their efforts: investing more in knowledge and innovation; unlocking business potential, particularly of SMEs; improving employability through flexicurity; and better management of energy resources.

The new cohesion programmes put particular emphasis on these priorities. More than €85 billion is allocated to investment in knowledge and

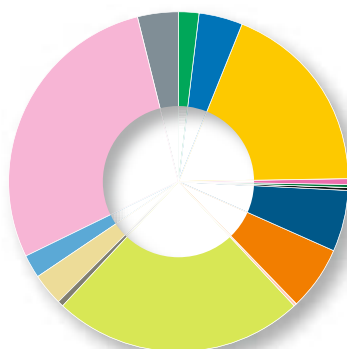
innovation. The promotion of entrepreneurship emerges as another key theme for 2007-2013. Services for business support, targeting SMEs, will receive some €19 billion over the next seven years.

The new programmes will also seek to improve employability through flexicurity. Around €13.5 billion has been allocated to help enterprises develop forward-looking human resource strategies, to introduce innovative and more productive forms of work and work organisation, and to ease the transition process resulting from restructuring. Altogether the new programmes foresee around €32 billion to improve access to employment ranging from personal assistance to modernisation of employment institutions. The first estimations also indicate that cohesion policy will support various components of flexicurity with resources of around €50 billion over the next seven years. Recognising the important economic return on investment from education at the early stages of life, resources dedicated to improving human capital will also significantly increase in this new programming period: some €25.3 billion has been set aside to support the reform of education and training systems.

(*) Communication from the Commission “Member States and Regions delivering the Lisbon strategy for growth and jobs through EU cohesion policy, 2007-13”, COM(2007) 798, Brussels, 11 December 2007.

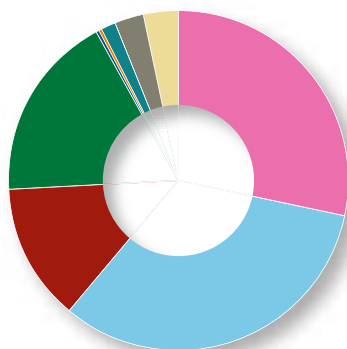
Allocation of European Regional Development Fund/Cohesion Fund by theme – EU-27 2007-13

Culture	2.2%
Energy	4%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	18.7%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.4%
Improving human capital	0.4%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured people	0.1%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	0.3%
Information society	5.6%
Investment in social infrastructure	6.2%
Mobilisation for reforms in the field of employment and inclusion	0.1%
Reduction of additional costs hindering the outermost regions development	0.2%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	23.8%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.6%
Technical assistance	3%
Tourism	2.3%
Transport	28.3%
Urban and rural regeneration	3.8%



Allocation of European Social Fund by theme – EU-27 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	28.4%
Improving human capital	32.9%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured people	13.1%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	17.8%
Information society	0.2%
Investment in social infrastructure	0.2%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	1.2%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	0.1%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	2.7%
Technical assistance	3.3%



The new programmes also reflect a strong emphasis on improving management of energy resources and the move towards an efficient and integrated EU energy policy. Compared to the period 2000-2006, investments in renewable energies and energy efficiency will be five times higher under the Convergence objective and seven times higher under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

The new cohesion policy programmes seek to create win-win situations by strengthening potential synergies between environmental protection, risk prevention and growth. Over-

all, some €51 billion is expected to be invested in these areas. Member States and regions eligible for funding under the Convergence objective or the Cohesion Fund have also given clear priority to the development of the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T). Around half of the entire allocation foreseen for transport (€76 billion) will be allocated to TEN-T projects (€38 billion).

The Council recommended that some Member States develop an employment lifecycle approach and promote an inclusive labour market for those groups at risk of social exclusion. The

Implementation Reports of Member States underline the important role of cohesion policy programmes in reaching 25% of the long term unemployed with active employment measures as well as helping to ensure that every unemployed person is offered a new start.

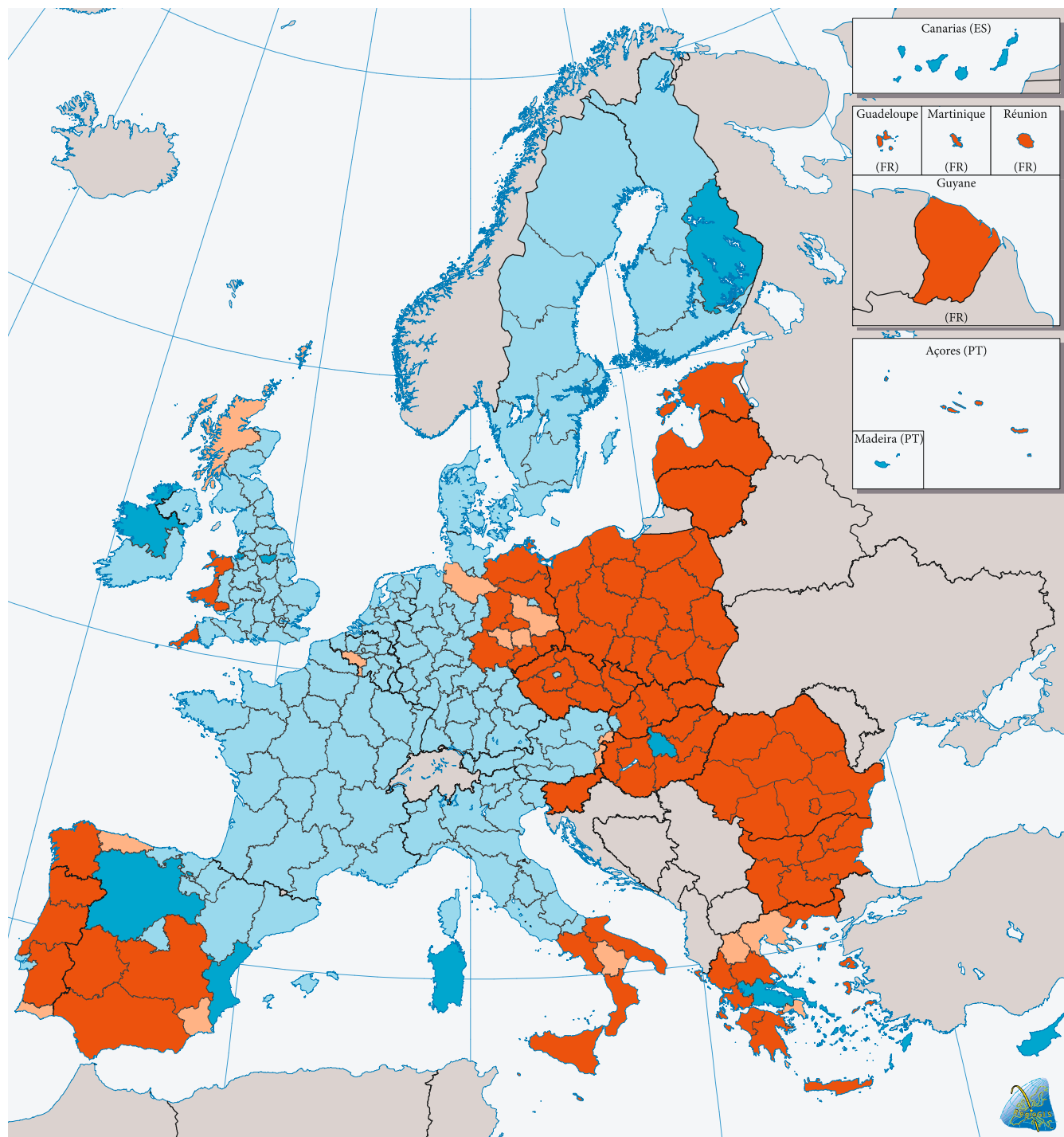
Finally, delivering the Lisbon agenda depends on effective public administrations and services. Around €3.6 billion will be used to support the modernisation of public administrations and services at national, regional and local levels.





Indicative allocation by Member State, 2007-13
(current prices, in millions of euro)

	Convergence			Regional Competitiveness and Employment		European Territorial Cooperation	Total
	Cohesion Fund	Convergence	Phasing-out	Phasing-in	Regional Competitiveness and Employment		
Belgium			638		1 425	194	2 258
Bulgaria	2 283	4 391				179	6 853
Czech Republic	8 819	17 064			419	389	26 692
Denmark					510	103	613
Germany		11 864	4 215		9 409	851	26 340
Estonia	1 152	2 252				52	3 456
Éire-Ireland				458	293	151	901
Greece	3 697	9 420	6 458	635		210	20 420
Spain	3 543	21 054	1 583	4 955	3 522	559	35 217
France		3 191			10 257	872	14 319
Italy		21 211	430	972	5 353	846	28 812
Cyprus	213			399		28	640
Latvia	1 540	2 991				90	4 620
Lithuania	2 305	4 470				109	6 885
Luxembourg					50	15	65
Hungary	8 642	14 248		2 031		386	25 307
Malta	284	556				15	855
Netherlands					1 660	247	1 907
Austria			177		1 027	257	1 461
Poland	22 176	44 377				731	67 284
Portugal	3 060	17 133	280	448	490	99	21 511
Romania	6 552	12 661				455	19 668
Slovenia	1 412	2 689				104	4 205
Slovakia	3 899	7 013			449	227	11 588
Finland				545	1 051	120	1 716
Sweden					1 626	265	1 891
United Kingdom		2 738	174	965	6 014	722	10 613
Interregional/Network Cooperation						445	445
Technical Assistance							868
Total	69 578	199 322	13 955	11 409	43 556	8 723	347 410

NB: The figures having been rounded off, the totals might not correspond.

Cohesion Policy 2007-13 at a glance



-  Convergence Regions
-  Phasing-out Regions
-  Phasing-in Regions
-  Competitiveness and Employment Regions

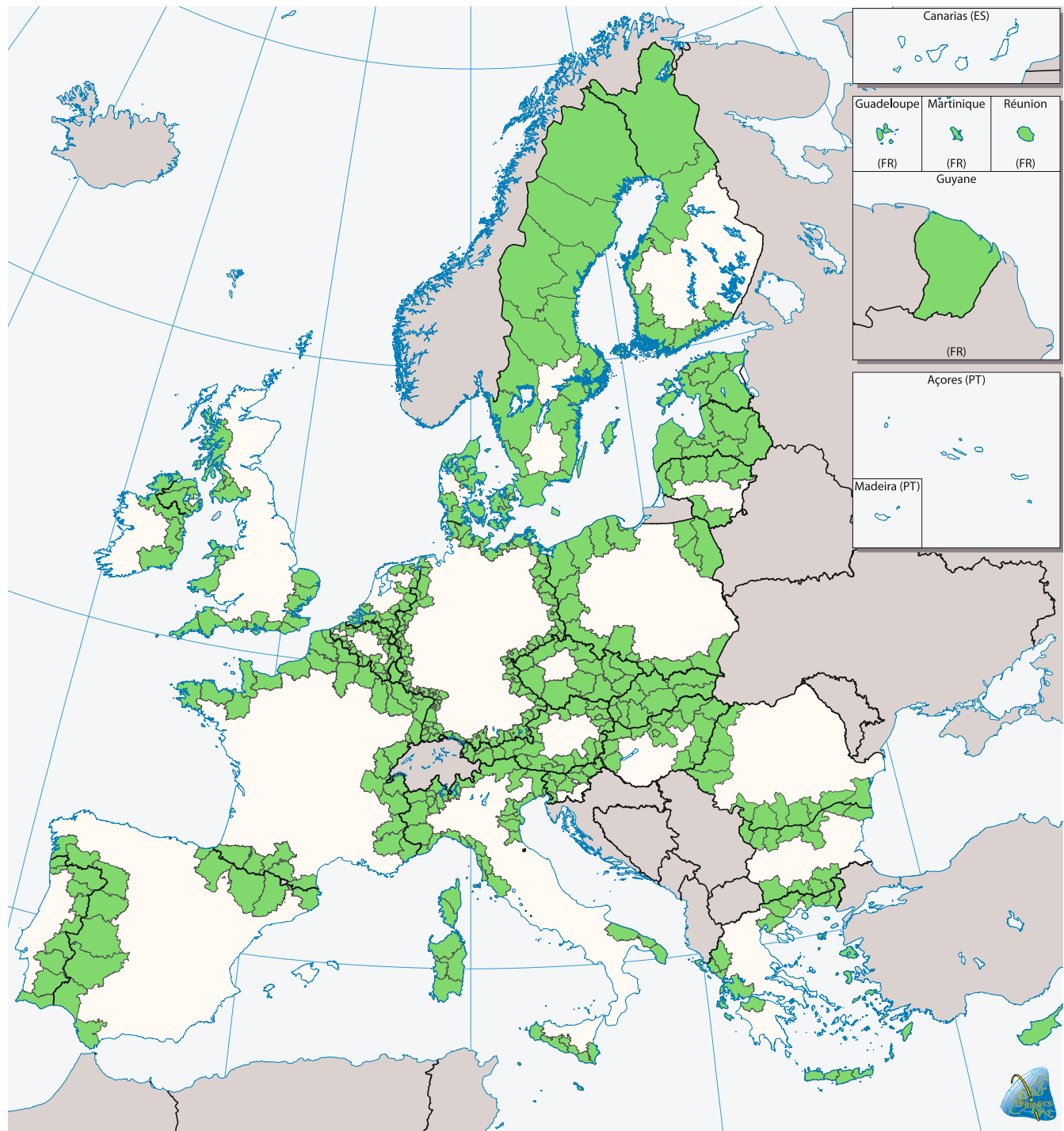
Cooperation - Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance



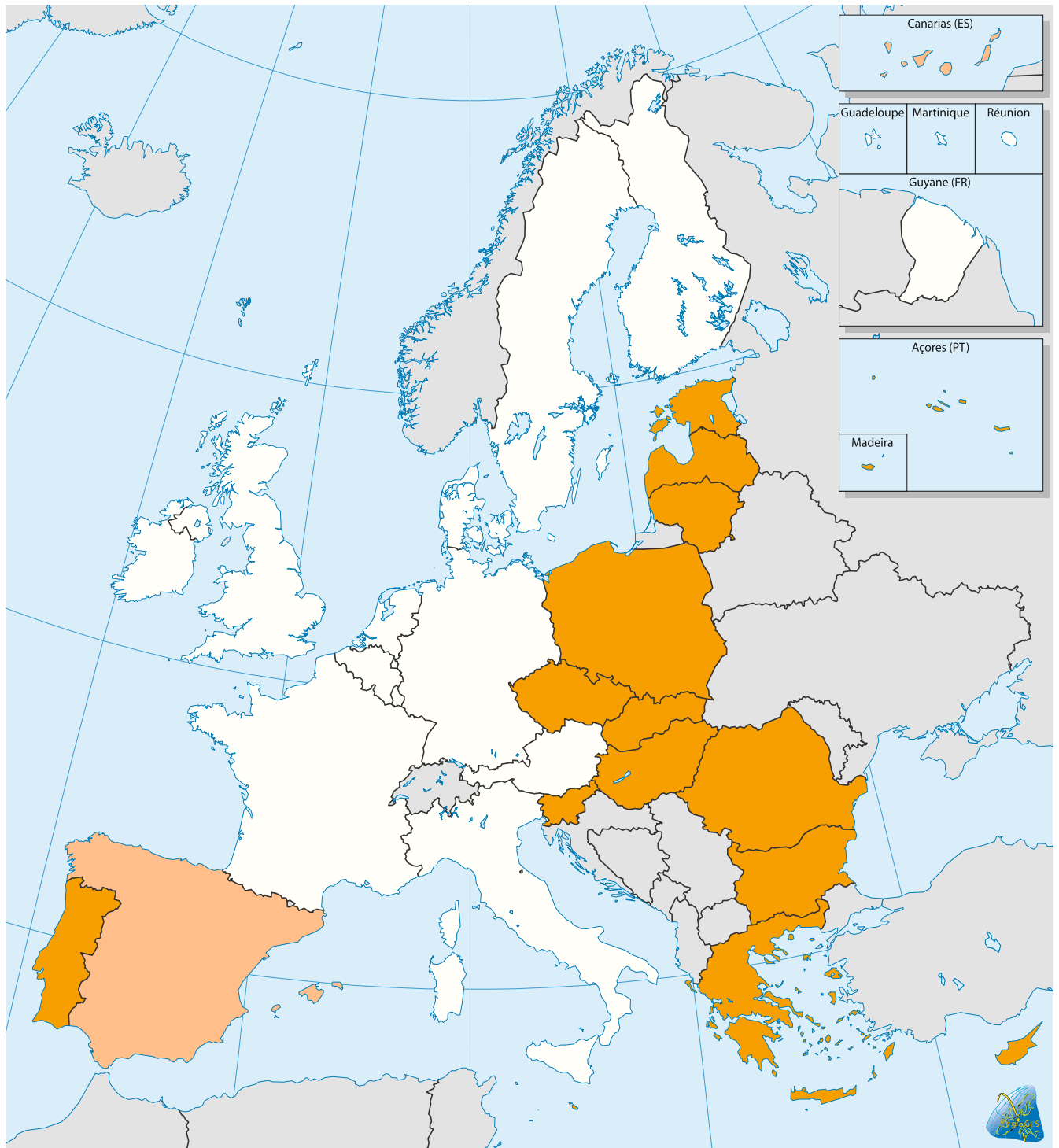
EU 27 cooperation areas
 Other cooperation areas

Warning: regional boundaries with non-EU countries are indicative only.

Cross-border cooperation (ERDF)



Convergence – Cohesion Fund



From 2007 to 2013

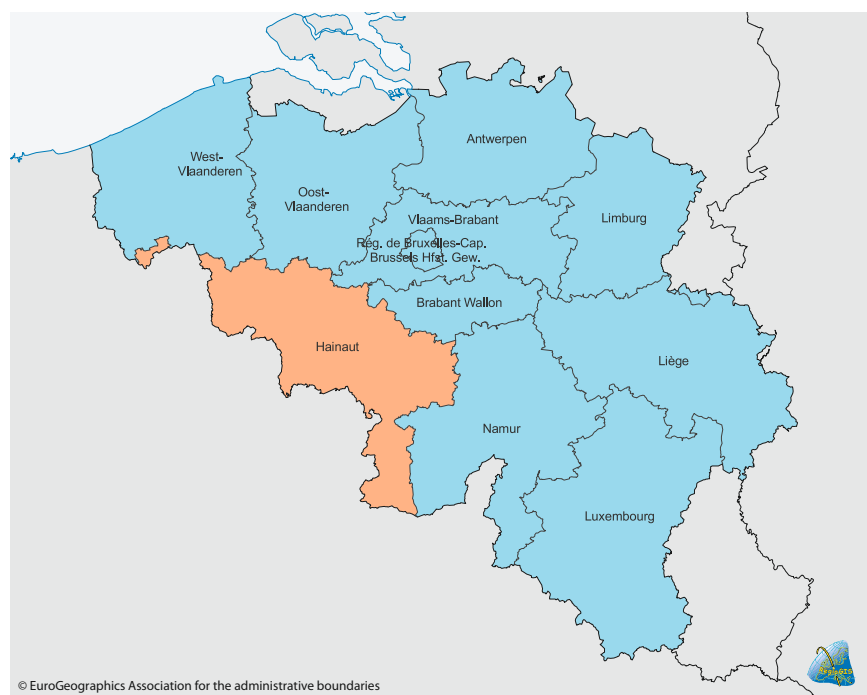
- States eligible for the Cohesion Fund
- States eligible for Cohesion Fund transitional support

The Cohesion Fund

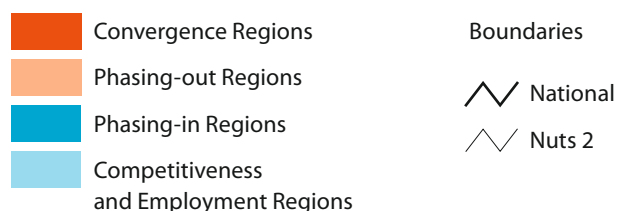
Member States with a Gross National Income less than 90% of the Community average will receive a total of €70 billion (current prices) for investment programmes in the fields of environment and trans-European transport networks. The Cohesion Fund will notably cover investments in Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia; in the case of Spain, this will be on a transitional basis. During the 2007-13 period, the Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund will together contribute to multi-annual programmes which are managed in a decentralised way, thus avoiding the need for individual project approval by the Commission.

Belgium

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



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The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Belgium will benefit from European regional aid funds in the amount of €2 258 billion, with €638 million going towards the Convergence objective, €1 425 billion towards the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective and €194 million towards the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Regions to receive investment

The Walloon province of Hainaut will benefit from the Convergence objective. The remainder of Belgium is covered by the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

In comparison to the 2000-06 period, Hainaut province will – due to statistical results – continue to benefit from the Phasing-out objective (as it is a region that would have been eligible for the Convergence objective if the threshold had remained at 75% of the average GDP of the EU-15 instead of the EU-25). The entire country (excluding Hainaut) will benefit from the Competitiveness and Employment objective. Previously only certain provinces received so-called “Objective 2” subsidies (Meuse-Vesdres, Antwerp, part of the Namur province, the entire province of Luxembourg, West Flanders, East Flanders, etc.).

Strategic objectives

Taking into consideration Belgium’s institutional structure, each region has developed a strategy adapted to its own socio-economic characteristics.

ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) financing will benefit:

- **Brussels-Capital Region** – to strengthen territorial cohesion and maintain territorial competitiveness.
- **Flemish Region** – to promote the knowledge economy and innovation, stimulate entrepreneurship, use regional features that attract economic interest, and promote urban development.
- **Walloon Region** - to boost business and job creation, develop human capital, knowledge, know-how and research, and ensure balanced and sustainable territorial development.

In the ESF (European Social Fund) financed area, the strategic objectives are as follows:

- Strengthening the adaptation capabilities of workers and businesses.
- Creating jobs for young and old people, and for immigrants with low-level qualifications.
- Preventing unemployment.
- Developing diversity and fighting discrimination in access to the labour market.
- Strengthening the social integration of targeted groups and the disadvantaged.
- Investing in human capital.
- Implementing measures aimed at encouraging equal opportunity in access to training and the labour market.
- Promoting and integrating innovative measures.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

The country requires a strategy for encouraging investment in innovation and the marketing of high-tech

products and services, and for providing optimal incentives for research and development in line with the Lisbon objective, whereby 3% of GDP is to be dedicated to R&D by 2010.

The authorities have adopted the Lisbon objectives: the employment rate should approach 70% for the total population, 60% for women and 50% for 55-64 year-old workers.

The programme should help establish tighter cooperation links between public and private research units, an attractive work environment for the highly-qualified, financing channels suitable for venture capital, an efficient and coherent regulatory framework, reduced administrative procedures and a non-distorting tax system conducive to business activity.

An investment for growth and jobs

In line with Community goals, expenditure will be concentrated on the Lisbon Strategy and cohesion objectives. 60% of Convergence sub-

sidies and 75% of Regional Competitiveness and Employment subsidies will go towards Lisbon priorities.

Operational programmes

Cohesion policy in Belgium will be implemented via **10 operational programmes** financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

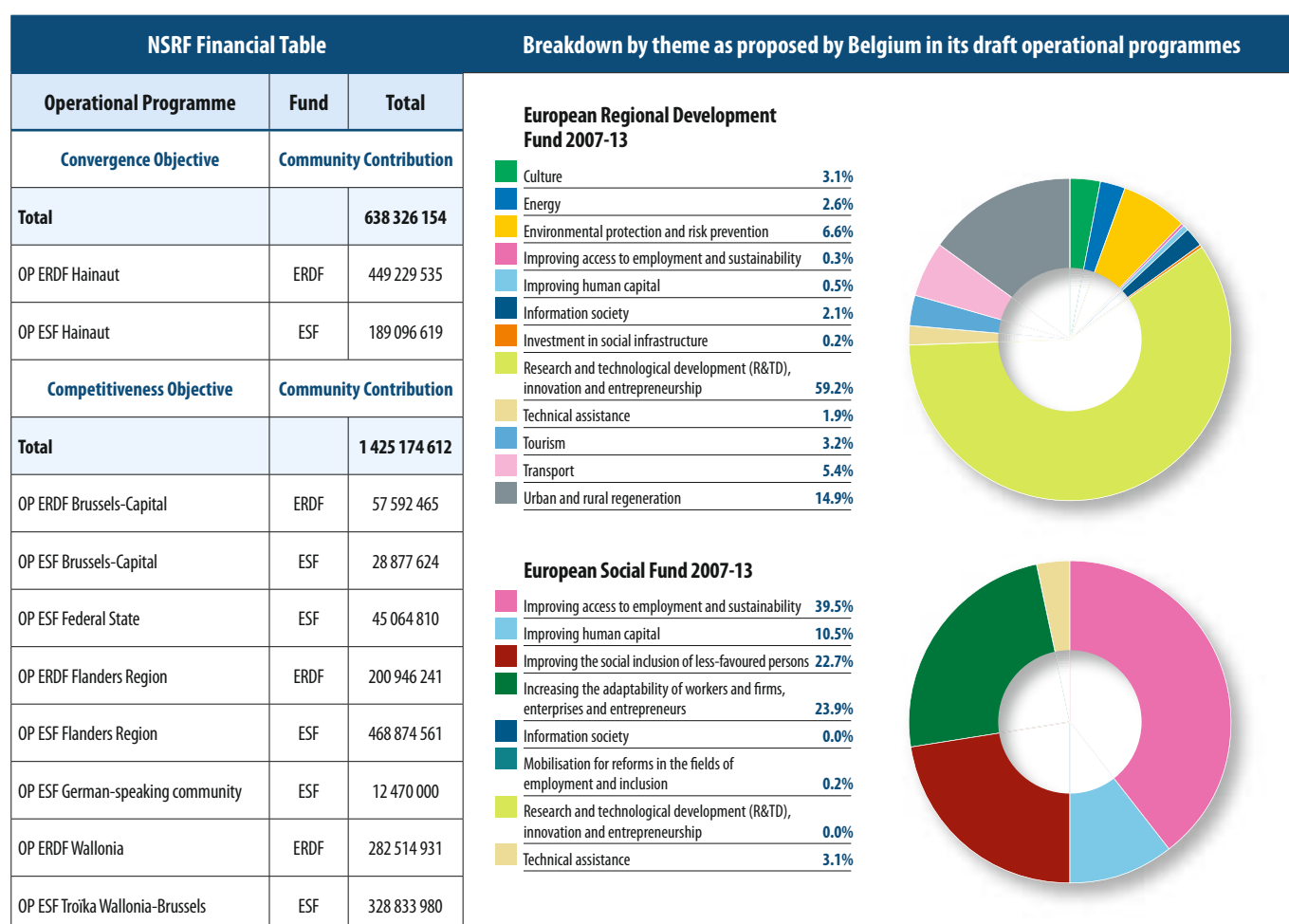
Programmes for the Convergence objective:

- Operational programme "Convergence" Hainaut - ESF.
- Operational programme "Convergence" Hainaut - ERDF.

Programmes for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective:

- ESF 2007-13, Belgium's German-speaking community.
- ESF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" - Troika Wallonia (excluding Hainaut) Brussels (COCOF).

- ESF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of the Federal State.
- ESF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of the Brussels-Capital Region: "Cohesion and Territorial Competitiveness".
- ESF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of Flanders.
- ERDF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of the Brussels-Capital Region: "Cohesion and Territorial Competitiveness".
- ERDF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of Flanders.
- ERDF operational programme "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" of Wallonia (excluding Hainaut).



The National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) does not include programmes relating to the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact points in Belgium

Belgian authorities with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Wallonia – Directorate-general for economy and employment

Ministère de la Région wallonne – Direction générale de l'économie et de l'emploi

Place de la Wallonie 1

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Flemish Ministry of Economy, Science and Innovation

Vlaams Ministerie van Economie, Wetenschap en Innovatie

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Tel: +32 2 553 37 05

Ministry of Brussels-Capital Region

Ministère de la Région de Bruxelles-Capitale

Ministerie van het Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest

Cellule de Coordination et de Gestion du FEDER 2007-13

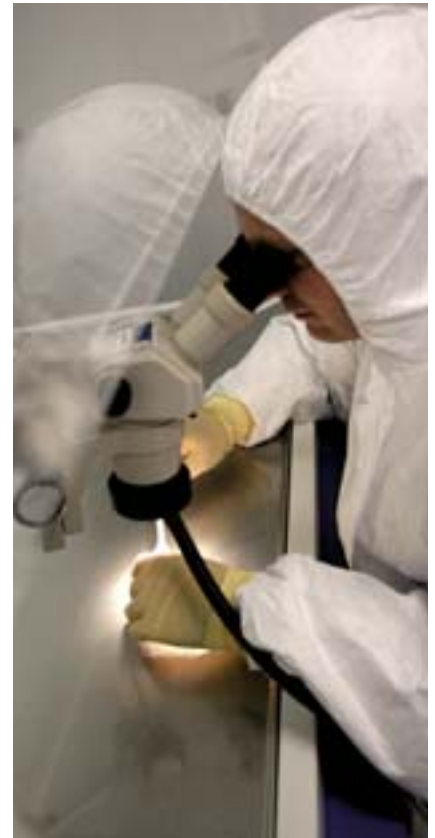
Rue du Progrès 80

B-1035 Brussels

Tel: + 32 2 204 21 11

The NSRF text is available at:

> http://europe.wallonie.be/apps/spip/IMG/pdf/CRSN_belge_final_juillet07.pdf



Bulgaria



structures for wastewater and solid waste collection and treatment, natural risk prevention measures (floods), sustainable energy and gas distribution networks.

- **Increasing the quality of human capital with a focus on employment** - by developing a skilled and adaptable labour force, promoting occupational health and safety, supporting education, training and life-long learning, raising the level of social inclusion and improving the quality of social services and healthcare.
- **Fostering entrepreneurship, a favourable business environment and good governance** - by supporting innovation, cluster development, business start-ups, modern management and sustainable production, facilitating venture capital for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as promoting good governance in national, regional and local administrations and supporting reform of the judicial system.
- **Supporting balanced territorial development** - through integrated urban development, investing in human capital and basic infrastructure in rural areas (contributing towards the National Strategy Plan for Rural Development), creation and modernisation of transport systems, training, tourism development, local business development, and preservation of natural and cultural heritage.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Bulgaria has been allocated €6853 billion in total, €6674 billion under the Convergence objective and €179 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework, Bulgaria's contribution would amount to at least €1345 billion at current prices.

Regions to receive investment

Between 2007 and 2013, the entire Bulgarian population of 7.8 million people will live in Convergence regions, as all six regions of Bulgaria (Severozapaden, Severentsentralen, Severoizto-

chen, Yugozapaden, Yuzhentsentralen and Yugoiztochen) fall under the Convergence objective.

Strategic objectives

The National Strategic Reference Framework's core targets refer to high and sustainable economic growth, raising the competitiveness of the economy, developing human capital and ensuring higher employment and income as well as better social integration. To achieve these targets, the NSRF is based on four strategic objectives and priorities:

- **Improving basic infrastructure** - through construction and upgrading of roads and railways, information and communication technology, environmental infra-

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

In order to measure the impact of the investment, Bulgaria will set target indicators at the level of their operational programmes. Across Bulgaria the structural funds are expected to contribute to implementation of the Lisbon agenda for jobs and growth. For example, by 2013 GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita should increase to 51% of the EU average,

the employment rate should reach 64%, compared to 55.8% in 2005, and Research and Development (R&D) expenditure should increase from 0.4% to 1.15% of GDP in 2013.

An investment for growth and jobs

The NSRF strategy will provide strong support for the Lisbon Agenda, with 61% of funds in the Convergence objective allocated to related activities.

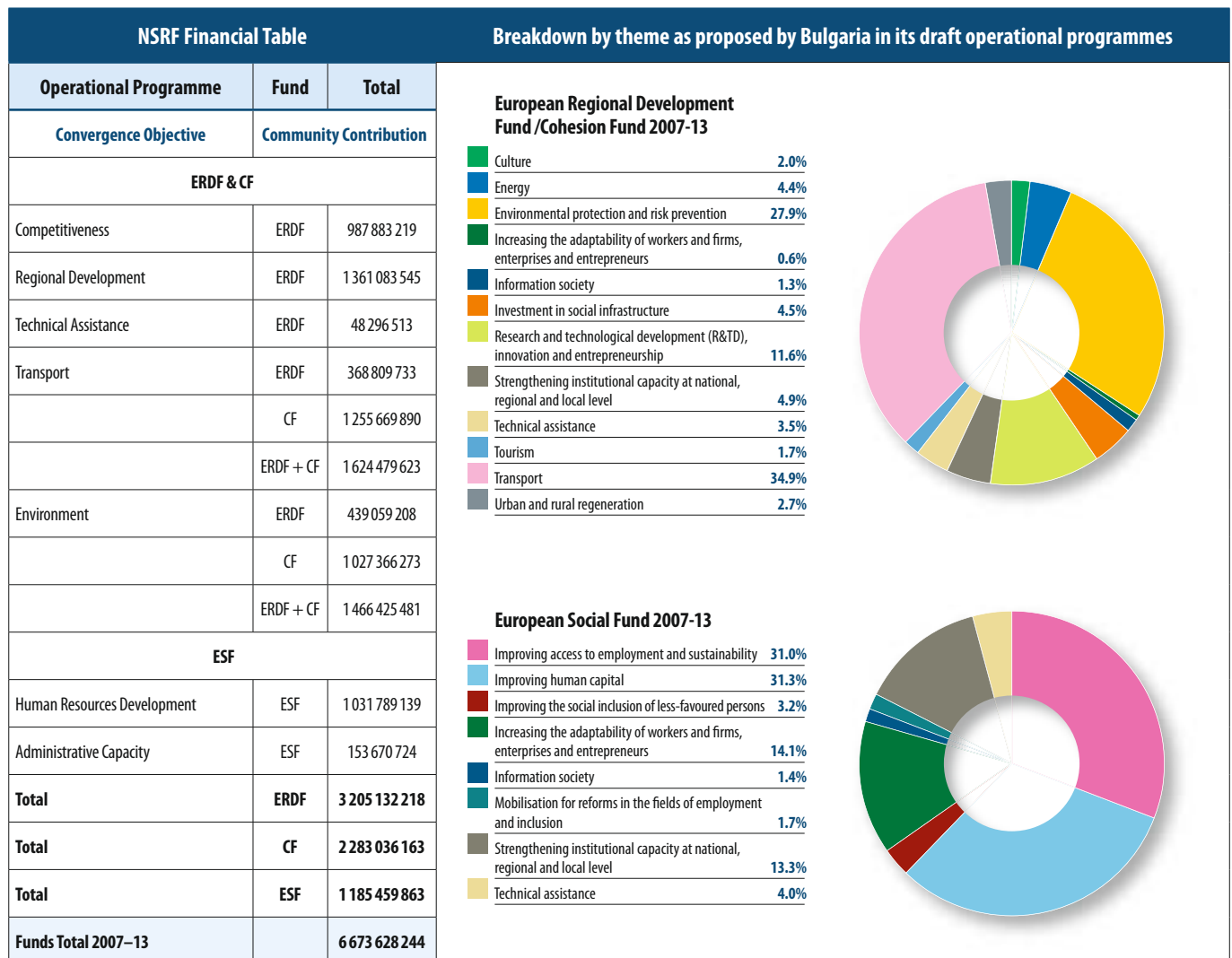
Operational programmes

The initial indicative estimated breakdown of the Funds comprising total Community assistance will be €3 205 billion in funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), €1 185 billion from the European Social Fund (ESF) and €2 283 billion from the Cohesion Fund (CF).

Bulgaria has translated the strategic priorities contained in the NSRF

into seven operational programmes: administrative capacity, competitiveness, environment, human resources development, regional development, technical assistance and transport.

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.



NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact point in Bulgaria

Bulgarian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

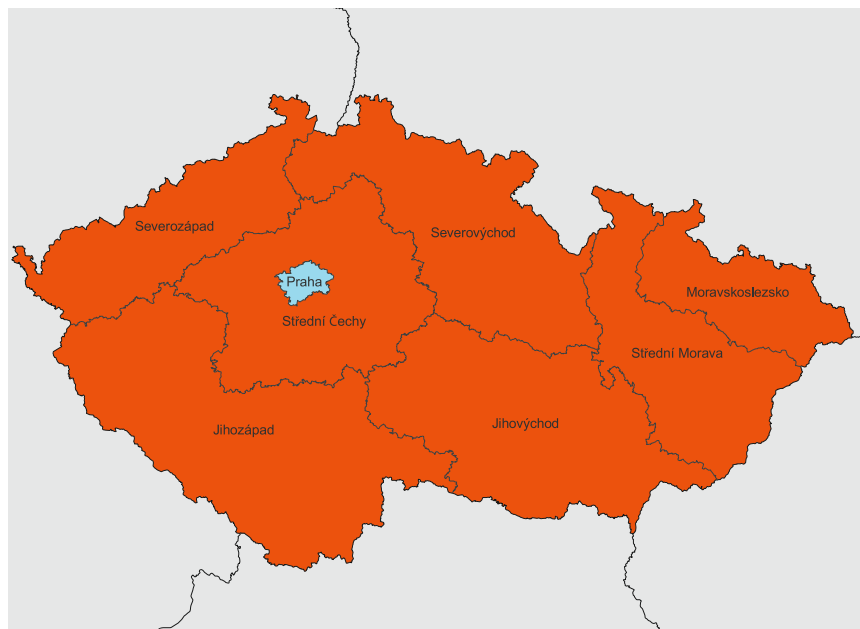
Directorate for Management of EU Funds in the Ministry of Finance
Tel: (+359 2) 9859 2901

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.eufunds.bg



Czech Republic

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



The investment

For the period 2007-13, the Czech Republic has been allocated €26.7 billion in total, €25.9 billion under the Convergence objective, €0.4 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €0.4 billion under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework, the Czech Republic's contribution will be €4.6 billion over 7 years.

Regions to receive investment

Central Bohemia, Central Moravia, Moravi Silesia, South-West, South-East, North-West and North-East regions fall under the Convergence objective, while the Prague region

is the only region to fall under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Between 2007 and 2013, 9.07 million people (88.5% of the total population) will live in Convergence regions. Between 2000 and 2006, approximately the same percentage of the population lived in regions supported under "Objective 1".

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Czech National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in four strategic objectives divided into 15 strategic priorities:

- **Competitive Czech economy**
 - Competitive business sector.
 - Support of Research & Development capacity for innovation.

- Development of a sustainable travel and tourism sector and utilisation of the potential offered by the cultural heritage.
- **Open, flexible and cohesive society**
 - Education.
 - Increasing employment and employability.
 - Strengthening social cohesion.
 - Development of the information society.
 - Smart administration.

The authorities plan to support the development of a diverse, socially aware and cohesive society, open to outside opportunities. The aim is to create a modern education system which will become the driving force behind an efficient and flexible labour market. The authorities plan to reduce the administrative burden for businesspeople by at least 20%.

- **Attractive environment**
 - Protection and improvement of the environment quality.
 - Improved accessibility to transport (for instance, increasing the share of railway transport and developing combined transport).
- **Balanced territory development**
 - Balanced regional development.
 - Development of urban areas.
 - Development of rural areas.
 - Regional Competitiveness and Employment – the Capital City of Prague.
 - Territorial Cooperation.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

A preliminary evaluation indicates that the implementation of the Czech NSRF could lead to attaining the economic level of the EU-25 with an employment rate increasing to 66.8%, compared to 64.8% in 2005. The share of Research & Development in GDP is presently extremely low, around 1.42%. The Czech Republic aims to raise this to 2.2% of GDP by 2015.

An investment for growth and jobs

The Czech Republic's NSRF increases the share of investment directly earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth in relation to the 2000-06 programming period.

Operational programmes

The Czech Republic's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through 17 **operational programmes (OPs)**:

ERDF – European Regional Development Fund (14 operational programmes)

- 4 sectoral operational programmes (Convergence objective)
- 7 regional operational programmes (Convergence objective)
- 1 operational programme Prague Competitiveness (Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective)
- 2 multi-objective operational programmes (Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives)

ESF – European Social Fund (3 operational programmes)

- 2 multi-objective operational programmes (Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives)
- 1 operational programme Prague Adaptability (Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective)

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

NSRF Financial Table			Breakdown by theme as proposed by the Czech Republic in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Convergence Objective		Community Contribution		
ERDF and CF				
OP Enterprise and Innovations	ERDF	3 041 312 546		
OP Research and Development for Innovations	ERDF	2 070 680 884		
OP Environment		4 917 867 098		
	ERDF	702 482 212		
	CF	4 215 384 886		
OP Transport		5 774 081 203		
	ERDF	1 170 443 650		
	CF	4 603 637 553		
Integrated OP	ERDF	1 553 010 664		
Regional Operational Programmes		4 659 031 986		
Central Bohemia	ERDF	559 083 839		
Southwest	ERDF	619 651 254		
Northwest	ERDF	745 911 021		
Southeast	ERDF	704 445 636		
Northeast	ERDF	656 457 606		
Moravia-Silesia	ERDF	716 093 217		
Central Moravia	ERDF	657 389 413		
OP Technical Assistance	ERDF	243 835 110		
ESF				
OP Human Resources and Employment	ESF	1 811 845 772		
OP Education for Competitiveness	ESF	1 811 845 772		
Total Convergence Objective		25 883 511 035		
of which: Regional Convergence		17 064 488 596		
Total ERDF		13 440 797 052		
Total ESF		3 623 691 544		
Cohesion Fund		8 819 022 439		
Competitiveness/Employment Objective		Community Contribution		
ERDF				
OP Prague Competitiveness	ERDF	234 936 005		
Integrated OP	ERDF	29 379 498		
OP Technical Assistance	ERDF	3 948 062		
ESF				
OP Prague Adaptability	ESF	108 385 242		
OP Human Resources and Employment	ESF	25 575 633		
OP Education for Competitiveness	ESF	16 869 009		
Total Competitiveness Objective		419 093 449		
Total ERDF		268 263 565		
Total ESF		150 829 884		
Total NSRF		26 302 604 484		

European Regional Development Fund /Cohesion Fund 2007-13	
Culture	2.3%
Energy	5.2%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	19.0%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.2%
Improving human capital	0.1%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	0.0%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	1.4%
Information society	4.1%
Investment in social infrastructure	5.4%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	18.3%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.6%
Technical assistance	3.1%
Tourism	3.1%
Transport	33.4%
Urban and rural regeneration	3.8%

European Social Fund 2007-13	
Improving access to employment and sustainability	18.0%
Improving human capital	40.5%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	9.7%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	18.0%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.6%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	9.7%
Technical assistance	3.5%

NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact point in the Czech Republic

Czech authority with overall responsibility for
Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry for Regional Development

Section for European Affairs

Staroměstské nám. 6

CZ 110 15 Prague 1

Czech Republic

Tel: +420 224 861 111

Fax: +420 224 861 333

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> <http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz>



Denmark

Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Danish National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in four strategic growth drivers:

- **Human resources** - this growth driver is focused on developing the country's human resources, thus giving Danish enterprises access to more and better qualified workers. Actions will aim at a) upgrading the qualifications of the workforce and developing managerial skills, directly through training, and indirectly through reinforcing innovation in enterprises and promoting better use of new technologies, and b) increasing employment and self-employment, by enhancing skills, supporting entrepreneurship, encouraging people to stay longer on the job market (active ageing) and promoting flexible forms of working.
- **Innovation** - the primary target is to create framework conditions for market-based sustainable innovation. Actions can include reinforcing the collaboration between enterprises and knowledge institutions, building cluster-based competency and strengthening the capacity of enterprises to exploit new knowledge.
- **Use of new technology** - the main aims are to improve the use of, transfer of, access to and exchange of new technology, create the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure needed, digitalise the services offered by the public sector to people and businesses, and increase the use of ICT in educational institutions and businesses to make them more competitive.
- **Entrepreneurship** - the aim is to create more businesses and make them sustainable in order to create more high-quality jobs. The strategy for reaching this is to assist businesses through, for example, specialist advice, access to capital, creation of networks or development of entrepreneurial skills.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Denmark has been allocated an amount in the region of €613 million, €510 million under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective and €103 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. Denmark's contribution to complement the EU investment should reach another €613 million, bringing the total amount available for the structural fund activities in Denmark to some €1 226 billion over the 7-year period.

Regions to receive investment

All of Denmark is eligible for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective. During the period 2000-06, the entire country was eligible under the Danish Objective 3 and EQUAL programmes, whereas the Danish Objective 2 covered only 10.2% of the population and 7.7% of the population under Phasing-out.

Operational Programme	Total
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	Community Contribution
Innovation and Knowledge (ERDF)	254 788 620
More and Better Jobs (ESF)	254 788 619
Total all funds NSRF 2007-13	509 577 239

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of investments, Denmark has set several target indicators: by 2013 the employment rate should be 72.7% (compared to 72.6% in 2005); 30% of people aged 25-64 will have taken part in training activities within 4 weeks prior to the date of registration (approximately 27% in 2005); 45% of unskilled workers aged 25-64 will have taken part in training activities within one year prior to the date of registration (approximately 41% in 2005). Furthermore, at least half of Danish enterprises are expected to be innovative (an increase of 10% compared to 2000) and Denmark should be among the 5 most innovative countries in the EU (compared to 9th place now). The penetration rate of ICT in Danish companies will have to be at least 75% (56% in 2005).

An investment for growth and jobs

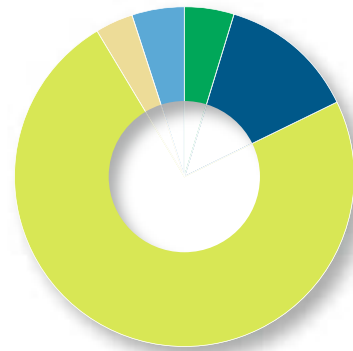
Denmark's NSRF includes a significant commitment to the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth, as it is allocating a substantial share (92%) of investment directly to relevant Lisbon Strategy actions.

Operational programmes

Denmark has translated the broad priorities contained in the NSRF into **two operational programmes**: Innovation and Knowledge, which will receive some €255 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), and More and Better Jobs, which will also receive about €255 million from the European Social Fund (ESF).

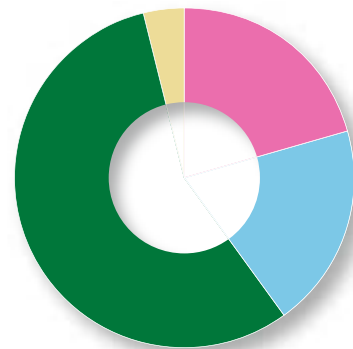
European Regional Development Fund 2007-13

Culture	4.8%
Information society	13.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	73.6%
Technical assistance	3.8%
Tourism	4.8%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	20.8%
Improving human capital	19.2%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	56.2%
Technical assistance	3.8%



The ERDF will also contribute towards financing of the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands: cross-border, transnational and interregional. Under the European Territorial Cooperation objective, Denmark will take part in the following programmes:

- Four cross-border cooperation programmes with Germany (two programmes), Sweden (two programmes), Norway (one

programme) and Poland (one programme).

- Transnational cooperation between EU Member States in the Baltic Sea and the North Sea.
- Interregional cooperation in the European Union among all Member States.

A total of €103 million has been allocated to Denmark under this objective.

Contact point in Denmark

Danish authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Danish Enterprise and Construction Authority

- under the Ministry for Economic and Business Affairs

Vejlsovej 29
DK-8600 Silkeborg

Denmark

Tel: +45 35 46 60 00

Fax: +45 32 46 64 01

> www.deaca.dk

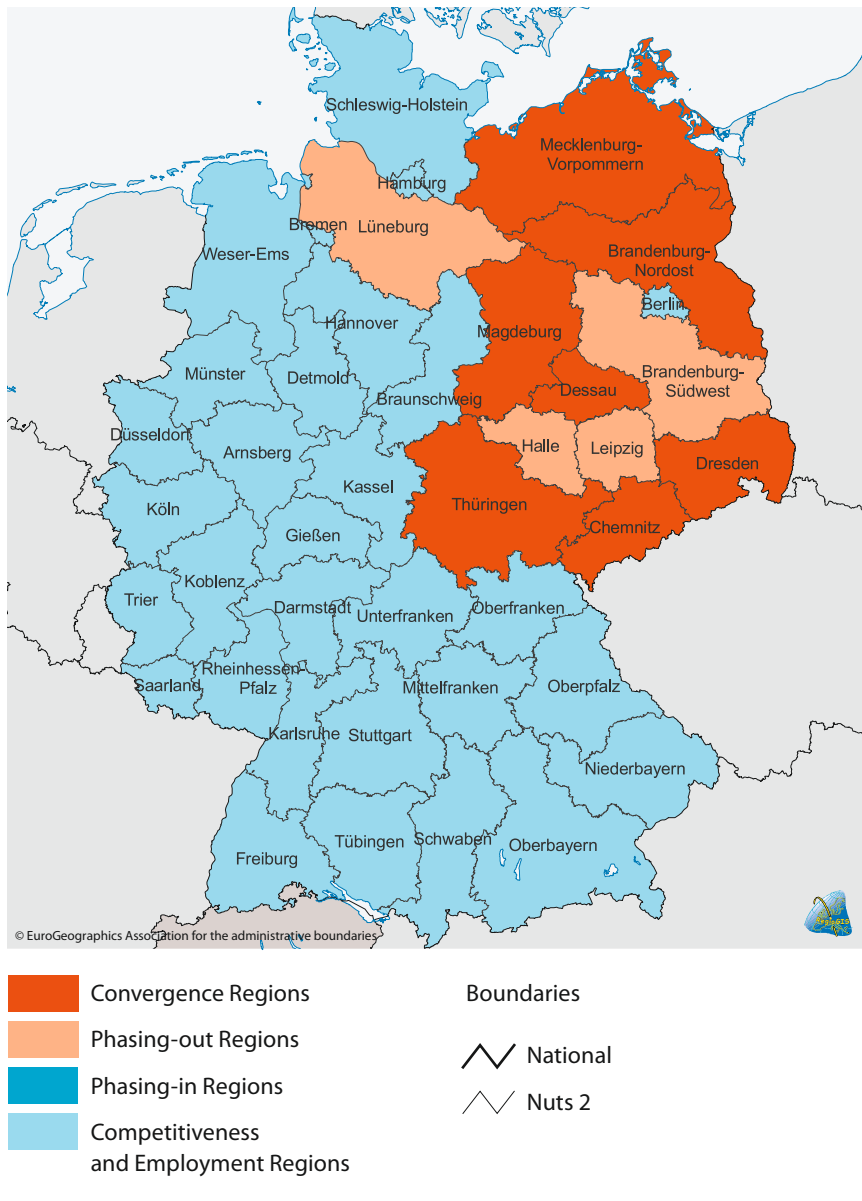
The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.ebst.dk/file/5468/Strategisk_referenceramme.pdf



Germany

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



will be living in Convergence regions (including 5.02 million or 6.1% in "Statistical Phasing-out" areas). Between 2000 and 2006, there were 13.57 million people (16.4%) living in regions supported under "Objective 1".

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the German National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in four strategic objectives:

- Innovation and development of the knowledge-based society as well as strengthening the competitiveness of the economy.
- Increasing the attractiveness of regions for investors and citizens through sustainable regional development.
- More and better jobs.
- Developing regions to promote opportunities and reduce differences (Territorial priority/objective).

In addition to the strategic objectives, there are also three horizontal objectives:

- Sustainable urban development
- Equal opportunities
- Environment.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To achieve the strategic objectives mentioned above, Germany has established separate thematic priorities for Eastern and Western regions in Germany. To measure the impact of the investment, the German Länder will set target indicators for their operational programmes. The GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per capita in the Convergence regions should increase to above 75% of the EU average. Across Germany the Structural Funds are expected to contribute to implementing the Lisbon agenda for jobs and growth, notably:

- Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (Research and Development)

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Germany has been allocated approximately €26.3 billion, €16.1 billion under the Convergence objective, €9.4 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective and €0.8 billion under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Regions to receive investment

Brandenburg-Nordost, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Chemnitz, Dresden, Dessau, Magdeburg and Thüringen fall under the Convergence objective, while Brandenburg-Südwest, Lüneburg, Leipzig and Halle are deemed "Statistical Phasing-out" regions. All other regions fall under the Competitiveness and Employment objective. In Germany between 2007 and 2013, 15.26 million people (18.5% of the total population)

should increase to 3.0%, in comparison to 2.5% in 2003;

- The employment rate should increase to 70%, in comparison to 65.4% in 2005.

An investment for growth and jobs

The NSRF strategy will strongly support the Lisbon Agenda, with 81% of the funds in the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective and 71% of the funds in the Convergence objective allocated to related activities.

Operational programmes

Germany has translated the broad priorities contained in the NSRF into **36 operational programmes**:

ERDF – European Regional Development Fund (18 operational programmes):

- 17 operational programmes (one for each Bundesland + Lüneburg)
- 1 operational programme - Transport for Convergence objective

ESF – European Social Fund (18 operational programmes):

- 17 operational programmes (one for each Bundesland + Lüneburg)
- 1 operational multi-objective programme for Convergence objective and Convergence and Competitiveness objective.

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

NSRF Financial Table			Breakdown by theme as proposed by Germany in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Convergence			Community Contribution	
Brandenburg	ESF	620 249 615		
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	ESF	417 473 463		
Niedersachsen-Region Lueneburg	ESF	210 010 942		
Sachsen	ESF	871 859 914		
Sachsen-Anhalt	ESF	643 930 752		
Thueringen	ESF	629 009 103		
Bund	ESF	1 325 569 051		
Thueringen	ERDF	1 477 687 909		
Brandenburg	ERDF	1 498 732 588		
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	ERDF	1 252 420 390		
Sachsen	ERDF	3 091 139 706		
Verkehr EFRE Bund	ERDF	1 520 319 639		
Niedersachsen-Region Lueneburg	ERDF	589 000 000		
Sachsen-Anhalt	ERDF	1 931 792 253		
Total	ERDF	11 361 092 485		
Regional Competitiveness and Employment			Community Contribution	
Baden-Wuerttemberg	ESF	265 998 586		
Bayern	ESF	310 059 703		
Berlin	ESF	335 976 031		
Bremen	ESF	89 054 742		
Hamburg	ESF	91 152 890		
Hessen	ESF	186 735 204		
Niedersachsen (ohne R. Lueneburg)	ESF	237 090 765		
Nordrhein-Westfalen	ESF	683 996 369		
Rheinland-Pfalz	ESF	113 766 267		
Saarland	ESF	86 490 338		
Schleswig-Holstein	ESF	100 011 739		
Bund	ESF	2 162 219 289		
Bayern	ERDF	575 934 188		
Saarland	ERDF	197 512 437		
Schleswig-Holstein	ERDF	373 888 769		
Berlin	ERDF	875 589 810		
Hessen	ERDF	263 454 159		
Bremen	ERDF	142 006 631		
Nordrhein-Westfalen	ERDF	1 283 430 816		
Baden-Wuerttemberg	ERDF	143 400 068		
Hamburg	ERDF	35 268 791		
Niedersachsen (ohne R. Lueneburg)	ERDF	638 769 613		
Rheinland-Pfalz	ERDF	217 613 760		
Total	ERDF	4 746 869 042		
Total	ESF	4 662 551 923		
Total NSRF	All funds	9 409 420 965		

European Regional Development Fund 2007-13	
Culture	1.6%
Energy	3.0%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	9.1%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	1.8%
Improving human capital	0.3%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	0.0%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	1.8%
Information society	2.1%
Investment in social infrastructure	3.3%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	46.9%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.1%
Technical assistance	2.1%
Tourism	2.2%
Transport	19.6%
Urban and rural regeneration	6.1%

European Social Fund 2007-13	
Improving access to employment and sustainability	28.6%
Improving human capital	30.9%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	20.0%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	16.4%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.1%
Technical assistance	3.9%

NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact point in Germany

German authority (federal level) with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

The Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology

Referat EA 4 "Koordination EU-Kohäsions- und Strukturpolitik,

Transeuropäische Netze"

Scharnhorststr. 34-37

D-10115 Berlin

Germany

Tel: +49 (0) 30 18 615 0

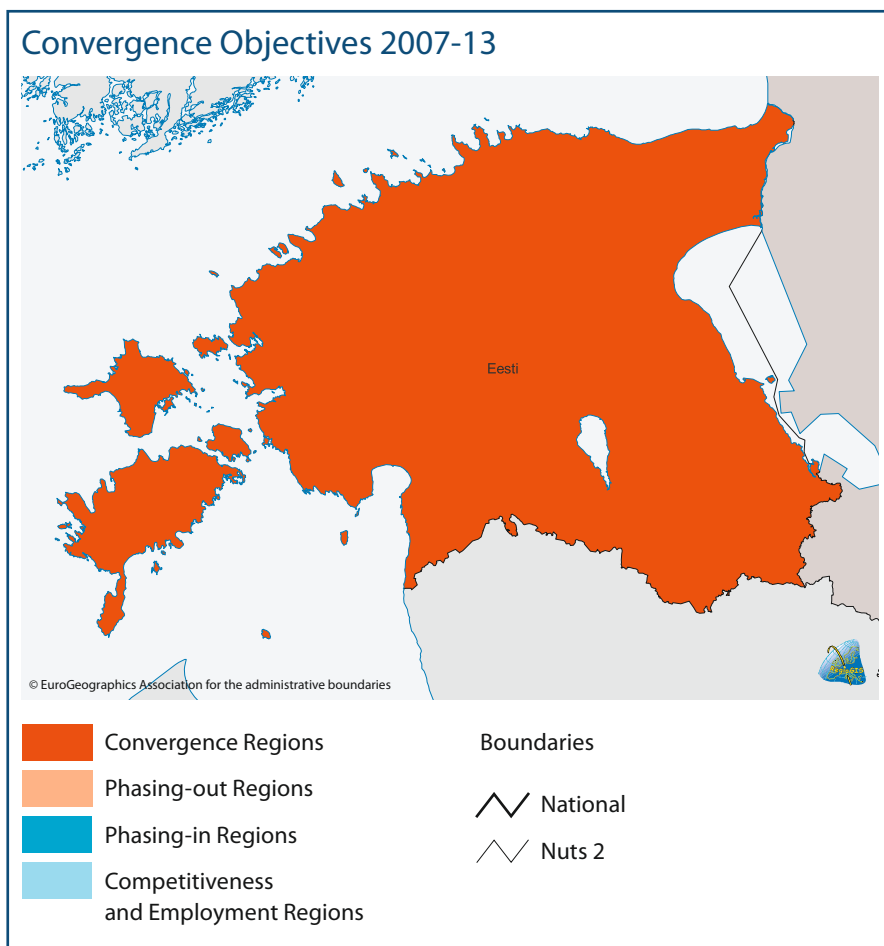
Tel: +49 (0) 30 18 615 7010

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.bmwi.de/BMWi/Navigation/Europa/eu-strukturpolitik.html



Estonia



active population from 64% to 72% by the end of the period; raising the productivity of companies by almost a third (from 58% to 80%); increasing Research & Development (R&D) investment in companies to 1.6% of GDP; and increasing the number of scientists in Estonia.

The NSRF also supports activities concerning social cohesion. The objectives in this field are of major importance, e.g. lowering the poverty risk rate from 19% to 15%, and lowering the differences in employment rates between the counties. This also includes the objective of lowering the GDP differences between regions within Estonia from the current rate of 3.6 times to not more than 3.5, i.e. ensuring that the gap widens no further and even succeeding in the difficult task of reducing internal regional disparities. The objectives also include reducing the wage gap between men and women to 20% (from 24.5%) by 2010.

A more sustainable use of the environment is a key objective for Estonia and the NSRF is designed to result in vast improvements, such as 100% clean water and a massive increase in the solid waste recycling rate (from 36.7% to 60%). The percentage of public transport users among working people should remain stable even though the number of car users have increased and will continue to increase over the period 2007-13.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Estonia has been allocated some €3.4 billion in total. The breakdown of the total Community assistance among the funds is as follows: €1.86 billion for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), €391 million for the European Social Fund (ESF), and €1.15 billion for the Cohesion Fund (CF).

Regions to receive investment

The entire country is eligible under the Convergence objective.

Strategic objectives

The strategic focus of NSRF interventions is on the following five thematic priorities and one horizontal priority:

Thematic

- Educated and active people
- Increase of the research and development capability and innovative spirit and productivity of enterprises
- Better connection opportunities
- Reduction of environmental load
- Integral and balanced development of regions

Horizontal

- Higher administrative capacity

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Cohesion policy has and will play a significant role in Estonia's development. The indicators mentioned and quantified at NSRF level, include competitiveness indicators such as: raising the employment rate of the

An investment for growth and jobs

Estonia's NSRF is strongly geared towards creating growth and jobs and improving the basic conditions for economic development (transport infrastructure, environmental infrastructure, training and innovation). The share of investment directly earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy is 47%.

Operational programmes

Estonia's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through **three operational programmes**: two ERDF programmes on economic and living environments, and one ESF programme on human resources. The priorities of the OPs are as follows:

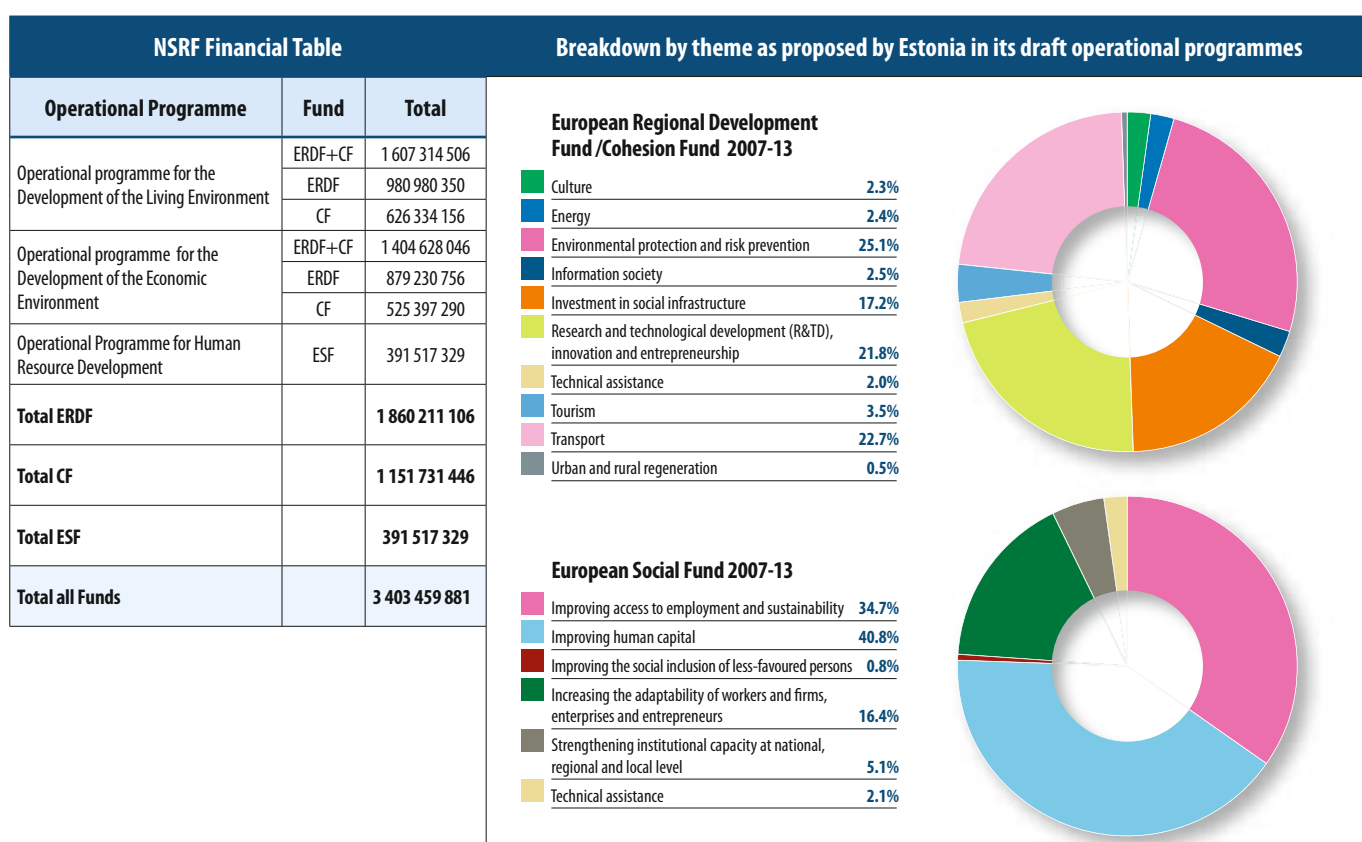
- **Human Resource Development**

- Priority axis 1: Life-long learning.
- Priority axis 2: Developing human resources for R&D.
- Priority axis 3: Good quality and long work life.
- Priority axis 4: Knowledge and skills for innovative entrepreneurship.

- Priority axis 5: Enhancing administrative capacity.
- **Development of the Economic Environment**
 - Priority axis 1: Innovation and growth capacity of enterprises.
 - Priority axis 2: Improving the competitiveness of Estonian R&D through research programmes and modernisation of higher education and R&D institutions.
 - Priority axis 3: Transport investments of strategic importance.
 - Priority axis 4: Development of regional transport infrastructure.
 - Priority axis 5: Development of the information society.

- **Development of the Living Environment**

- Priority axis 1: Development of water and waste management infrastructure.
- Priority axis 2: Development of infrastructures and support systems for sustainable use of the environment.
- Priority axis 3: Development of the energy sector.
- Priority axis 4: Integral and balanced development of regions.
- Priority axis 5: Development of education infrastructure.
- Priority axis 6: Development of the health care and social welfare infrastructures.



NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact point in Estonia

Estonian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia

Suur-Ameerika 1
EE-Tallinn 15006
Estonia

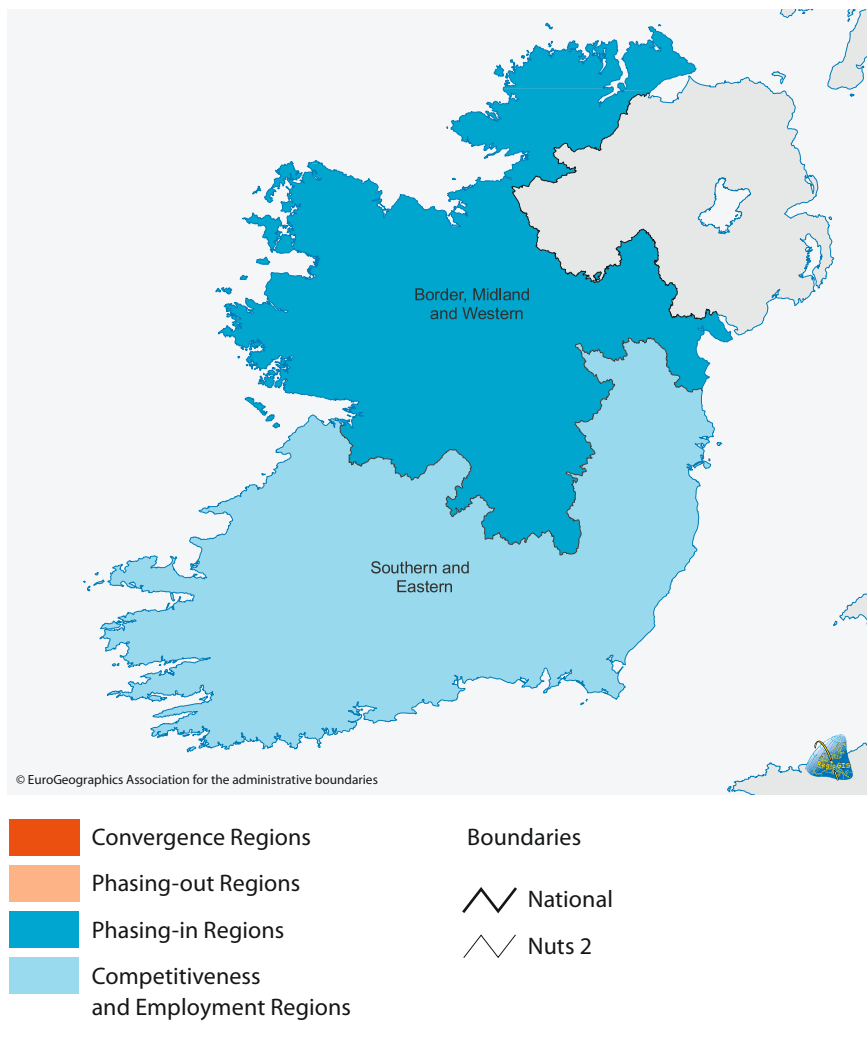
Contact person:
Katri Seier
Tel: +372 6113511
Email: katri.seier@fin.ee

The full text of the NSRF and programmes are available at:
> www.struktuurifondid.ee



Ireland

Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



and increasing the participation and setting up of groups outside the workforce - the authorities will focus on women, people with disabilities, single parents, travellers and ex-offenders. A special programme will target migrants given their significant contribution to the economy.

- **Supporting innovation, knowledge and entrepreneurship in the regions** - the objective is to boost Research and Development (R&D) in areas and institutions (institutes of technology mainly) where this has been lacking in the past. The aim is to double the number of PhD graduates over the period. Ireland will also continue to develop foreign direct investment, one of the competitive characteristics of the economy.
- **Strengthening the competitiveness, attractiveness and connectivity of the National Spatial Strategy defined by the government** - this will take place by improving access to quality infrastructure and promoting environmental and sustainable development. Gateways and hubs will connect urban areas, and there will be a special focus on public transport and innovative environmental solutions.

The investment

The Fund contribution for Ireland is set at €750.72 million for the 2007-13 period. The breakdown among the Funds is €375.36 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and €375.36 million from the European Social Fund (ESF)

Regions to receive investment

- Phasing-in: Border, Midland and Western region. The funding from the ERDF is set at €228.7 million (these areas are subject to special financial allocations due to their former status of "Objective 1" regions).

- Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective: Southern and Eastern region. Funding from the ERDF is set at €146.6 million.

In addition, a Human Capital Investment Operational Programme is to receive funding from the ESF, as specified above.

Strategic objectives

The strategic focus of National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) actions is on the following themes and priorities:

- **Promoting human capital investment by upskilling the workforce**

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Cohesion policy has played a significant role in the development and revival of Ireland's economy. The Economic and Social Research Institute has estimated that Structural Fund actions over the first two programming periods combined (1989-93 and 1994-99) will lead to a permanent increase in GNP of 2%. They have also estimated that funding for the first three years of the 2000-06 period will add a further 0.7% to GNP. The funding for Ireland in 2007-13 has decreased significantly as a result of the country's economic development. The expected macro-economic impact of the new pro-

NSRF Financial Table

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	Community Contribution	
Southern & Eastern Regional	ERDF	146 603 534
Border Midlands & Western Regional	ERDF	228 758 838
Total ERDF		375 362 372
Human Capital Investment	ESF	375 362 370
Total all Funds - NSRF 2007-13		750 724 742
Total ERDF		375 362 372
Total ESF		375 362 370

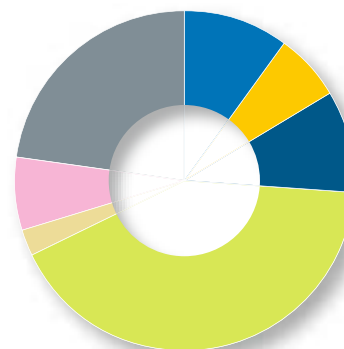
The Irish authorities have set up the following outputs and results indicators for the period 2007-13 (a selection from the programmes):

Border, Midland and Western Region	
Number of training days provided to micro-enterprises	119 570
Number of micro-enterprises supported	5 011
Number of researchers engaged in the approved projects	100
Number of recipients of training	61 550
Number of jobs created in assisted micro-enterprises	20 880
Number of energy schemes introduced	8
Population equivalent served by innovative sewage treatment schemes	2 800
Number of Sustainable Development Zones	4
Southern and Eastern region	
Number of Enterprises in Incubation Centres	16
Number of training days provided to SMEs	249 290
Number of enterprises supported	8 030
Number of additional researchers employed in the region's HEIs	560
No. of recipients of training	141 160
Population equivalent served by innovative sewage treatment schemes	4 200
Additional businesses with broadband available	23 125
Number of integrated growth centre strategies approved	10
Number of public transport projects supported	5
Increased public transport usage in Gateways	20%
Number of jobs created (estimate from baseline)	7 500

Breakdown by theme as proposed by Ireland in its draft operational programmes

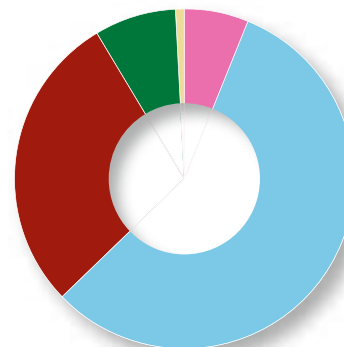
European Regional Development Fund 2007-13

Energy	10.1%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	6.5%
Information society	9.6%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	41.7%
Technical assistance	2.4%
Transport	7.0%
Urban and rural regeneration	22.6%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	6.3%
Improving human capital	56.6%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	28.6%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	7.6%
Technical assistance	0.8%



grammes will therefore be significantly lower. In view of this, the Irish authorities have opted for a "niche approach". The ERDF actions will therefore target niche areas that generate high levels of EU added value e.g. supporting the Research and Development (R&D) work of institutes of technology in the Border Midland and Western region, environmental flagship projects, small business development schemes and specific public transport projects.

An investment for growth and jobs

Ireland's NSRF is almost exclusively geared towards the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth. Indeed, the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy is close to 85%.

Operational programmes

Ireland's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through **three operational programmes** (OPs): two regional programmes and one human resources sectoral programme. The three OPs and their priorities are as follows:

- The Border, Midland and Western Region OP: innovation and knowledge economy, environment and risk prevention, access to transport and telecommunications, and urban development.
- The Southern & Eastern Regional OP: innovation and knowledge economy, environment and accessibility, sustainable urban development and technical assistance.
- The Human Capital Investment OP: increased skill levels and enhanced workforce productivity, the set up and participation of groups outside the workforce.

Contact points in Ireland

Irish authorities with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

BMW Programme

Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly
The Square, Ballaghaderreen
Co. Roscommon

S&E Programme

Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly
Assembly House
O'Connell Street
Waterford

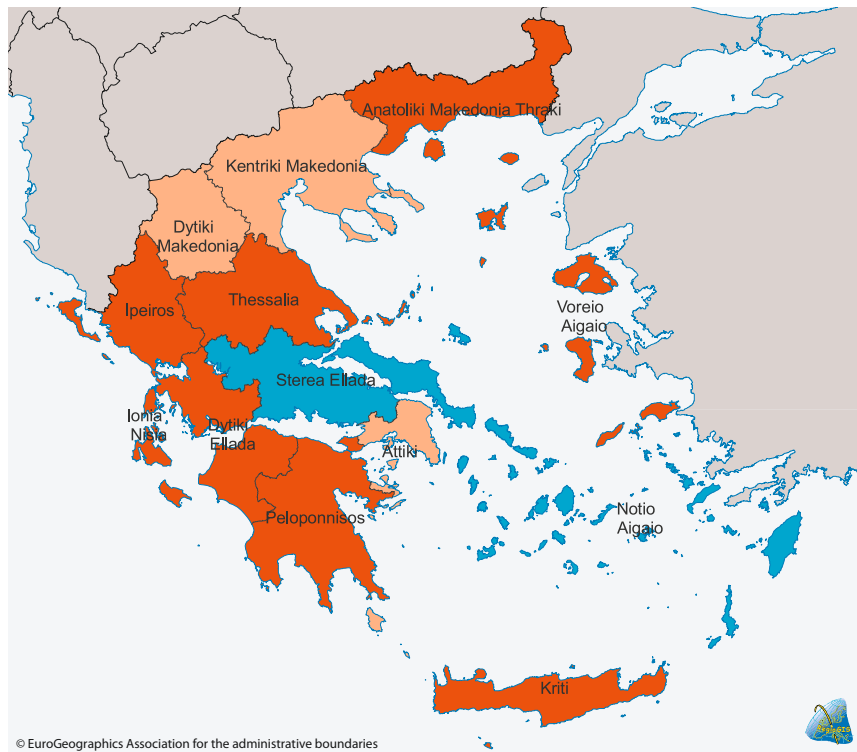
The full text of the NSRF and programmes are available at:

> www.ndp.ie/docs/NDP_Homepage/1131.htm



Greece

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



© EuroGeographics Association for the administrative boundaries

- Convergence Regions
- Phasing-out Regions
- Phasing-in Regions
- Competitiveness and Employment Regions

- Boundaries
- National
 - Nuts 2

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Greek National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in five thematic priorities, under which there are 17 general objectives:

- **Investment in the productive sector of the economy**
 - Increase extroversion and direct foreign investment inflow.
 - Develop entrepreneurship and increase productivity.
 - Differentiate tourist products of the country.
- **Knowledge Society and Innovation**
 - Improve the quality and volume of investments in human resources to upgrade the Greek education system.
 - Reinforce research and technology and promote innovation in all sectors as a key factor for restructuring the Greek economy and transition to the knowledge economy.
 - Achieve digital convergence through the incorporation and systematic use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).
- **Employment and social cohesion**
 - Reinforce the adaptability of workers and enterprises.
 - Enhance access to employment.
 - Promote social inclusion.
 - Establish an efficient and economically viable system of health and social care.
 - Develop the economic, social and development aspects of gender equality issues, by linking them directly with national political priorities (growth – employment – social cohesion).
- **Institutional environment**
 - Improve national policies and ensure effective implementation to facilitate entrepreneurial action and improve citizens' quality of life.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Greece has been allocated €20.420 billion in total, €19.575 billion under the Convergence objective, €635 million under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €210 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. Greece's contribution to complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework should amount to at least €6.169 billion at current prices.

Regions to receive investment

Investments will be made in the following regions:

- Convergence objective: Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki, Thessalia, Ipeiros, Ionia Nisia, Dytiki Ellada, Peloponnisos, Voreio Aigaio, Kriti.
- Statistical phasing-out: Kentriki Makedonia, Dytiki Makedonia, Attiki.
- Phasing-in: Sterea Ellada, Notio Aigaio.

During the 2007-13 period, 10.16 million people (92.2% of the total) will live in Convergence regions, including 6.13 million in Statistical Phasing-out areas. Between 2000 and 2006, 100% of the population lived in regions falling under Objective 1.

- **Attractiveness of Greece and the regions as places to invest, work and live**
 - Develop and modernise physical infrastructures, including transport services.
 - Secure a sustainable supply of the country's energy.
 - Manage the environment in a sustainable way.
 - Implement environmental policies effectively.
 - Promote culture as a vital factor of economic growth.

In addition, Greece has identified three territorial priorities: sustainable urban growth; development of the countryside; and cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

A preliminary evaluation indicates that implementation of the Greek NSRF could lead to an increase in real GDP of almost 3.5% and create up to 95 000 new jobs by 2015. In respect of human capital investment, the NSRF is expected to contribute €3.3 billion, while research and development (R&D) looks set to benefit from €1 billion. The share of R&D in GDP is presently extremely low, close to 0.6%. Greece aims to increase this figure to 1.5% of GDP by the end of the programming period.

An investment for growth and jobs

Greece's NSRF is increasing the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth (61.9% under Convergence and 67% under Regional Competitiveness and Employment) in comparison to the 2000-06 programming period (<55%).

Operational programmes

Greece's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through **eight sectoral and five regional operational programmes (OPs)**. **One other operational programme** relates to Greece's decision to reserve an amount of the Structural

NSRF Financial Table			Breakdown by theme as proposed by Greece in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Convergence		Community Contribution		
ERDF & CF				
Competitiveness & Entrepreneurship	ERDF	1 291 000 000		
Digital Convergence	ERDF	860 000 000		
Technical Assistance	ERDF	192 000 000		
Improvement of Accessibility	ERDF	1 583 000 000		
	CF	2 117 160 864		
Environment Sustainable Development	ERDF	220 000 000		
	CF	1 580 000 000		
Attiki	ERDF	2 438 000 000		
Dytiki Ellada – Peloponnissos Ionia Nisia	ERDF	914 000 000		
Makedonia – Thraki	ERDF	2 675 000 000		
Thessalia – Sterea Ellada - Ipeiros	ERDF	738 000 000		
Kriti & Nisia Aigaiou	ERDF	731 000 000		
ESF				
National contingency reserve	ESF	158 800 403		
Human resources development	ESF	2 191 205 707		
Education & Life-long Learning	ESF	1 396 166 468		
Improvement of Public Administration Efficiency	ESF	489 627 824		
Total ERDF		11 642 000 000		
Total CF		3 697 160 864		
Total ESF		4 235 800 402		
Funds total 2007– 13		19 574 961 266		
Regional Competitiveness and Employment		Community Contribution		
ERDF				
Thessalia – Sterea Ellada - Ipeiros	ERDF	367 000 000		
Kriti & Nisia Aigaiou	ERDF	140 300 178		
ESF				
Human resources development	ESF	68 794 293		
Education & Life-long Learning	ESF	43 833 532		
Improvement of Public Administration Efficiency	ESF	15 372 176		
Total ERDF		507 300 178		
Total ESF		128 000 001		
Funds total 2007– 13		635 300 179		

European Regional Development Fund 2007-13	
Culture	3.1%
Energy	3.9%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	22.3%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.6%
Information society	9.8%
Investment in social infrastructure	8.9%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Reduction of additional costs hindering the outermost regions development	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	11.8%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.1%
Technical assistance	2.6%
Tourism	1.1%
Transport	32.7%
Urban and rural regeneration	3.0%

European Social Fund 2007-13	
Improving access to employment and sustainability	34.7%
Improving human capital	37.1%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	9.1%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	13.5%
Information society	1.2%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.4%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	2.1%
Technical assistance	1.9%

NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial cooperation objective

Fund contribution to the Convergence objective for a national contingency reserve. Finally, under the European Territorial Cooperation objective, Greece will also participate in **twelve territorial cooperation OPs**. The initial indicative estimated breakdown among the Funds of the total Community assistance available will be €12149 billion from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), €4364 billion from the European Social Fund (ESF) and €3697 billion from the Cohesion Fund (CF).

Operational programmes covering more than one of the three objectives are not permitted except where

otherwise agreed by the Commission and the Member State. In the list of operational programmes, Greece submitted five multi-objective operational programmes which are justified by the nature of the investments concerned and the need to strengthen

coordination and programming in the regional territorial units for the 2007-13 period. The following operational programmes cover the Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives:

Name of the programme	Global amount under the "Convergence" objective	Global amount under the "Regional competitiveness and employment" objective
Human resources development	2 191 205 707	68 794 293
Education and Life-long learning	1 396 166 468	43 833 532
Reinforcement of Public Administration Efficiency	489 627 824	15 372 176
Thessalia - Sterea Ellada – Ipeiros	738 000 000	367 000 000
Kriti & Nisia Aigaiou	731 000 000	140 300 178

Contact point in Greece

Greek authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

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Fax: +30 210 3332449

> www.hellaskps.gr/programper4/default.htm

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.hellaskps.gr/programper4/files/NSRF_VERSION_GR_SFC_260107.pdf



Spain

Convergence and Competitiveness objectives 2007-13



Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Spanish National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will target three strategic objectives:

- Making Spain a more attractive place to invest and work in
- Improving knowledge and innovation to boost growth
- More and better jobs.

The Spanish NSRF is designed to translate these priority objectives into themes aimed at boosting the knowledge economy, fostering sustainable environment and transport, advancing local and urban development, encouraging lifelong learning and business creation, improving human capital, promoting access to employment, social inclusion and equal opportunities, enhancing public-private partnership and encouraging both strategic reflexion and acquisition of skills by experience exchange in newly-created thematic networks.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of the investment, Spain has set the following target indicators for 2013: a rate of employment of 70% (57% female); research and development (R+D) expenditure of 2% of GDP (55% from the private sector); Internet use of 99% in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), 65% in households; a reduced rate (15%) of pupils leaving school early; and reduced CO2 emissions of up to 24% of 1990 levels. Indicators specifically targeting the Convergence regions include: extending railway density up to 35 km/1 000 km² and retaining the current percentage of people living in localities of less than 10 000 inhabitants. These objectives are in line with those identified in the National Reform Programme for Spain.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Spain has been allocated €35.217 billion in total: €26.180 billion under the Convergence objective (€3.543 billion from the Cohesion Fund), €8.477 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective and €559 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Regions to receive investment

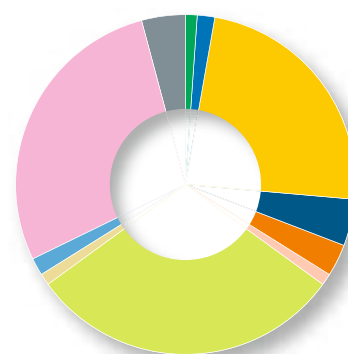
Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura and Galicia fall under the Convergence objective, while Asturias, Ceuta, Melilla and Murcia come under Statistical Phasing-out regions. Aragón, Baleares, Cantabria,

Cataluña, Madrid, Navarra, País Vasco and La Rioja fall under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, with Canarias, Castilla y León and Comunidad Valenciana being Statistical Phasing-in regions. Apart from the regions covered by transitional sub-objectives (Phasing-out and Phasing-in), only Cantabria saw a change between the 2000-06 and 2007-13 periods (moving from Objective 1 Phasing-out for 2000-06 to the full Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective for 2007-13). From 2007 to 2013, 16.3 million people will be living in Convergence regions (37% of the total, compared to 59% in 2000-06).

NSRF Financial Table	
Operational Programme	Total
Convergence	
Cohesion Fund	
National OP Cohesion Fund - ERDF	4 900 164 342
National OP Cohesion Fund - ERDF (CF)	3 543 213 008
National OP Cohesion Fund - ERDF (ERDF)	1 356 951 334
European Regional Development Fund	
REGIONAL Operational Programmes	
ERDF Convergence	
ANDALUCIA	6 843 929 341
CASTILLA - LA MANCHA	1 439 393 894
EXTREMADURA	1 580 187 909
GALICIA	2 191 544 341
ERDF Phasing-out	
ASTURIAS	395 215 192
MURCIA	523 859 034
CEUTA	17 712 796
CEUTA (54ter)	27 559 814
MELILLA	16 228 681
MELILLA (54ter)	27 559 813
ERDF MULTI-REGIONAL OPs	
Multi-regional OP ERDF R+D+i for and by enterprises	1 686 342 363
Convergence	1 573 919 540
Phasing-out	112 422 823
Multi-regional OP ERDF Knowledge-based economy	1 238 138 404
Convergence	1 129 547 369
Phasing-out	108 591 035
Multi-regional OP ERDF Technical Assistance	44 557 905
Convergence	41 214 429
Phasing-out	3 343 476
European Social Fund	
REGIONAL Operational Programmes	
ESF Convergence	
ANDALUCÍA	1 155 756 489
CASTILLA LA MANCHA	180 400 219
EXTREMADURA	250 085 797
GALICIA	358 501 812
ESF Phasing-out	
ASTURIAS	100 787 496
MURCIA	75 743 963
CEUTA	10 249 664
MELILLA	7 193 432
ESF MULTI-REGIONAL OPs	
Multi-regional OP ESF Adaptability and Employment	2 878 889 345
Convergence	2 740 387 847
Phasing-out	1 38 501 498
Multi-regional OP ESF Fight against discrimination	208 068 774
Convergence	190 693 448
Phasing-out	17 375 326
Multi-regional OP ESF Technical Assistance	22 129 144
Convergence	2 1011 727
Phasing-out	1 117 417
Convergence total	
Total Convergence	26 180 199 964
Cohesion Fund	3 543 213 008
Convergence total excluding Cohesion Fund	22 636 986 956
ERDF	17 389 180 821
Convergence	16 156 688 157
Phasing-out	1 232 492 664
ESF	5 247 806 135
Convergence	4 896 837 339
Phasing-out	350 968 796

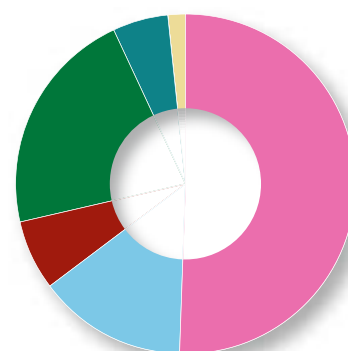
Operational Programme	Total
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	
European Regional Development Fund	
REGIONAL Operational Programmes	
ERDF Phasing-in	
CASTILLA Y LEÓN	818 194 437
COM.VALENCIANA	1 326 340 547
CANARIAS	417 182 272
CANARIAS (54 bis)	112 422 816
RUP Canarias	489 692 672
ERDF Regional Competitiveness and Employment	
CANTABRIA	89 030 873
ARAGÓN	163 101 304
BALEARES	107 196 565
CATALUÑA	679 074 228
MADRID	336 953 127
NAVARRA	47 108 905
PAÍS VASCO	240 582 157
LA RIOJA	32 622 095
ERDF MULTI-REGIONAL OPs	
Multi-regional OP ERDF R+D+i for and by enterprises	562 114 121
Phasing-in	337 268 472
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	224 845 649
Multi-regional OP ERDF Knowledge-based economy	227 054 517
Phasing-in	227 054 517
Multi-regional OP ERDF Technical Assistance	19 340 693
Phasing-in	8 284 667
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	11 056 026
European Social Fund	
REGIONAL Operational Programmes	
ESF Phasing-in	
CASTILLA Y LEÓN	125 276 907
COM.VALENCIANA	198 374 973
CANARIAS	117 291 876
ESF Regional Competitiveness and Employment	
CANTABRIA	12 684 118
ARAGÓN	74 523 363
BALEARES	38 732 058
CATALUÑA	284 711 549
MADRID	256 903 019
NAVARRA	19 214 969
PAÍS VASCO	61 104 788
LA RIOJA	13 933 419
ESF MULTI-REGIONAL OPs	
Multi-regional OP ESF Adaptability and Employment	1 422 525 230
Phasing-in	691 291 998
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	731 233 232
Multi-regional OP ESF Fight against discrimination	172 810 109
Phasing-in	80 867 748
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	91 942 361
Multi-regional OP ESF Technical Assistance	11 436 309
Phasing-in	5 535 298
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	5 901 011
Regional Competitiveness and Employment Total	
Regional Competitiveness and Employment total	8 477 534 017
ERDF	5 668 011 330
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	1 931 570 929
Phasing-in	3 736 440 401
ESF	2 809 522 687
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	1 590 883 887
Phasing-in	1 218 638 800

Breakdown by theme as proposed by Spain in its draft operational programmes



European Regional Development Fund 2007-13

Culture	1.3%
Energy	1.7%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	23.6%
Information society	4.3%
Investment in social infrastructure	3.2%
Reduction of additional costs hindering the outermost regions' development	0.9%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	30.1%
Technical assistance	1.0%
Tourism	1.8%
Transport	27.9%
Urban and rural regeneration	4.1%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	50.8%
Improving human capital	14.2%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	6.7%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	21.5%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	5.3%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.1%
Technical assistance	1.5%

An investment for growth and jobs

In comparison to 2000-06, and despite a reduction of more than 40% in EU assistance, the Spanish programme has significantly increased its support for the Lisbon Strategy, notably in the areas of research, innovation and information society, with the total allocation doubling to just under €8 billion. In addition, more than €8 billion have been set aside for the development of human capital, which is expected to directly benefit more than 14 million people by way of training, jobs and oppor-

tunities for creating new companies. These efforts are particularly important in full Convergence regions, where Lisbon-related expenditure has increased from about 53% to almost 70%. Similar efforts have been undertaken in full Competitiveness and Employment regions, where this percentage has exceeded 80%.

Operational programmes

The NSRF will be implemented in **45 operational programmes** under both the Convergence and the Regional Competitiveness and Employment

objectives. Of these, 23 will receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (including one joint operational programme with the Cohesion Fund), with 22 receiving funding from the European Social Fund. Mention should be made of a new Technology Fund which is associated with these programmes and is devoted to research and innovation for and by enterprises, nationwide action targeting integrated urban development, initiatives leading to a better balance between professional and private life, and actions aimed at reducing the rate of pupils leaving school early.

Contact point in Spain

Spanish authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

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Madrid, Spain
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Email: fondoscomunitarios@sgpg.meh.es,
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The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.dgfc.sgpg.meh.es



France

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



now be beneficiaries of the Regional Competitiveness and Employment, proof of the progress they have made.

Strategic objectives

Structural funds will be applied to the following objectives, as provided for in the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) presented by the French authorities:

- Innovation and the knowledge economy (notably to support small and medium-sized enterprises).
- Training, employment for priority groups, human resource management and social inclusion.
- Development of information and communication technologies.
- The environment, risk avoidance and energy policy.
- Sustainable development throughout the territories.

In addition, overseas regions will benefit from improvements in accessibility and compensation for constraints specific to these departments (a special allocation of €0.5 billion will provide compensation for the surcharges these regions incur due to their geographical locations).

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

In order to meet these objectives, the NSRF has defined and ranked a number of priorities by decreasing order of importance with which the ERDF and ESF programmes must comply. National authorities expect the regional partners to select projects based notably on knowledge policies, but also on the promotion of sustainable development.

Therefore, in keeping with the objective set by the European Union to spend 3% of European GNP on research, the NSRF is designed to increase the share of private research (1.25% of GNP in 2006) and to move towards Community standards in

The investment

France will benefit from about €14.3 billion of structural funds for the 2007-13 period. Of this, €3.2 billion will be for the Convergence objective, €10.3 billion for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €860 million for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Regions to receive investment

The four overseas departments (DOM: Guadeloupe, Guyana, Martinique and Reunion) will receive support under the Convergence objective.

All regions of Metropolitan France will benefit from the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

As was the case during the 2000-06 period, overseas departments remain eligible for the Convergence objective, however for the first time, the entire population of Metropolitan France is now entitled to funding under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective. The 1.1 million inhabitants of Corsica and the municipalities of Avesnes, Douai and Valenciennes in the Nord department, eligible for Phasing-out Objective 1 support between 2000 and 2006, will

matters of technology and non-technology innovation.

Furthermore, in step with European trends, France will seek to reduce end energy intensity by 2% a year through 2015 and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 3% in order to reach factor 4 by 2050.

It should also be pointed out that the ERDF operational programmes are based on the concept of carbon neutrality so that France can meet its commitments to the Kyoto protocol. The "carbon neutral" principle advanced by France consists in ensuring that investments in regional programmes do not result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

An investment for growth and jobs

The national authorities are providing impetus to the NSRF strategy aim of creating conditions for growth and employment through their commitment to an overall expenditure level for structural funds linked directly to the Lisbon Strategy of 75% (of which at least 60% is for the ERDF) for Regional Competitiveness and Employment and 60% for Convergence.

Operational programmes

The NSRF sets priorities for **36 operational programmes** in France. Of these, 31 will be supported by the ERDF and 5 by the ESF:

- ERDF - 31 programmes:
 - 26 regional programmes (22 in Metropolitan France + 4 in the DOM).
 - 4 multi-region programmes (2 mountain range programmes - Massif Central and Alps, and 2 river basin programmes - Rhone and Loire).
 - 1 multi-objective national technical assistance programme which also includes the European Territorial Cooperation objective.
- ESF - 5 programmes:
 - 1 national ESF programme for Metropolitan France .
 - 4 regional programmes (1 in each DOM).

The NSRF does not cover the European Territorial Cooperation objective independently of the national technical assistance programme.

NSRF Financial Table			Breakdown by theme as proposed by France in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Convergence Objective			Community Contribution	
Martinique	ESF	97 859 231		
Guadeloupe	ESF	185 176 373		
Guyane	ESF	100 059 222		
Reunion	ESF	516 889 189		
Guyana	ERDF	305 158 669		
Guadeloupe	ERDF	542 701 534		
Martinique	ERDF	417 155 833		
Reunion	ERDF	1 014 291 774		
Regional Competitiveness Employment			Community Contribution	
National programme I	ESF	4 494 563 975		
Aquitaine	ERDF	392 371 063		
Centre	ERDF	196 185 531		
Alsace	ERDF	75 924 973		
Auvergne	ERDF	206 790 459		
Lower-Normandie	ERDF	181 354 410		
Burgundy	ERDF	185 580 603		
Britany	ERDF	301 693 854		
Champagne-Ardenne	ERDF	185 580 603		
Corsica	ERDF	150 465 376		
Franche-Comté	ERDF	146 789 783		
Upper -Normandie	ERDF	219 311 261		
Ile de France	ERDF	151 466 770		
Languedoc-Roussillon	ERDF	270 420 027		
Limousin	ERDF	127 259 135		
Lorraine	ERDF	329 406 415		
Pays de la Loire	ERDF	302 234 812		
Nord-Pas de Calais	ERDF	700 953 570		
Picardie	ERDF	201 493 631		
Poitou-Charentes	ERDF	201 493 631		
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	ERDF	302 234 812		
Midi-Pyrénées	ERDF	430 023 629		
Rhône-Alps	ERDF	334 049 596		
Plurirégional Alps	ERDF	34 936 532		
Plurirégional Loire	ERDF	33 809 546		
Plurirégional Massif Central	ERDF	40 571 457		
Plurirégional Rhône	ERDF	33 809 546		
Multi-objectives			Community Contribution	
National programme Technical assistance	ERDF	39 154 226		
Total	ERDF	8 054 673 061		
Total	ESF	5 394 547 990		
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	13 449 221 051		

Theme	Percentage
Culture	1.7%
Energy	6.9%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	15.1%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.4%
Improving human capital	0.5%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	0.1%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	0.3%
Information society	7.7%
Investment in social infrastructure	3.3%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Reduction of additional costs hindering the outermost regions development	4.1%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	36.9%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.2%
Technical assistance	3.1%
Tourism	3.4%
Transport	11.5%
Urban and rural regeneration	5.1%

Theme	Percentage
Improving access to employment and sustainability	30.1%
Improving human capital	12.2%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	34.4%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	17.6%
Information society	0.2%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	2.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	0.0%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.1%
Technical assistance	3.4%

NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact points in France

French authorities with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Délégation interministérielle à l'aménagement et à la compétitivité des territoires

Équipe politiques européennes

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The NSRF document is available at:

> www.diact.gouv.fr/datar_site/datar_framedef.nsf/webmaster/europe_Actu22092005_vf?OpenDocument



Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



prehensive regional development policy.

Regions to receive investment

The Convergence regions, namely Campania, Puglia, Calabria, Sicily and Basilicata (the latter being a Phasing-out region), are the main beneficiaries of the Cohesion policy allocations. The Competitiveness and Employment regions vary, stretching from Northern regions with a much higher pro-capita GDP than the EU average, to Southern regions that no longer fall within the Convergence objective but that still have a significantly smaller pro-capita GDP than the EU average (e.g. Sardinia, which for the 2007-13 period will be a Phasing-in Competitiveness region; Molise, which was a Phasing-out Objective 1 region for 2000-06; and Abruzzo, which was an Objective 1 region until 1996, but which did not manage to catch up completely with the other more developed regions in Italy).

Strategic objectives

Italy aims to improve productivity, competitiveness and innovation throughout the country via a sustainable development framework. The main focus will therefore be on promoting skills and providing public services to people and investors.

These national objectives are to be achieved through four macro-objectives: developing knowledge circuits; improving living standards, security and social inclusion; fostering clusters, services and competition; internationalising and modernising the economy.

These macro-objectives include 10 cohesion priorities:

- human resources improvement and enhancement.
- research and innovation promotion for competitiveness.
- sustainable and efficient use

The investment

Italy is the third biggest beneficiary of the EU Cohesion policy after Poland and Spain. The country will benefit from €28.8 billion during the 2007-13 programming period for the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment and European Territorial Cooperation objectives.

Italy will add some €31.6 billion of investments to the European fund-

ing. There will also be a further €64.4 billion worth of resources allocated by Italy to the “nationally-financed” regional development policy: as a result, the resources nationally available for reducing development imbalances in Italian regions amount to €124.7 billion for the 2007-13 programming period.

The Italian National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) includes guidelines for the country’s com-

of environmental resources for development.

- social inclusion, services for quality of life and territorial attractiveness.
- promotion of natural and cultural resources to enhance attractiveness and development, mainly in relation to diversifying tourism and extending the tourist season.
- transport networks and links, with particular emphasis on Trans-European Network corridors.
- competitiveness of production systems and employment, notably to provide financial engineering schemes supporting small and medium-sized enterprises.
- competitiveness and attractiveness of cities and urban areas.
- internationalisation and investments, consumption and resource attractiveness.
- governance, institutional capacity and effective markets and competition.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Italy has set a number of targets for the end of the period and its strategy aim is to achieve an average yearly GDP growth rate in Convergence regions of between 2.4% and 3.1% throughout the period. Furthermore, by June 2008, the impact of Cohesion policy at national level on reducing greenhouse gas emissions will be quantified. Among the different specific targets, it should be pointed out that the percentage of GDP invested in Research and Development will more than double and that there will be an increase from 8% to 40% for urban waste subject to separate collection in the Convergence regions.

A minimum portion of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) resources (set at 8% for the Convergence regions and 12% for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment regions) is specifically allocated to investments in energy, namely in energy efficient and renewable energy sources. In an effort to promote a shift towards sustainable transport, Italy will set aside a minimum 70% of ERDF resources for investing in transport networks and sustainable transport modes (rail and waterways).

An investment for growth and jobs

Italy has earmarked a significant amount of resources that will contribute directly to implementing the renewed Lisbon agenda for growth and jobs: 68% of the total resources available for the Convergence objective and 80% of those allocated to the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Operational programmes

The objectives of the NSRF are to be achieved through **66 operational programmes (OPs)**. The breakdown by objective is as follows:

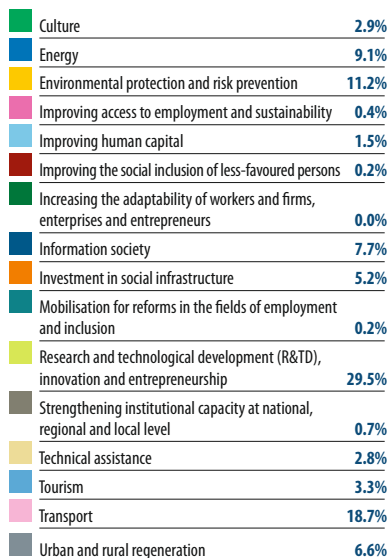
- 19 operational programmes under the Convergence objective (10 Regionally-managed OPs – ROP; 7 Nationally-managed OPs – NOP; two National Interregional Operational Programmes - NIOP), including the Phasing-out region Basilicata.
- 33 operational programmes under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective (32 Regionally-managed OPs and one Nationally-managed OP), including the Phasing-in region Sardinia.
- 14 operational programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

NSRF Financial Table

Breakdown by theme as proposed by Italy in its draft operational programmes

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Convergence Objective	Community Contribution	
ROP Campania	ESF	559 000 000
ROP Calabria	ESF	430 249 377
ROP Sicilia	ESF	1 049 619 576
ROP Basilicata	ESF	128 946 235
ROP Puglia	ESF	639 600 000
NOP Governance	ESF	207 143 108
NOP Education	ESF	742 964 746
NIOP Cultural and Natural attractors and Tourism	ERDF	515 575 907
NIOP Renewable Energy and Energy saving	ERDF	803 893 176
NOP Governance and Technical assistance	ERDF	138 095 405
NOP Education	ERDF	247 654 915
NOP Networks and Mobility	ERDF	1 374 728 891
NOP Research and Competitiveness	ERDF	3 102 696 821
NOP Security	ERDF	579 040 437
ROP Calabria	ERDF	1 499 120 026
ROP Campania	ERDF	3 432 397 599
ROP Puglia	ERDF	2 619 021 978
ROP Sicilia	ERDF	3 269 802 550
ROP Basilicata	ERDF	300 874 549
Total	ERDF	17 882 902 254
Total	ESF	3 757 523 042
Total	Funds	21 640 425 296
Regional Competitiveness	Community Contribution	
ROP Abruzzo	ESF	127 719 591
ROP Emilia Romagna	ESF	295 929 210
ROP Friuli-Venezia Giulia	ESF	120 355 589
ROP Lazio	ESF	368 038 775
ROP Liguria	ESF	147 619 048
ROP Lombardia	ESF	338 017 613
ROP Marche	ESF	111 554 330
ROP Molise	ESF	37 665 371
ROP P.A. Bolzano	ESF	60 745 159
ROP P.A. Trento	ESF	61 198 969
ROP Piemonte	ESF	397 283 869
ROP Toscana	ESF	313 045 574
ROP Umbria	ESF	98 984 087
ROP Valle d'Aosta	ESF	32 911 544
ROP Veneto	ESF	349 019 589
ROP Sardegna Phl	ESF	291 716 470
NOP Azioni di sistema	ESF	28 680 066
ROP Abruzzo	ERDF	139 760 495
ROP Emilia Romagna	ERDF	128 107 883
ROP Friuli-Venezia Giulia	ERDF	74 069 674
ROP Lazio	ERDF	371 756 338
ROP Liguria	ERDF	168 145 488
ROP Lombardia	ERDF	210 887 281
ROP Marche	ERDF	112 906 728
ROP Molise	ERDF	70 765 241
ROP P.A. Bolzano	ERDF	26 021 981
ROP P.A. Trento	ERDF	19 286 428
ROP Piemonte	ERDF	426 119 322
ROP Toscana	ERDF	338 466 574
ROP Umbria	ERDF	149 975 890
ROP Valle d'Aosta	ERDF	19 524 245
ROP Veneto	ERDF	207 939 920
ROP Sardegna	ERDF	680 671 765
Total	ERDF	3 144 405 253
Total	ESF	3 180 484 854
Total NSRF 2007-13	Funds	6 324 890 107
European Territorial Cooperation	Community Contribution	
OP Alpine Space	ERDF	36 148 288
OP Italy-France (maritime border)	ERDF	94 928 391
OP Italia-France Alps (ALCOTRA)	ERDF	87 419 616
OP Italy-Switzerland	ERDF	68 811 858
OP Italy-Slovenia	ERDF	92 430 163
OP Italy-Malta	ERDF	19 106 204
OP CTE MED - Méditerranée	ERDF	97 660 512
OP Italy-Austria	ERDF	37 684 265
OP Italy-Greece	ERDF	57 538 575
OP Central Europe	ERDF	32 946 071
Total	ERDF	624 673 943

European Regional Development Fund 2007-13



European Social Fund 2007-13



Contact point in Italy

Italian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico

(Ministry of Economic Development)

Dipartimento per le Politiche di Sviluppo

Servizio per le Politiche dei Fondi Strutturali Comunitari

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Tel: +39-06-47619952 - 3 - 8 - 9

Fax: +39-06-42086946

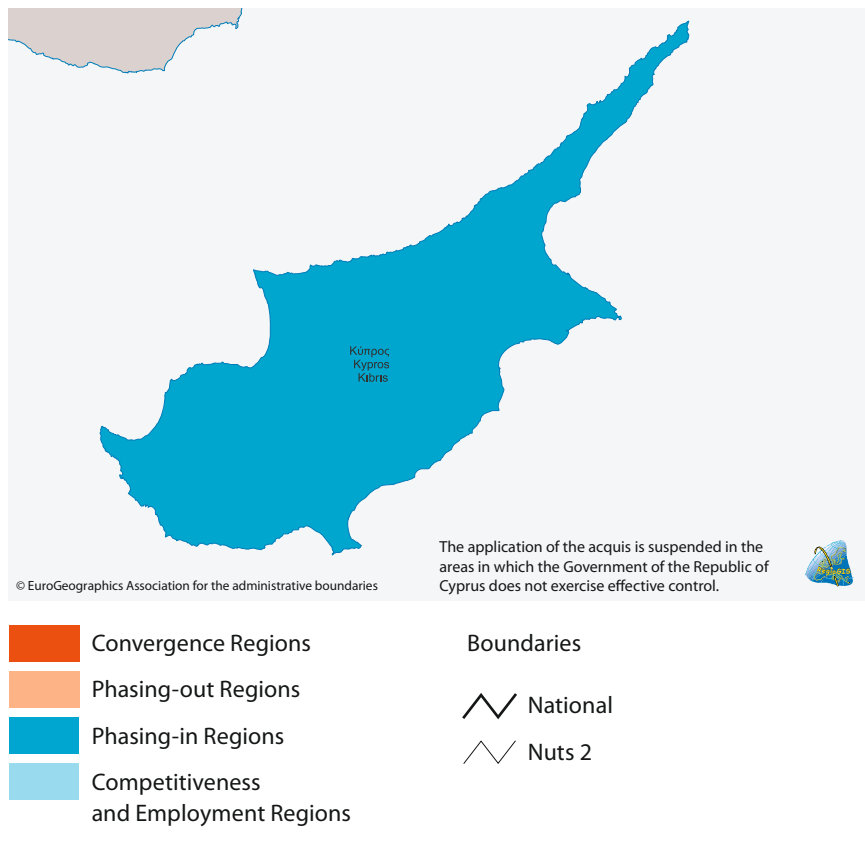
Email: sabina.deluca@tesoro.it

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.dps.mef.gov.it/qsn/qsn.asp



Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Cyprus has been allocated approximately €640 million, €213 million under the Cohesion Fund (CF), €399 million under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective (Phasing-in), and €28 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. Cyprus' contribution combined with the EU contribution should bring the total investment to €720 million, calculated on the basis of an annual average of €103 million (at 2006 prices). This is an increase of 255% on the annual average registered for the 2004-06 reference period.

Regions to receive investment

All of Cyprus constitutes a NUTS II "region", however according to Protocol 10 of the Accession Treaty, the Community acquis is suspended in

the areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control. According to Protocol 3 of this Treaty, the British bases in Cyprus are not included in the eligible areas. In comparison to the previous funding period, where only certain urban and rural areas were eligible for funding, the new period sees all government controlled areas eligible.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in Cyprus' National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), funds will be invested in five thematic priorities:

- Strengthening the productive base of the economy and supporting enterprises.
- Knowledge society and promotion of RTD and innovation.
- Human resources, employment

and social cohesion.

- Environment, transport and energy infrastructures.
- Development of sustainable communities.

The thematic priority "Strengthening the productive base of the economy and supporting enterprises" seeks to strengthen the competitiveness of certain sectors in the economy through diversification of the productive base, high value added activities, improved productivity and strengthened organisational structures with new and innovative methods for management and production.

In the context of the thematic priority "Knowledge society and promotion of RTD and innovation", innovation, research and technological development will be promoted and will in turn contribute to boosting competitiveness.

Contributions to the priority "Human resources, employment and social cohesion" will aim primarily at making full use of employment opportunities by maintaining a high rate of expansion in the supply of labour through a cohesive and active strategy for the labour market.

Support for the environment sector will concentrate on the infrastructure required for safeguarding the rational management of environmental resources, with emphasis on the management of solid and liquid waste. Investment in transport infrastructure will concentrate on actions designed to contribute towards improving accessibility and reducing transaction costs through the upgrading of road transport and port infrastructures, especially those within Trans-European Transport Networks. Support will also be given to actions aimed at improving energy efficiency, safeguarding energy supplies, reducing dependence on petroleum and promoting further use of renewable sources of energy (RSE).

The thematic priority “Development of sustainable communities” will involve a combination of actions. In rural areas, the aim is to make these areas more attractive through better accessibility and through the creation of an environment that ensures the well-being of citizens. In urban areas, the actions will concentrate on improving the natural and man-made environment and on setting out a comprehensive urban development plan focused on creating cultural infrastructure. The development of a modern public transport system will be a key feature of the strategy, in respect of both intra- and inter-urban connections.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Several of the objectives set by Cyprus under the new Cohesion policy will contribute to fundamentally changing the current state of affairs in the relevant sectors. These include the target of increasing research and development expenditure from 0.37% in 2004 to 1% of GDP by 2010, the target of increasing the percentage of journeys using the public transport system from 2% currently to 10%, the aim of increasing the annual GDP growth rate from 3.80% to 4.2% and increasing the employment rate from 68.5% to 71%. In addition, the sizeable allocation destined for the environment sector will result in the requirements of waste management acquis largely being met, while the intended investment in innovation will boost the business sector which is currently dominated by micro-enterprises.

An investment for growth and jobs

Cyprus’ NSRF includes a major commitment to the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth, given the allocation of 58.9% to investments directly related to the strategy.

Operational programmes

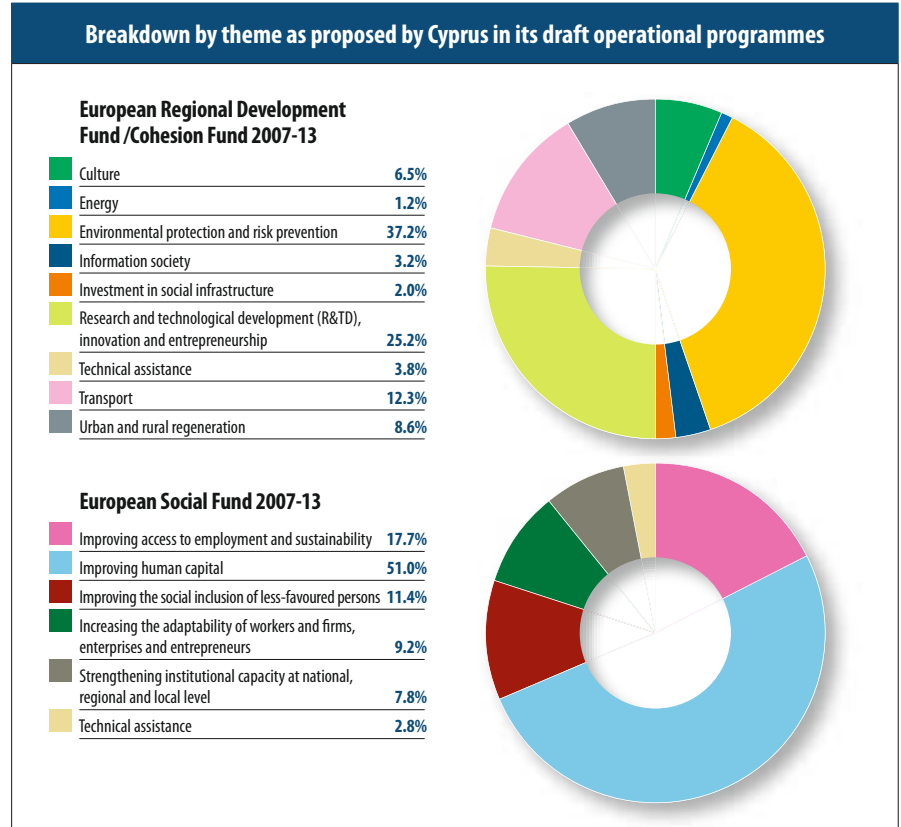
Cyprus intends to translate the broad priorities contained in the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) into **two operational** programmes. The first, “Sustainable Development and Competitiveness”, will receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund (CF), the second enti-

tled “Employment, Human Capital and Social Cohesion” will receive funding from the European Social Fund (ESF).

The ERDF will also contribute towards financing of the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands: cross-border, trans-national and inter-regional. Cyprus will take part in the following operational programmes:

- Cross-border Cooperation with Greece.
- Cross-border Cooperation Cyprus – Turkey.
- Mediterranean Space (Mediterranean Space/MED).
- Mediterranean CBC Sea Basin Programme.
- Inter-regional Cooperation in the European Union among all Member States.

NSRF Financial Table		
Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Employment, Human Capital and Social Cohesion	ESF	119 769 154
Sustainable Development and Competitiveness	CF	213 204 484
Sustainable Development and Competitiveness	ERDF	279 461 354
Total	CF	213 204 484
Total	ERDF	279 461 354
Total	ESF	119 769 154
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	612 434 992



Contact point in Cyprus

Cyprus authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

The Planning Bureau

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 Fax: +357 22 666810
 Email: planningbureau@planning.gov.cy

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
 > <http://www.planning.gov.cy/planning/planning.nsf/Main?OpenFrameSet>



Latvia



improving the efficiency of public administration, a prerequisite for management of the EU funds. The EU contribution will help compensate for gaps in the education system and will boost the creation of new businesses and improvements to the national road network.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Latvia has established three programmes to achieve the strategic objectives mentioned above. To measure the impact investment of Latvia has set target indicators for these operational programmes as well as for the NSRF. EU funding is designed to achieve several specific targets, including:

- retaining an annual GDP growth rate of 6-8% (baseline of 2006 was 11.9%).
- increasing the employment rate to 70%: the employment rate for women to 66% and for older people to 55%, (baseline of 2006 = 66.3%: employment rate for women of 62.3%, employment rate for older people of 53.3%).
- decreasing the unemployment rate to under 6% (baseline of 2006 = 6.5%).
- reaching an expenditure level of 1.5% of GDP for research and development (baseline of 2005 = 0.57%).
- increasing to 85% the percentage of youth aged 20-24 having completed at least upper secondary education (baseline of 2005 = 79.9%).
- increasing to 62% the proportion of inhabitants with wastewater management services according to legislative measures (baseline of 2004 = 9%).

An investment for growth and jobs

The NSRF strategy will provide strong support for the Lisbon agenda, with 61% of the funds allocated to relevant activities.

The investment

For 2007-13, Latvia has been allocated approximately €4.6 billion in total, €1.5 billion under the Cohesion Fund, €2.9 billion under the Convergence objective, and €90 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Between 2007 and 2013, the entire Latvian population of 2.3 million will be living in Convergence regions.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in Latvia's National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in three strategic objectives:

- Development and efficient use of human resources.
- Strengthened competitiveness and progress towards a knowledge-based economy.

- Improved public services and infrastructure as a precondition for balanced national and territorial development.

In addition to the above strategic objectives, there are also six horizontal objectives:

- Balanced territorial development.
- International competitiveness of the city of Riga.
- Macroeconomic stability.
- Equal opportunities.
- Sustainable development.
- Information society.

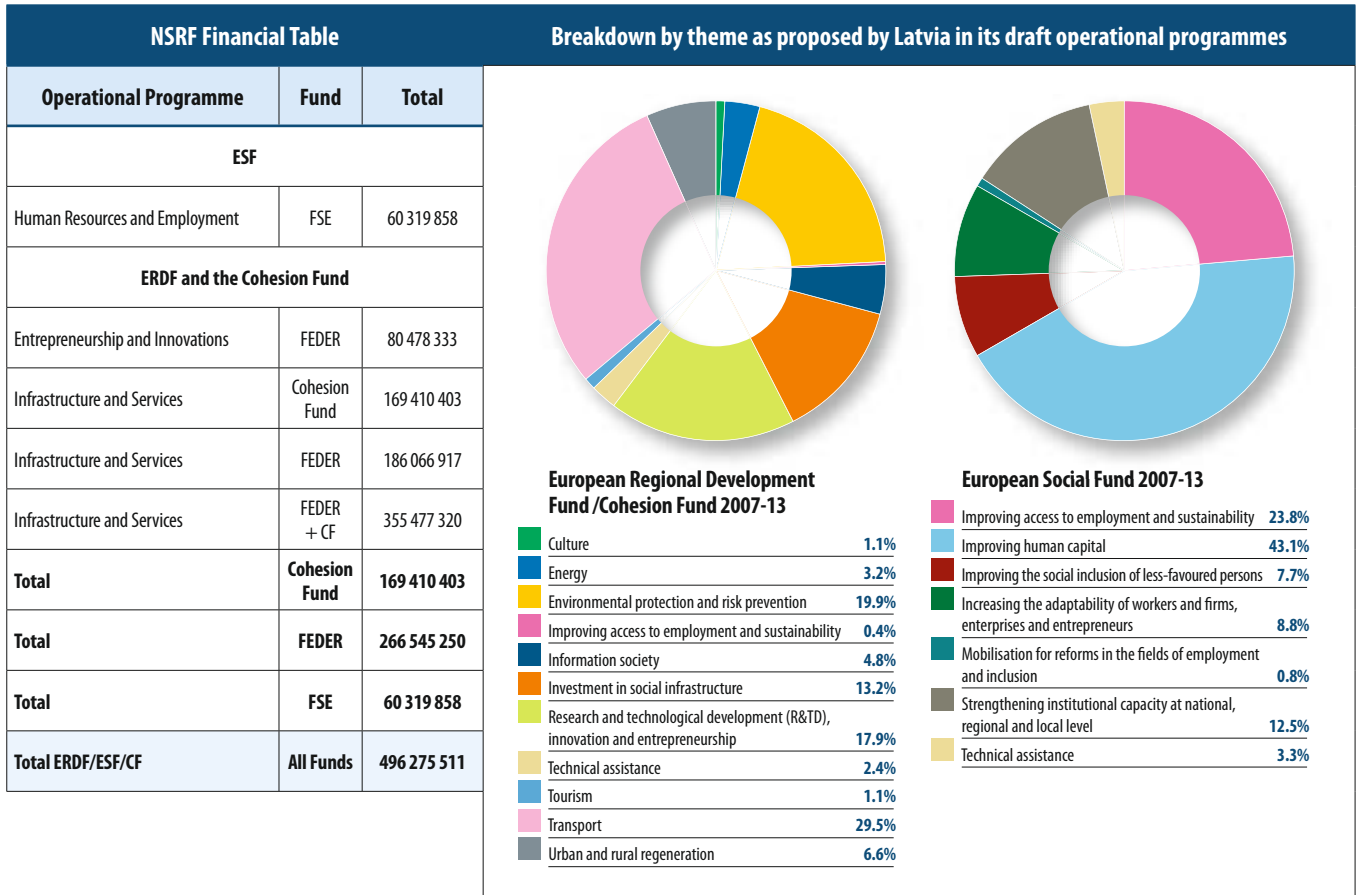
The funds will concretely contribute to fields including urban development, which is currently concentrated around a few large areas, namely Riga (and its surroundings), which hosts almost half of the Latvian population. The ERDF (an amount of €267 million) will support the development of 17 cities. The focus will also be on

Operational programmes

Latvia has translated the broad priorities contained in the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) into **three operational programmes**:

- Two operational programmes under the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) and Cohesion Fund .
- One operational programme under the ESF (European Social Fund).

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.



Contact point in Latvia

Latvian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Transport

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Tel: +371 7 095675

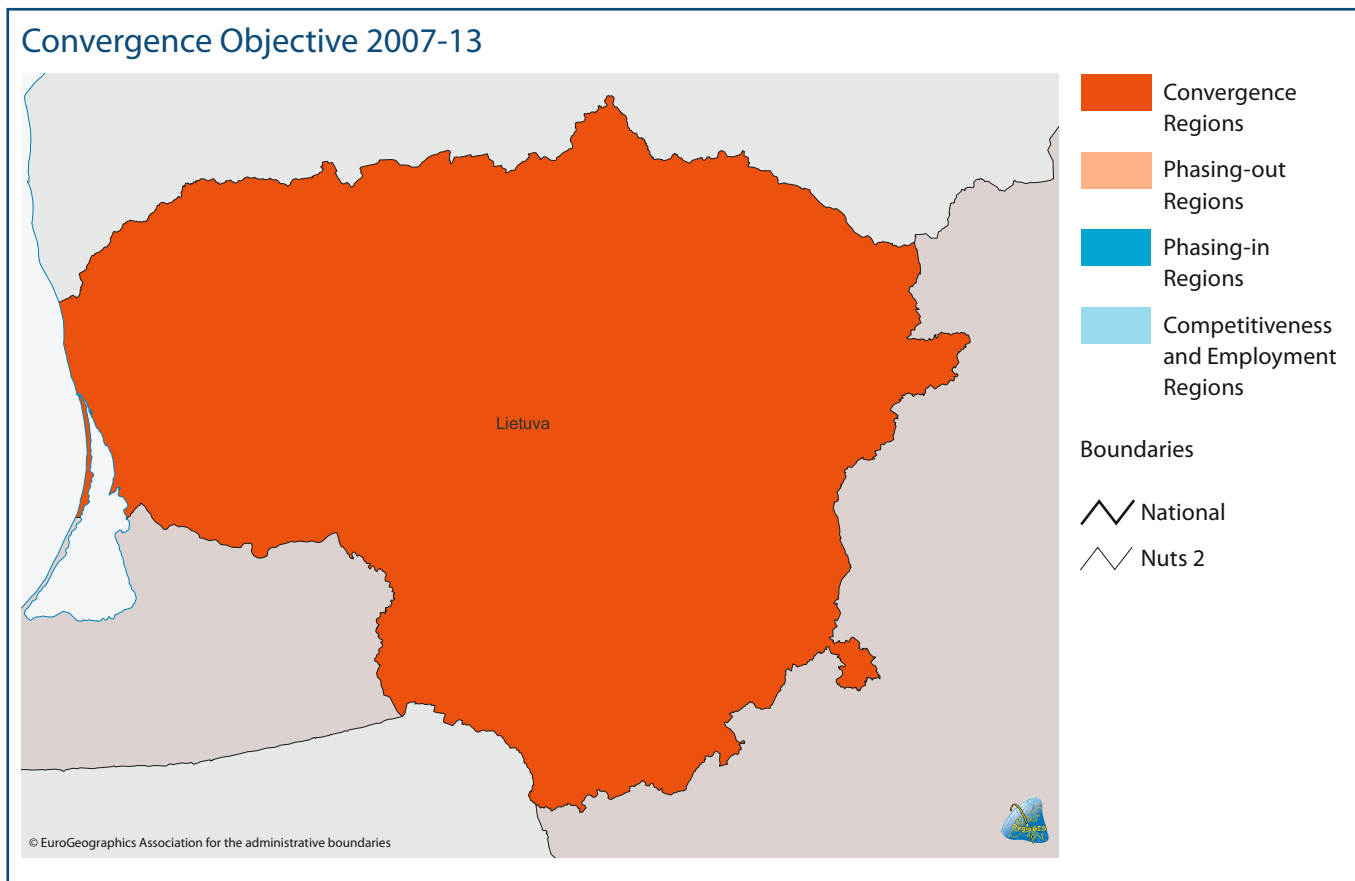
Fax: +371 7 095697

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.esfondi.lv/events.php?id=496<http://www.esfondi.lv>



Lithuania



The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Lithuania has been allocated some €6.7 billion of Structural Funds and Cohesion Funds under the Convergence objective. This will be supplemented by an estimated €1.5 billion of national investment, bringing the total sum for Cohesion policy 2007-13 in Lithuania to about €8.2 billion.

Regions to receive investment

All of Lithuania is covered by the Convergence objective.

Strategic objectives

The core targets of the Lithuanian National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) concern (a) accelerating long-term economic growth, (b) creating more and better workplaces, and (c) developing social cohesion.

To achieve these targets, the NSRF includes ten priorities falling under three strategic objectives:

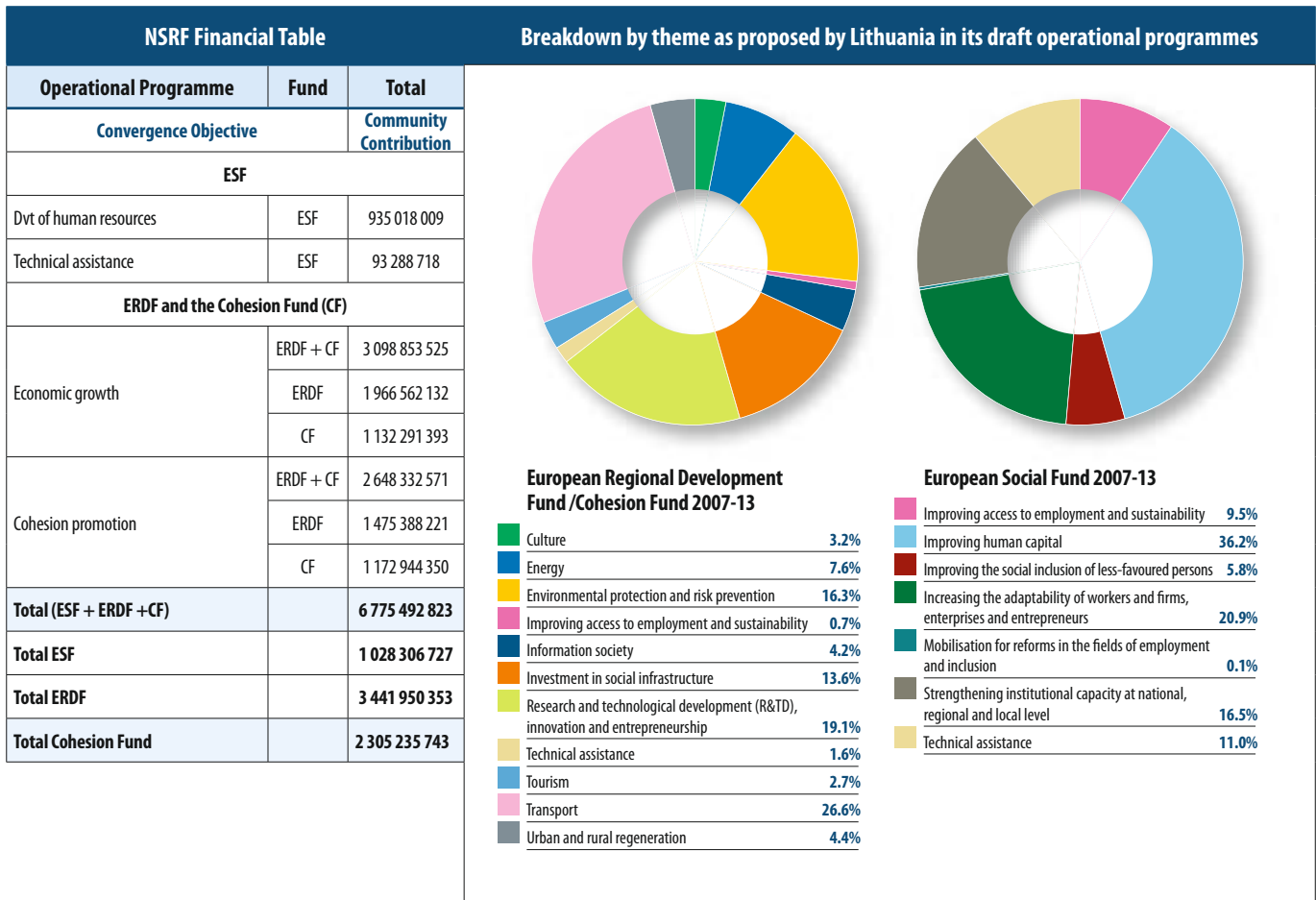
- **Productive human resources for the knowledge society**
 - Attract and retain people in the labour market.
 - More active lifelong learning.
 - Develop a labour force with high-level qualifications.
 - More efficient public administration.
- **Competitive economy**
 - Increase business productivity, notably by creating a favourable environment for small and medium-sized enterprises and innovation.
 - Increase the comparative share of high added value business.
 - Make the economic infrastructure more effective.
- **Life quality and cohesion**
 - Make better use of local potential.

- Provide quality and accessible public services.
- Ensure better environmental quality.

The NSRF proposes four horizontal areas to which the entire strategy must contribute: information society, sustainable development, equal opportunities and regional development.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of the strategy, Lithuania has proposed a range of target objectives for 2013, including an increase in the employment rate for the 15-64 year old population to 70% (compared to 61.2% in 2004), as well as an increase in labour productivity to 65% of the EU average (41.7% in 2004). Other objectives are: to increase R&D (research and development) expenditure to 2.2% of GDP



(0.76% in 2004), with an increase in the number of researchers to 6.1 per thousand employed, 15% of whom will be in the private sector (respectively 5.12/6.6% in 2004); to see 95% of the main public services offering electronic services (49% in 2004) and to reach 70% of Internet users (30% in 2005); and to reduce the primary energy intensity of the country by 10% (132 koe/1000 LTL at 2002 prices in 2005). Similar quantitative targets are set in the social area, communications, environmental and other economic sectors and also in terms of efficiency in public administration.

An investment for growth and jobs

Lithuania has earmarked 54.6% of the 2007-13 programme investment for the Lisbon Strategy, which represents a significant portion in relation to the previous period. Furthermore, in line with its vision for 2015, the country plans to invest part of the programme allocation in sectors such as education and health in support of its Lisbon National Reform Programme.

Operational programmes

Lithuania has translated the objectives and priorities into the following **four operational programmes**:

- Development of Human Resources, supported by the European Social Fund (ESF).

- Economic Growth, supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF).
- Cohesion Promotion, supported by the ERDF and CF.
- Technical Assistance, supported by the ESF.

Contact point in Lithuania

Lithuanian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Finance
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 LT-01512 Vilnius
 Lithuania
 > www.finmin.lt/web/finmin/home



Luxembourg

Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



Strategic objectives

This strategic document forms the framework for the European investment of €65.2 million in Luxembourg during the 2007-13 programming period. The authorities have set three priorities for the investments:

- to contribute to making Luxembourg a more attractive place for investing and working, notably by promoting the setup of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and redeveloping urban areas that have undergone economic changes;
- to improve knowledge and innovation, two key growth factors, by focusing investments on equipping private and public research centres and by encouraging the innovation effort of enterprises;
- to create more and better jobs, by providing personal assistance to job seekers and by increasing the low employment rates among women and older workers.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Due to its limited financial resources, the NSRF must ensure that the Community support focuses on a set number of themes and priorities and on operations that pave the way in terms of regional development and employment. The aim is to avoid all forms of “diluting” or “spreading thinly” and to obtain maximum Community value added.

One of Luxembourg’s features is its low level of public investment in research and development (R&D). Private R&D differs in that it is concentrated in a handful of large enterprises. However, the setting up of the University of Luxembourg and a National Research Fund should contribute towards improving the situation. Investments in R&D should achieve the 3% of GDP target by 2010.

The investment

For the new programming period, Luxembourg is to receive Cohesion Policy funds from the European Union to assist the country in implementing two programmes under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective (one ERDF programme and one ESF programme, each worth €25.2 million) as well as one or possibly several programmes under the European

Territorial Cooperation objective for an amount of €14.8 million. The total support provided therefore amounts to €65 million.

Regions to receive investment

The entire country is to benefit under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, in contrast to the previous 2000-06 period when only certain specific areas were entitled to benefit from ERDF funds.

The NSRF will help Luxembourg meet the objectives that it set itself under the Kyoto Protocol, namely reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 28% by 2012 in comparison to 1990 levels.

An investment for growth and jobs

75% of the total Funds will target the priorities set out in the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs (notably research and innovation, energy efficiency,

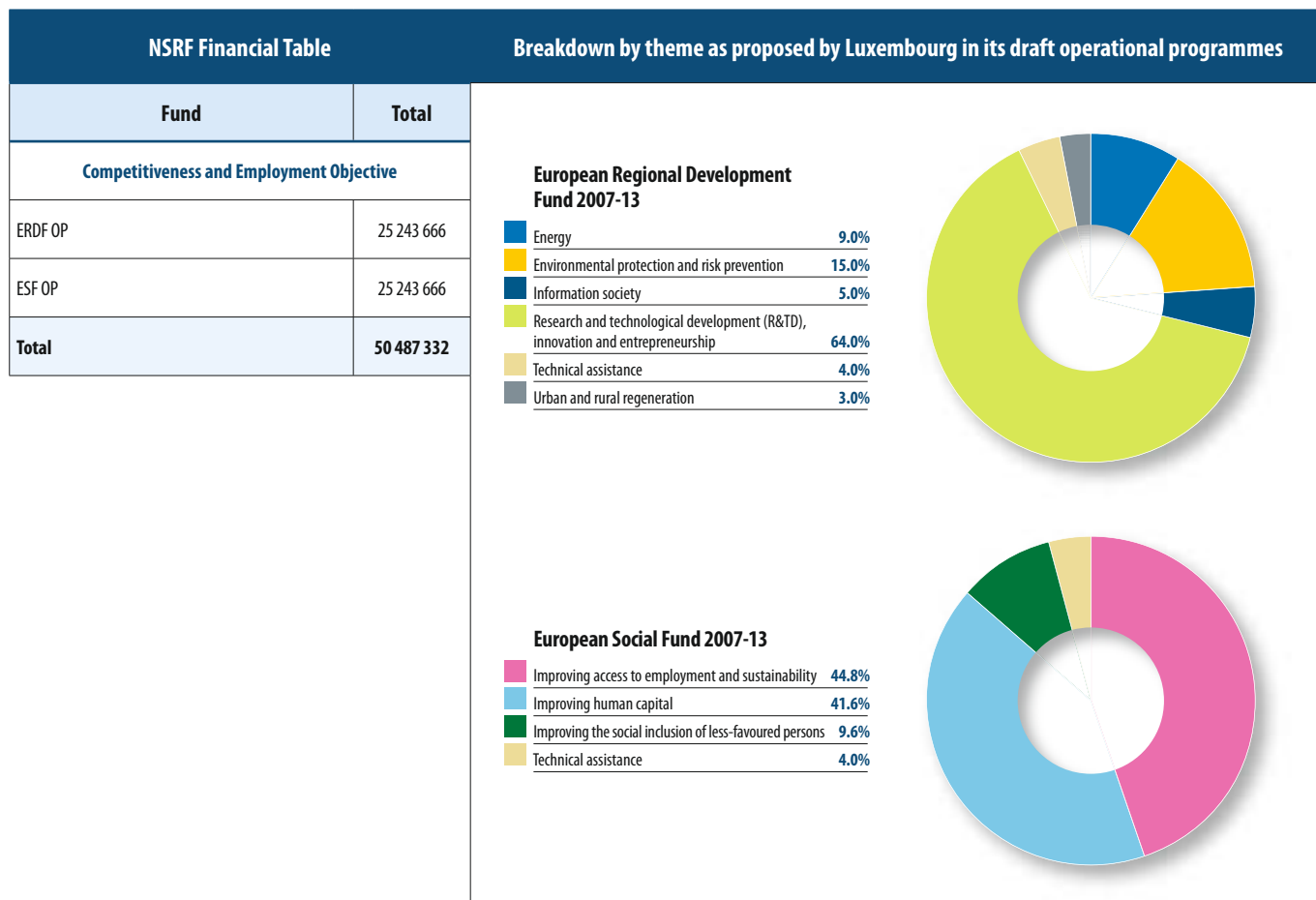
freeing up of SMEs, entrepreneurship and education, investment in human capital and modernisation of labour markets). As regards the ERDF, 82% of expenditure will be in line with the Lisbon Strategy. For the ESF, the entire amount will be allocated to the Integrated Guidelines (IG) for growth and employment as established at Community level.

Operational programmes

The objectives of the NSRF will be implemented through **two operational programmes**:

- one ERDF Luxembourg programme;
- one ESF Luxembourg programme.

Additional financial support of €14.8 million is to be set aside for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.



Contact point in Luxembourg

Luxembourg authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministère de l'économie

Boulevard Royal 6
L-2449 Luxembourg
Tel: +352 478 41 37

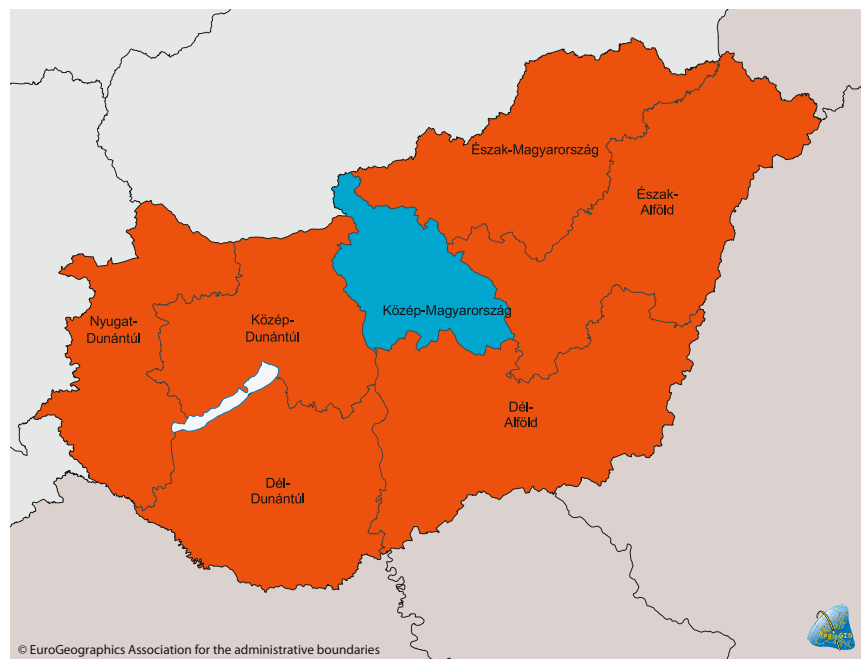
The text of the NSRF is available at:

> http://www.eco.public.lu/attributions/dg2/d_politique_regionale/feder2007/index.html

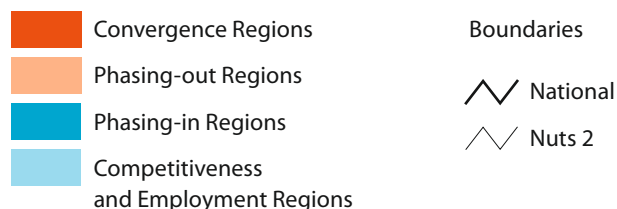


Hungary

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



© EuroGeographics Association for the administrative boundaries



The investment

Hungary has been allocated €25.3 billion for the 2007-13 programming period. The Hungarian contribution will be €4.4 billion.

Regions to receive investment

Of the seven Hungarian regions, six fall under the Convergence objective and one, the Central Hungary region, falls under the Phasing-in Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Strategic objectives

The main objectives of the Hungarian National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) are to sustain long-term

growth and increase employment.

Sustained long-term growth is to be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- improving competitiveness, including strengthening the knowledge economy;
- widening the economic basis; and
- developing the business environment.

Increased employment is to be achieved through the following specific objectives:

- increasing labour supply by improving employability and labour market activity;
- increasing labour demand by promoting job creation;
- developing a labour market environment that ensures balance between supply and demand.

ronment that ensures balance between supply and demand.

The objectives of the NSRF are translated into six thematic and territorial priorities: economic development, transport development, social renewal, environment and energy, regional development and state reform. In the field of economic development, investments will be made in RTD, SME development, business infrastructure and ICT. In transport, support will be provided for TEN-T priority projects, road and rail investments and the development of sustainable means transport. The social renewal priority will see support targeted at active labour market policies and investments in human capital and human infrastructure. In the environmental field, priority is given to ensuring compliance with the Community's environmental legislation, with a focus on actions targeting wastewater and drinking water.

As regards regional development, support is to be given to regional growth poles, rural development and the realignment of disadvantaged micro-regions. In terms of state reform, the aims are to modernise Hungary's public administration and provide support to civil society.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of the investments, Hungary has set the following target: an increase of more than 10% in the added value generated by enterprises by 2015 and a 4% increase in the number of employees outside the public sphere by 2015.

An investment for growth and jobs

The Hungarian NSRF includes a commitment whereby spending on the earmarked Lisbon categories is expected to increase by another 10% in the 2007-13 period (46% during 2004-06).

Operational programmes

The objectives and priorities of the NSRF will result in **15 operational programmes**, two of which are co-financed by the European Social Fund (ESF) and 13 by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF). The 15 operational

programmes include seven regional and eight sectoral programmes.

The ERDF will also contribute towards financing the European Territorial Cooperation Objective. Hungary will be taking part in operational programmes for:

- Cross border cooperation with

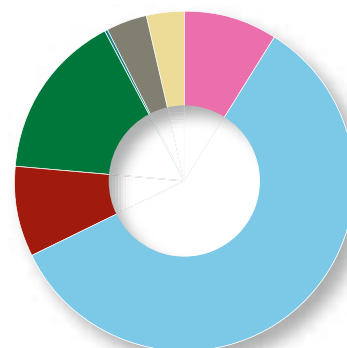
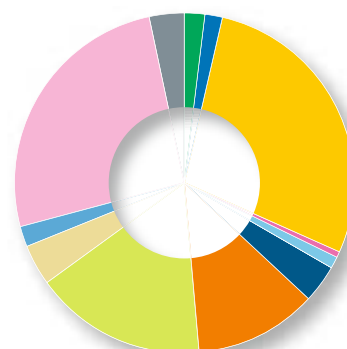
Slovakia, Austria, Romania and Slovenia.

- Transnational cooperation between Central Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe.
- Interregional cooperation in the European Union among all Member States.

NSRF financial tables			Breakdown by theme as proposed by Hungary in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Competitiveness and Employment objective			Community contribution	
Social Renewal	ESF	443 788 569		
State Reform	ESF	43 670 032		
Central Hungary	ERDF	1 467 196 353		
Electronic Public Administration	ERDF	76 422 554		
Total	ERDF	1 543 618 907		
Total	ESF	487 458 601		
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	2 031 077 508		
Convergence			Community contribution	
Social Renewal	ESF	3 038 729 475		
State Reform	ESF	102 900 475		
Economic Competitiveness	ERDF	2 495 769 115		
Environment and Energy	CF	3 782 815 205		
Environment and Energy	ERDF	396 031 136		
West Pannon	ERDF	463 752 893		
South Great Plain	ERDF	748 714 608		
Central Transdanubia	ERDF	507 919 836		
North Hungary	ERDF	903 723 589		
Transport	CF	4 544 368 075		
Transport	ERDF	1 679 061 074		
Social Infrastructure	ERDF	1 948 922 941		
North Great Plain	ERDF	975 070 186		
Implementation	CF	315 132 937		
South Transdanubia	ERDF	705 136 988		
Electronic Public Administration	ERDF	282 022 559		
Total	CF	8 642 316 217		
Total	ERDF	11 106 124 925		
Total	ESF	3 141 629 950		
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	22 890 071 092		

European Regional Development Fund 2007-13	
Culture	2.0%
Energy	1.7%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	28.2%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.4%
Improving human capital	1.1%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	0.1%
Information society	3.5%
Investment in social infrastructure	11.7%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	16.3%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.0%
Technical assistance	3.9%
Tourism	2.1%
Transport	25.8%
Urban and rural regeneration	3.2%

European Social Fund 2007-13	
Improving access to employment and sustainability	9.1%
Improving human capital	58.7%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	8.8%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	15.7%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.2%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	4.1%
Technical assistance	3.4%



Contact point in Hungary

Hungarian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

National Development Agency

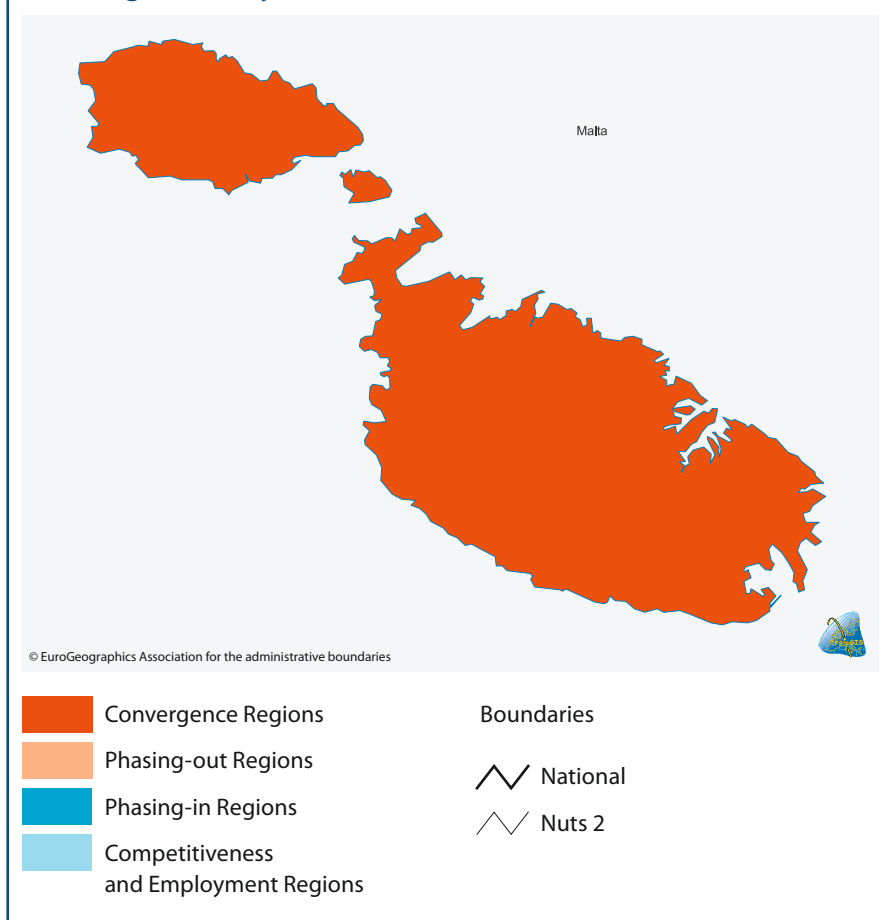
56 Pozsonyi Street
H-1133 Budapest
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Tel: + 36 1 2374400
> www.nfu.hu/?lang=en

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.nfu.hu/index



Malta

Convergence Objective 2007-13



infrastructure, undertake investment to achieve a sustainable environment, invest in risk prevention, and services of general economic interest, promote energy efficiency and the diffusion of renewable energy sources (RES), improve accessibility measures, undertake urban regeneration, and support investment in health care and social infrastructure. Investing in human capital focuses on the education and employment sector, and covers social inclusion and institutional development. Finally, addressing Gozo's regional distinctiveness focuses on promoting enterprise and the development of key economic sectors on the sister island, addressing the key accessibility issues pertaining to transport infrastructure, protecting the environment and developing human capital and skills.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of investments, Malta has set the following target indicators: convergence of GDP per capita in relation to the EU to increase from 69.2% (2005) to 74% (2013); Gozo has an individual target in relation to Malta, namely an increase from 71% (2003) to 78% (2013); a 4% increase in nominal exports of goods and services over the 2007-13 period, in order to measure Malta's achievements in competitiveness; and an employment rate increase from 54.3% (2005) to 57% (2013).

An investment for growth and jobs

Malta's National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) includes a significant commitment, as it substantially increases the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth (>43%), in comparison to the 2004-06 period (<20%).

Operational programmes

Malta intends to apply the broad priorities contained in the NSRF in the form

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Malta has been allocated €855 million, all under the Convergence objective. To complement the EU investment, Malta's contribution should amount to €748 million, calculated on the basis of an annual average of €106.831 million (all 2006 prices). This is an increase of 3.4% over the annual average registered for the 2004-05 reference period.

Regions to receive investment

All of Malta is eligible for the Convergence objective, as was the case during the period 2000-06 when 100% of the population lived in areas falling under Objective 1.

Strategic objectives

The money will be invested in four strategic objectives:

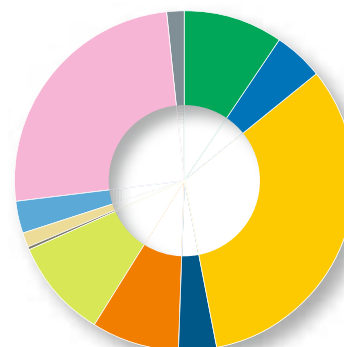
- sustaining a growing, knowledge-based and competitive economy
- improving Malta's attractiveness and quality of life
- investing in human capital
- addressing Gozo's regional distinctiveness.

The strategic objective of sustaining a growing, knowledge-based and competitive economy involves efforts to support enterprise and mobilise investment in RTDI and initiatives put forward to sustain the tourism industry and promote culture. Improving Malta's attractiveness and quality of life is underpinned by efforts to improve and expand the transport

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Convergence Objective		Community Contribution
ERDF and CF		
OPI	ERDF+CF	728 123 051
	ERDF	443 978 031
	CF	284 145 020
ESF		
OPII	ESF	112 000 000
TOTAL all Funds NSRF 2007-13		840 123 051
Total ERDF		443 978 031
Total CF		284 145 020
Total ESF		112 000 000
EAFRD		76 633 355
EFF		8 372 329

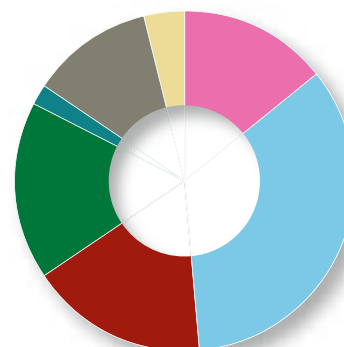
European Regional Development Fund /Cohesion Fund 2007-13

Culture	9.5%
Energy	4.8%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	32.8%
Information society	3.7%
Investment in social infrastructure	8.1%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	9.6%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.3%
Technical assistance	1.2%
Tourism	3.3%
Transport	25.3%
Urban and rural regeneration	1.4%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	14.3%
Improving human capital	34.4%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	17.0%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	17.0%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	2.0%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	11.6%
Technical assistance	3.8%



of two operational programmes. The first, entitled "Investing in competitiveness for a better quality of life", will receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion fund (CF), while the second, entitled "Empowering people for more jobs and better quality of life", will receive funding from the European Social Fund (ESF).

The ERDF will also contribute towards financing of the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands: cross-border, transnational and interregional. Under the European Territorial Cooperation objective, Malta will take part in operational programmes for:

- Cross-border cooperation with Italy (parts of Sicily)
- Transnational cooperation between EU Member States in the Mediterranean region
- Interregional cooperation in the EU among all Member States.

Malta will also be eligible for the Mediterranean Programme under the ENPI.

Contact point in Malta

Maltese authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Planning and Priorities Co-ordination Division (PPCD)

12, St. Paul's Street
Valletta
Malta

Tel: +356 2200 1442/3

Fax: +356 2200 1141

> <http://ppcd.gov.mt/english/main.htm>

The authority is within the Office of the Prime Minister.

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> <http://ppcd.gov.mt/english/downloads/NSRF.zip>



Netherlands

Competitiveness and Employment Objectives 2007-13



- Raising the attractiveness of regions.
- Investing in the socio-economic viability of cities.
- Increasing the labour supply
- Promoting an inclusive labour market.
- Increasing adaptability / investing in human capital.

In addition, the Netherlands has identified one territorial priority:

- Promoting effective cooperation with neighbouring countries.

As Dutch regional disparities are relatively minimal, the policy will be oriented towards the growth potential of all regions. To ensure the most effective use of Structural Funds, the strategy will closely follow existing national policies ('Pieken in de Delta', 'Nota Ruimte', 'Grotestedenbeleid', 'Agenda Vitaal Platteland') and ensure that significant effort is put into these policies.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

The impact of the Structural Funds in the Netherlands will be measured more in terms of output than in terms of impact on economic growth.

For the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund), this will involve measures in research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship, and the information society, with the aim being to improve access to and efficient use of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) by SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) and citizens (an increase in the number of investments and projects).

For the ESF (European Social Fund), this will involve measures to improve sustainability and access to employment and to increase the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs (an increase in

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, the Netherlands has been allocated €1.907 billion in total, €1.660 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €247 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Programme, the Netherlands' contribution would amount to at least €2.319 billion in current prices.

Regions to receive investment

All Dutch regions fall under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Dutch National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding will be invested in six priority areas:

- Strengthening innovation and entrepreneurship.

labour productivity and growth in the number of people in work).

An investment for growth and jobs

The Dutch NSRF stipulates that the regional operational programmes must devote at least 50% of resources to innovation. The total expenditure earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs must represent 80% of the funding. For the ERDF, this implies a significant increase compared to the 2000-06 period, when

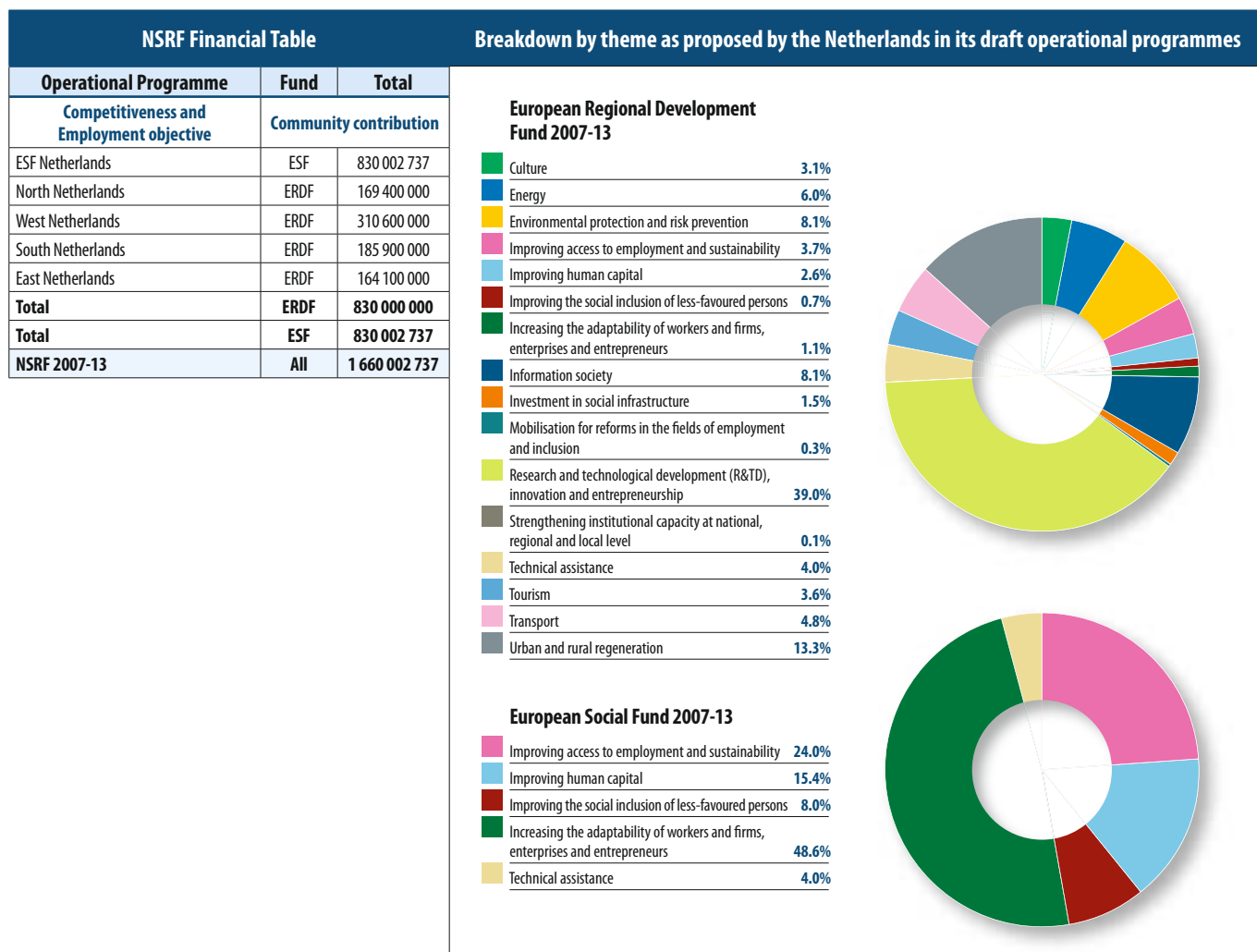
the figure was well below 50% for the Objective 2 programmes.

Operational programmes

The objectives and priorities of the NSRF result in **five operational programmes**, one of which is co-financed by the European Social Fund, four from the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund. The five operational programmes include 4 regional (ERDF) and one national (ESF) programme.

The ERDF will also contribute towards financing for the European Territorial Cooperation objective. The Netherlands will be taking part in operational programmes for:

- Cross-border cooperation with Germany and Belgium.
- Transnational cooperation programme North Sea in North West Europe.
- Interregional cooperation in the European Union among all Member States.



Contact point in Netherlands

Dutch authority with overall responsibility for Structural Fund operations in the Netherlands:

Ministry of Economic Affairs

Bezuidenhoutseweg 30
 Postbus 20101
 NL-2500 EC Den Haag
 The Netherlands
 Tel: +31 (70) 379.60.82

> www.minez.nl/content.jsp?objectid=140727

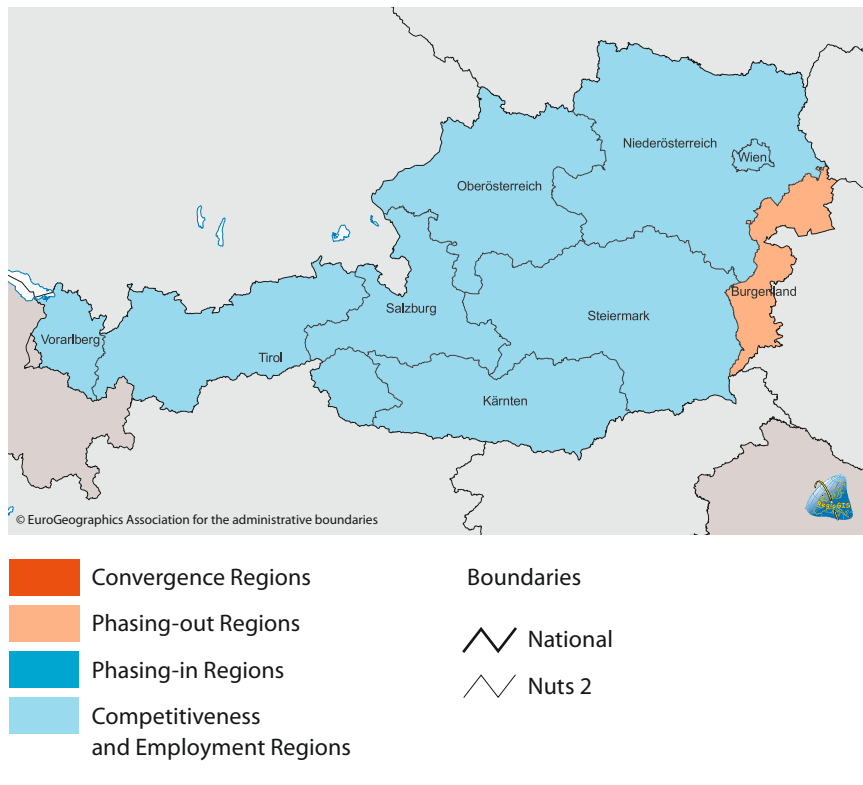
The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.ez.nl/content.jsp?objectid=150809



Austria

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Austria has been allocated a total of €1.461 billion: €177 million under the Convergence objective, €1.027 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €257 million under the European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) objective.

To complement the EU investment, Austria's contribution would amount to €1.256 billion calculated on the basis of an annual average of €179.5 million at current prices (excluding ETC).

Regions to receive investment

The Bundesland of Burgenland is eligible under the Convergence objective (Phasing-out). All eight remaining Länder are eligible under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective. There is no change from the 2000-06 period, during which these

regions received support under "Objective 1" and "Objective 2" respectively.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Austrian National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF – working title STRAT.AT), EU funding will be invested to achieve the following strategic objective: to ensure quality of life, income and employment in Austria and strengthen the competitiveness of regional economies by enhancing the attractiveness of Austria's regions based on the principles of sustainable development.

To achieve this objective, the Austrian NSRF sets out three thematic priorities and two horizontal priorities as follows:

Thematic priorities:

- **Regional competitiveness and innovation** - this should not be restricted to technological elements,

but should cover all activities and take into account educational, social and regional dimensions. Support should be given to research and development (R&D) centres, small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) networks and clusters, and innovation in eco-technologies and energy technologies.

- **Attractive regions and quality of location** - the focus here should be on the development of business locations, logistics, modal-split and risk prevention.
- **Adaptability and qualification of the labour force** - the goal here is the development skills and qualifications for an innovation-oriented economy, lifelong learning and access to employment for the unemployed, with a special focus on women, the elderly handicapped.

Horizontal priorities:

- **Territorial cooperation** - this cooperation is transversal to the above priorities.
- **Governance** - support to be provided for the learning and innovative capacities of regions and their citizens.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

In general, the Community intervention is expected to enhance the country's competitiveness by further developing knowledge bases and the innovation ability of enterprises, providing R&D support, ensuring balanced regional development for improved regional accessibility, and promoting employment growth. Austria will develop a system of indicators to evaluate the impact of Structural Funds on research and innovation within each operational programme.

Operational programmes

Austria will translate the broad priorities contained in the NSRF

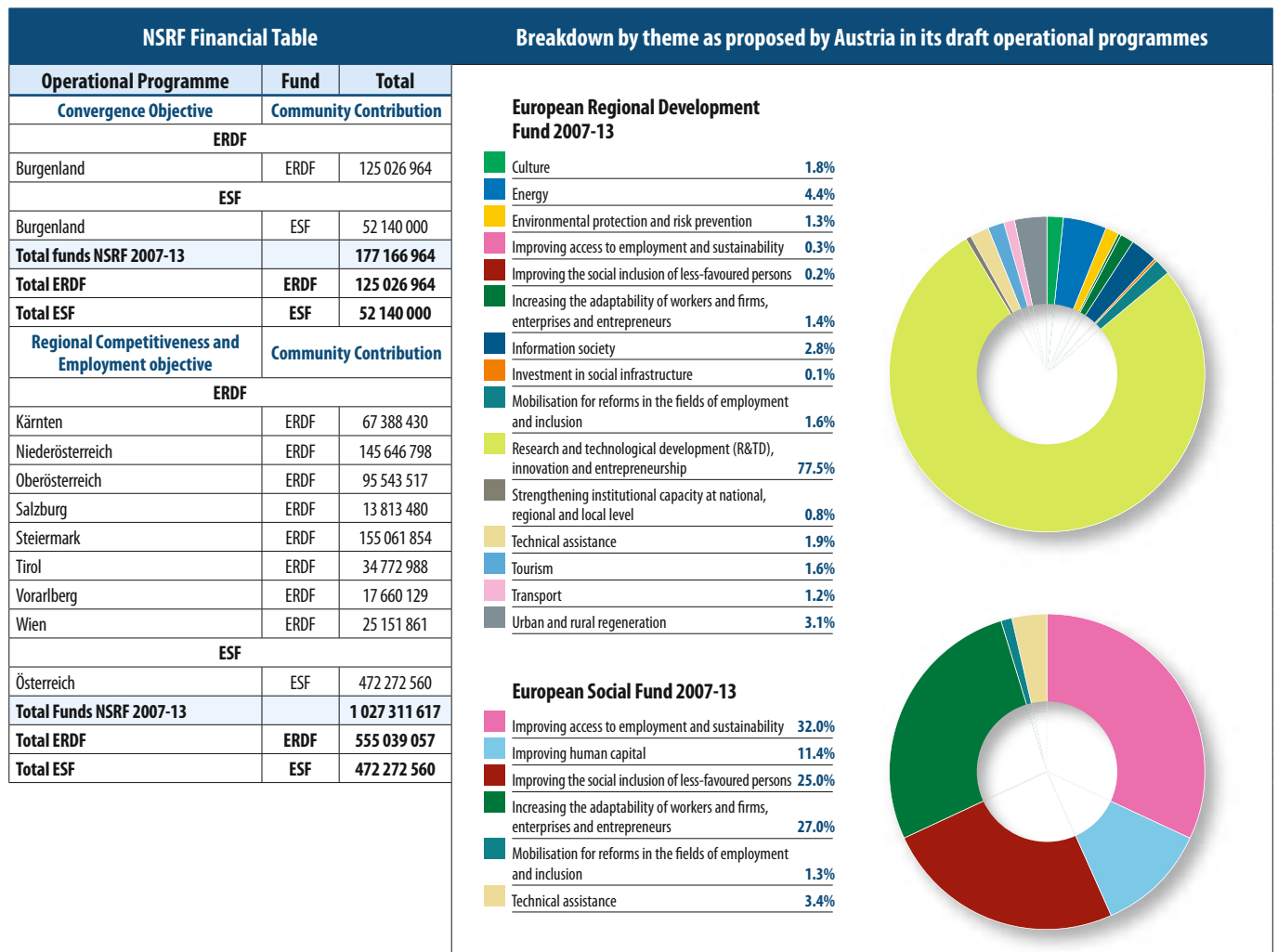
into 10 regional operational programmes – 9 financed by the European Regional Development Fund and 1 by the European Social Fund (ESF) – in addition to 1 horizontal programme financed by the ESF covering all regions under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

for the Convergence region of Burgenland and 90% for the Competitiveness and Employment regions.

An investment for growth and jobs

The Austrian NSRF includes a major commitment to the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs, with 88% earmarked



Contact point in Austria

Austrian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Österreichische Raumordnungskonferenz (ÖROK - Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning)
- within the Office of the Federal Chancellor

Hohenstaufengasse 3

Vienna

Austria

Tel.: +43 1 535 3444

Fax: +43 1 535 3444/54

> www.oerok.gv.at

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.oerok.gv.at/EU_Regionalpolitik_in_Oesterreich/strukturfonds_2007_2013/strat_at/strat-at_einreichfassung_gem_oerok_20061027.pdf



Poland



mechanisms - the aim here is to improve the administrative capacity of the public administration and strengthen civil society. Key features will be promoting good governance, reducing bureaucracy and placing an emphasis on high quality public services.

- **Improved quality of human capital and enhanced social cohesion** - Poland suffers from high unemployment rates and low employment rates. This objective will take up these challenges by improving the adaptability of workers and enterprises, increasing social capital and improving the level of education, vocational skills and entrepreneurial spirit of citizens.
- **Development and modernisation of technical and social infrastructure of fundamental importance for growth in Poland's competitiveness** - the goal is to provide the missing infrastructure vital for boosting economic development by linking major cities with road and rail connections, especially on TEN-T networks, ensuring efficient public transport in populated areas, providing a clean environment, improving the security of energy supply, promoting renewable energy sources and improving social infrastructure, all in an effort to improve the attractiveness of Polish regions.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Poland has been allocated approximately €67.3 billion (the largest beneficiary of Cohesion policy for this period): €66.6 billion under the Convergence objective and €731 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement EU investments, Poland's contribution (including private sources) should amount to €18.3 billion, bringing the total amount available for Cohesion policy activities in Poland to some €85.6 billion over the 7-year period.

Regions to receive investment

All regions in Poland are eligible under the Convergence objective.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Polish National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), EU funding will be invested to achieve the following overall objective:

'Creation of those conditions for growth of competitiveness and of a knowledge based economy and entrepreneurship, assuring an increase in employment and in level of social, economic and territorial cohesion.'

This objective is translated into the following 6 specific horizontal objectives:

- **Improved functioning standards for the public administration and development of partnership**

- **Improved competitiveness and innovativeness of enterprises, including a special focus on the production sector and high added value as well as development of the services sector** - this priority will address the low innovativeness of the Polish economy by promoting research and innovation, building links between the business and science sector, promoting the information society and improving access of enterprises to external financing. Clear priority will be given to supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

- **Increased competitiveness of Polish regions and counterbalancing of their social, economic and geographic marginalisation** - this priority aims at increasing social cohesion within Poland and providing tailored-made solutions for regions in an effort to boost their local development potential. The investments will endeavour to address regional problem areas, and will especially concentrate on the urban dimension as part of a strategy for regional growth poles. Special attention will be devoted to accelerating growth in the five poorest Eastern regions (with special allocation from the European Council).
- **Balanced development opportunities and support for structural changes in rural areas** - Poland is a predominantly rural country, with rural development lying at the heart of the search for alternative ways of increasing the prospects of the Polish economy and rural areas. Restructuring of the agricultural sector will be one of the main challenges to address. An integrated approach will be required as part of converging rural areas, ensuring that they remain viable and offer attractive communities.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of these investments, Poland has set several targets for its development strategy:

- GDP level per capita (in PPS) to reach 65% of the EU-25 average (compared to 51.1% in 2006);
- 3.5 million jobs created with Structural and Cohesion Fund support;
- employment rate of 60% by 2013 (compared to 52.8% in 2005); 35% for people aged 55-64 (by 2013);
- in the business sector, productivity per employee of 75% of the EU average (compared to 59% in 2005);
- 1.5% research and development expenditure (compared to 0.57% in 2005);
- improved infrastructure with the length of motorways tripling from 554 km to 1754 km and railways increasing from 538 km to 1786 km;
- 8.5% renewable energy share in electricity (compared to 2.9% in 2005).

An investment for growth and jobs

Poland's NSRF includes a significant commitment to the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth, as it is allocating a substantial share (64%) of its investment directly to elements of the Lisbon Strategy.

Operational programmes

Poland has translated the broad priorities in the NSRF into **21 operational programmes (OPs)**: five national programmes and 16 regional programmes for all 16 Polish regions.

The largest programme is the national OP for Infrastructure and Environment which will include investments of almost €28 billion from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF). The second largest programme is the OP Human Capital, with investments of almost €10 billion from the European Social Fund (ESF). The remaining national programmes (supported by the ERDF) are: OP Innovative Economy (€8.3 billion), OP Development of Eastern

Poland (€2.27 billion) and OP Technical Assistance (€517 million).

Over €16.5 billion will be spent via 16 regional operational programmes, giving the Polish regions an unprecedented opportunity to implement their regional development strategies in line with Community priorities.

The ERDF will also contribute towards financing of the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands: cross-border, transnational and interregional. The programmes will take the following form:

- cross-border (three programmes involving Poland - Germany, Poland - Czech Republic, Poland - Slovakia, Poland - Lithuania, South Baltic);
- transnational (Baltic Sea region, Central and Eastern Europe area);
- neighbourhood instrument (Poland-Belorussia - Ukraine, Poland - Kaliningrad District of Russian Federation).

A total of €731 million is allocated to Poland under this objective.

OP	Community contribution	"earmarking" in %	
	Total	Lisbon earmarking	OP
OP Innovative Economy	8 254 885 280	7 831 882 929	95%
OP Human capital	9 707 176 000	8 036 029 819	83%
OP Infrastructure and Environment	27 913 683 774	18 616 256 995	67%
OP Development of Eastern Poland	2 273 793 750	1 000 013 523	44%
16 Regional OPs	16 555 614 188	7 026 917 404	42%
NSRF	66 553 157 091	42 511 100 670	63.9%

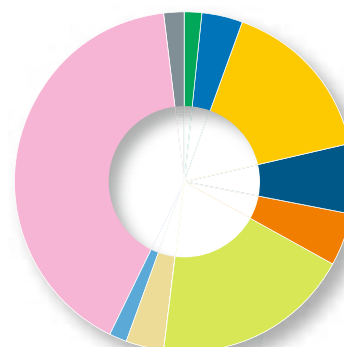
NSRF Financial Table

Breakdown by theme as proposed by Poland in its draft operational programmes

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Convergence Objective		
16 Regional OPs:		16 555 614 188
ROP Dolnośląskie	ERDF	1 213 144 879
ROP Kujawsko-pomorskie	ERDF	951 003 820
ROP Lubelskie	ERDF	1 155 854 549
ROP Lubuskie	ERDF	439 173 096
ROP Łódzkie	ERDF	1 006 380 910
ROP Małopolskie	ERDF	1 290 274 402
ROP Mazowieckie	ERDF	1 831 496 698
ROP Opolskie	ERDF	427 144 813
ROP Podkarpackie	ERDF	1 136 307 823
ROP Podlaskie	ERDF	636 207 883
ROP Pomorskie	ERDF	885 065 762
ROP Śląskie	ERDF	1 712 980 303
ROP Świętokrzyskie	ERDF	725 807 266
ROP Warmińsko-mazurskie	ERDF	1 036 542 041
ROP Wielkopolskie	ERDF	1 272 792 644
ROP Zachodniopomorskie	ERDF	835 437 299
OP Development of Eastern Poland	ERDF	2 273 793 750
OP Infrastructure & Environment	ERDF, CF	27 913 683 774
	ERDF	5 737 330 000
	CF	22 176 353 774
OP Innovative Economy	ERDF	8 254 885 280
OP Technical Assistance	ERDF	516 700 000
OP Human Capital	ESF	9 707 176 000
Performance reserve	ERDF, ESF	1 331 304 099
Convergence Objective	All funds	66 553 157 091
	ERDF, ESF	44 376 803 317
	ERDF	33 338 323 218
	ESF	9 707 176 000
	CF	22 176 353 774
	Performance reserve (ERDF, ESF)	1 331 304 099
European Territorial Cooperation Objective	EFRR	731 092 675

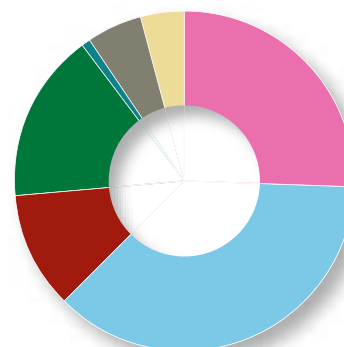
European Regional Development Fund /Cohesion Fund 2007-13

Culture	1.8%
Energy	4.0%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	15.8%
Information society	6.7%
Investment in social infrastructure	4.9%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	18.8%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.1%
Technical assistance	3.5%
Tourism	1.8%
Transport	40.9%
Urban and rural regeneration	1.7%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	25.8%
Improving human capital	36.8%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	11.2%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	16.1%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.7%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	5.3%
Technical assistance	4.0%



Contact point in Poland

Polish authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Regional Development

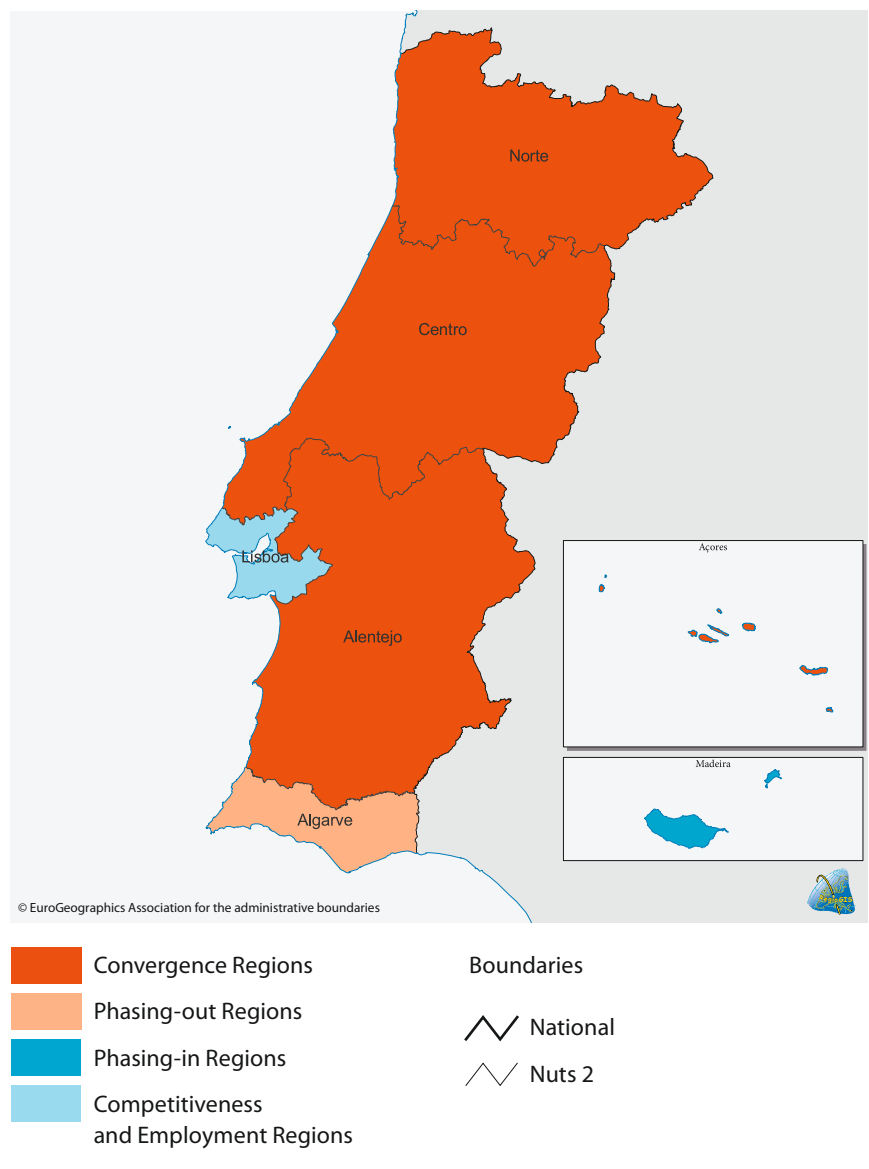
2/4 Wspolna Street
00-926 Warsaw
Poland
Tel: +4822 461 30 00
> www.mrr.gov.pl/English

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.mrr.gov.pl/English



Portugal

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



whereas Lisbon is now a full Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective region. The situation has therefore changed from the previous 2000-06 programming period, when the entire country, with the exception of Lisbon (Phasing-out), was eligible under the then Convergence objective (Objective 1).

Strategic objectives

The Portuguese National Strategic Reference Framework proposes five national strategic priorities for Community assistance to:

- develop the skills of Portuguese men and women;
- promote sustainable growth;
- guarantee social cohesion;
- ensure the development of the territory and the cities;
- improve the efficiency of governance.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Portugal has set a number of targets with related indicators, in line with the strategic priorities, to measure the impact of the Cohesion policy in the 2007-13 period. One of the main concerns of the authorities is the education sector: for example, by 2009 young people up to 18 years of age should benefit fully from the education system (whether general or vocational courses). The target is to increase the share of vocational courses available at secondary level to 50%, in an effort to reduce the extremely high school drop out rates (38% in 2005). Another objective is to increase the share of medium and high technology companies in the industry sector from 3.4% today to 6.2% by 2010. Portugal aims to increase private and public investment in research and technology as a proportion of GDP (to 0.8% and 1% by 2010, respectively).

The investment

For the 2007-13 programming period, Portugal has been allocated €21.5 billion (current prices) of Structural Fund and Cohesion Fund financing under the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment, and European Territorial Cooperation objectives. In respect of the Portuguese regions eligible under the Convergence objective, Portugal's overall annual contribution to complement the EU investment will be €3.9 billion,

in accordance with the additionality principle.

Regions to receive investment

For the 2007-13 period, the regions North, Centre, Alentejo and Azores are eligible under the Convergence objective. The Algarve region will be eligible for Statistical Phasing-out (transitional support until 2013). The region of Madeira falls under Phasing-in for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective,

An investment for growth and jobs

Portugal has earmarked a significant amount of Structural and Cohesion Fund contributions for the renewed Lisbon strategy. The National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) indicates that these categories of investment would correspond to 60% of the available funds for Convergence regions and 75% of the available funds for the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Operational programmes

The priorities of the National Strategic Reference Framework will be implemented through **14 operational programmes (OPs)**:

- The thematic OP Factors of Competitiveness (European Regional Development Fund) will offer incentives for modernising and internationalising business enterprises, to promote innovation and reduce public costs.
- The thematic OP Human Potential (European Social Fund) will promote the qualifications of Portuguese citizens.
- The thematic OP Territorial Development (ERDF and Cohesion Fund) will finance projects in transport and the environment.
- Regional OP North (ERDF).
- Regional OP Centre (ERDF).
- Regional OP Lisbon (ERDF).
- Regional OP Alentejo (ERDF).
- Regional OP Algarve (ERDF).
- Regional OP Azores (ERDF).
- Regional OP Azores (ESF).
- Regional OP Madeira (ERDF).
- Regional OP Madeira (ESF).
- OP for NSRF technical assistance (ERDF).
- OP for NSRF technical assistance (ESF).

The ERDF will also finance initiatives under the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation. Under this objective, Portugal will be taking part in eight operational programmes:

- Two on cross-border cooperation.
- Four on transnational cooperation.
- Two on interregional cooperation.

NSRF financial tables			Breakdown by theme as proposed by Portugal in its draft operational programmes	
Operational Programme	Fund	Total		
Convergence Objective				
OP Factors of Competitiveness	ERDF	3 103 789 011		
OP Human Potential	ESF	5 937 268 829		
OP Territorial Development	ERDF + CF	4 658 544 223		
	ERDF	1 598 578 698		
	CF	3 059 965 525		
Regional OP Norte	ERDF	2 711 645 133		
Regional OP Centro	ERDF	1 701 633 124		
Regional OP Alentejo	ERDF	868 933 978		
Regional OP Algarve	ERDF	174 952 016		
Regional OP Açores	ERDF + Spec All	966 349 049		
	ERDF	900 748 216		
	Special allocation	65 600 833		
Regional OP Açores	ESF	190 000 000		
OP Technical Assistance	ERDF	81 965 013		
OP Technical Assistance	ESF	77 578 599		
	Total ERDF	11 207 846 022		
	Total CF	3 059 965 525		
	Total ESF	6 204 847 428		
	Total Funds	20 472 658 975		
Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective				
OP Human Potential	ESF	180 119 036		
Regional OP Lisboa	ERDF	306 689 171		
Regional OP Madeira	ERDF + Spec All	320 549 004		
	ERDF	254 224 328		
	special allocation	66 324 676		
Regional OP Madeira	ESF	125 000 000		
OP Technical Assistance	ERDF	4 122 925		
OP Technical Assistance	ESF	2 421 401		
	Total ERDF	631 361 100		
	Total ESF	307 540 437		
	Total Funds	938 901 537		
European Territorial Cooperation Objective	FUND	Total		
	ERDF	98 997 543		
TOTAL NSRF	Total ERDF	11 938 204 665		
	Total CF	3 059 965 525		
	Total ESF	6 512 387 865		
	Total Funds	21 510 558 055		

European Regional Development Fund /Cohesion Fund 2007-13	
Culture	2.2%
Energy	1.8%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	17.6%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.2%
Improving human capital	0.1%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	0.1%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	0.3%
Information society	4.6%
Investment in social infrastructure	11.6%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.4%
Reduction of additional costs hindering the outermost regions development	0.4%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	30.2%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	4.0%
Technical assistance	3.1%
Tourism	1.6%
Transport	18.7%
Urban and rural regeneration	3.0%

European Social Fund 2007-13	
Improving access to employment and sustainability	7.8%
Improving human capital	73.4%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	5.9%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	7.2%
Information society	0.0%
Investment in social infrastructure	2.5%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	0.0%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	0.5%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	0.0%
Technical assistance	2.6%

Contact point in Portugal

Portuguese authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministério do Ambiente, do Ordenamento do Território e do Desenvolvimento Regional (Ministry for Environment, Spatial Land Planning and Regional Development)

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Email: relacoes.publicas@sg.maotdr.gov.pt

> <http://www.maotdr.gov.pt/en/CmsPage.aspx?PageIndex=21>

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.qren.pt



Romania

Convergence Objective 2007-13



Five thematic priorities have been established to achieve this objective:

- **Development of basic infrastructure in line with European standards** - improving the basic infrastructure (roads, rail, water) in Romania is a prerequisite for launching economic growth and improving social cohesion.
- **Increasing the long-term competitiveness of the Romanian economy** - Romanian enterprises need to move beyond reliance on low labour costs and take a major step into the 21st century economy. The resources of the Structural Funds are available for developing better access to funds, commercial exploitation of research results and full participation in the knowledge-based economy.
- **Development and more efficient use of Romania's human capital** - while unemployment is relatively low in Romania, so is the labour force participation rate, and there is substantial evidence of skills shortages and mismatches. Improvements in education, vocational training, life-long learning and active labour market policy will be combined to equip employers and employees so that they can take full part in the economic transformation that has already started and will be accelerated as a result of the Structural Funds.
- **Building an effective administrative capacity** - whether to successfully implement the Structural Funds or to achieve the wider goals of Romania's modernisation, sound and effective administration is essential. The National Strategy therefore includes a specific operational programme focused on this area, and has set aside resources in each of the operational programmes for improving effective delivery.
- **Promoting balanced territorial development (territorial priority)** - fast-growing economies will, in the absence of any intervention,

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Romania has been allocated approximately €19.2 billion under the Convergence objective and €455 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. Romania's contribution (including private sources) to complement the EU investments will amount to at least €5.5 billion, bringing the total investments in structural and cohesion policy to approximately €25.2 billion over the next seven years.

Regions to receive investment

All regions in Romania are eligible under the Convergence objective.

Strategic objectives

As established in the National Strategic Reference Framework for Romania, the EU funding will be invested in reducing the economic and social development disparities between Romania and the other EU Member States, by generating 15-20% additional GDP growth by 2015.

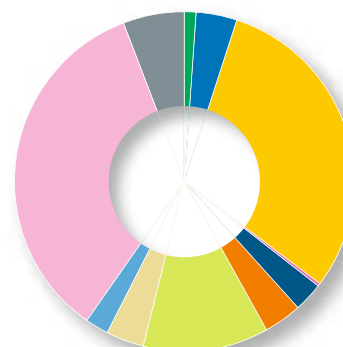
NSRF Financial Table

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Community Contribution		
Human Resources Development	ESF	3 476 144 996
Administrative Capacity Development	ESF	208 002 622
Regional	ERDF	3 726 021 762
Increase of Economic Competitiveness	ERDF	2 554 222 109
Transport	ERDF	1 289 332 210
Transport	CF	3 276 605 085
Transport	ERDF+CF	4 565 937 295
Environment	ERDF	1 236 652 195
Environment	CF	3 275 817 943
Environment	ERDF+CF	4 512 470 138
Technical Assistance	ERDF	170 237 790
Total	ERDF	7 739 813 871
Total	CF	6 552 423 028
Total	ESF	3 684 147 618
Total NSRF 2007-13	All funds	17 976 384 517

Breakdown by theme as proposed by Romania in its draft operational programmes

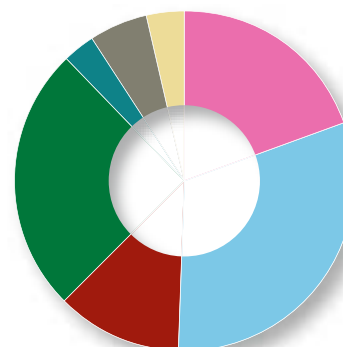
European Regional Development Fund /Cohesion Fund 2007-13

Culture	1.3%
Energy	3.9%
Environmental protection and risk prevention	30.2%
Improving access to employment and sustainability	0.2%
Information society	2.9%
Investment in social infrastructure	3.6%
Research and technological development (R&TD), innovation and entrepreneurship	12.0%
Technical assistance	3.6%
Tourism	2.3%
Transport	34.3%
Urban and rural regeneration	5.8%



European Social Fund 2007-13

Improving access to employment and sustainability	19.5%
Improving human capital	31.2%
Improving the social inclusion of less-favoured persons	11.8%
Increasing the adaptability of workers and firms, enterprises and entrepreneurs	25.5%
Mobilisation for reforms in the fields of employment and inclusion	3.0%
Strengthening institutional capacity at national, regional and local level	5.4%
Technical assistance	3.6%



NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

distribute growth unevenly, leading to increased divergence within the country, congestion costs and other inefficiencies. The purpose of the territorial priority is to counter these centrifugal effects and to ensure that all regions and territories in Romania reap the benefits of European Union membership.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

A number of key indicators and targets have been identified to illustrate the impact of the National Strategy and the Community contribution. Isolating the precise impact of the Structural Funds is difficult in a situation such as this where the country and economy are already in rapid transition, however macroeconomic and other impact studies have produced relevant indicators. These indicators are listed below and will be monitored and verified over the lifetime of the interventions and also after all the money has been spent:

- GDP – increase by 15-20% more than would otherwise have been

the case.

- Gross Capital Formation – growth of 28% more than the baseline scenario.
- GDP per employee – increase of 5.5% annually.
- Employment in the trade sector – increase of 23%.
- Jobs created and maintained – at least 150 000-200 000.

In addition, specific indicators have been identified for each of the thematic priorities, including the following:

- Basic infrastructure – 1 400 km of new or upgraded roads; increase from 52% to 70% the population linked to water services; 40-50% reduction in primary energy intensity compared with 2001.
- Competitiveness of economy – R&D expenditure to rise from 0.41% of GDP to 2.0%; broadband penetration to increase from 3.5% to 40% of the population.
- Human capital – employment rate to increase from 57.4% to 64% of the population (15-64); activity rate to rise from 62.4% to 68.5%;

proportion of the age-group with upper secondary education to rise from 70.5% to 80%.

- Administrative capacity – more trust in public administration, increasing to 33% (central) and 60% (local) of the public.

An investment for growth and jobs

Romania has adopted a strategy based firmly on the Lisbon priorities of sustainable growth and jobs. However, the weaknesses in basic infrastructure are so great that only 55% of expenditure will be earmarked for Lisbon-related expenditure.

Operational programmes

The priorities of the National Strategic Reference Framework will be implemented through **seven operational programmes (OPs)**:

- Three OPs will receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): the Regional OP, the Increase in Economic Competitiveness OP and the Technical Assistance OP.

- Two OPs will be funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and will focus on human resources development and the improvement of administrative capacity, which is an important prerequisite for successful implementation of the Structural Funds.
- Two infrastructure-oriented programmes, the Environment OP and the Transport OP, will be funded by both the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund (CF).

The ERDF will also finance initiatives under the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation. Under this objective, Romania will be taking part in cross-border cooperation programmes with Hungary and Bulgaria, the transnational cooperation programme for the Black Sea and two enlargement and neighbourhood programmes.

Contact point in Romania

Romanian authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Economy and Finance - Authority for the Coordination of Structural Instruments

44 Mircea Vodă Blvd.
Sector 3, Bucharest
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Tel: +40 21 302 52 00
Fax: +40 21 302 52 64
> www.mfinante.ro/engl

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> <http://fonduriue.mfinante.ro/wps/portal>



Slovenia

Convergence Objective 2007-13



The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Slovenia has been allocated €4.101 billion (current prices) of Structural Fund and Cohesion Fund financing under the Convergence objective. To complement the EU investment, Slovenia's overall annual contribution is expected to reach €957 million.

Regions to receive investment

For the 2007-13 period, all of Slovenia is eligible under the Convergence objective. The situation has therefore not changed in relation to the previous 2004-06 programming period.

Strategic objectives

The general objectives of the Slovenian National Strategic Reference

Framework (NRSF) are to improve the welfare of Slovenian citizens by promoting economic growth, creating jobs, strengthening human capital and ensuring balanced and harmonious development, notably at regional level.

To achieve these objectives, the Slovenian NRSF is built on a number of strategic thematic and territorial priorities:

- Promotion of entrepreneurship, innovation and technological development;
- Improvement in the quality of the education system, training and research and development activities;
- Improved labour market flexibility along with guaranteed employment security, notably through creating jobs and promoting social

inclusion;

- Ensuring conditions for growth by providing sustainable mobility, improving the quality of the environment and providing appropriate infrastructure;
- Promotion of balanced regional development.

Emphasis will also be given to improving institutional and administrative capacity, notably in the public sector, as this is a prerequisite for accelerating economic growth in Slovenia.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

Slovenia has set a number of target indicators to measure the impact of the Cohesion policy in the 2007-13 period. These include increasing the portion of innovative companies from the current 21% figure to 44% by 2013, contributing directly (0.75%) to the annual GDP increase and increasing the employment rate by 1.7%.

An investment for growth and jobs

Slovenia is earmarking a significant amount of Structural Fund and Cohesion Fund money for Lisbon-related investments. The NRSF data indicates that these categories of investment should exceed 65% of the total funds available.

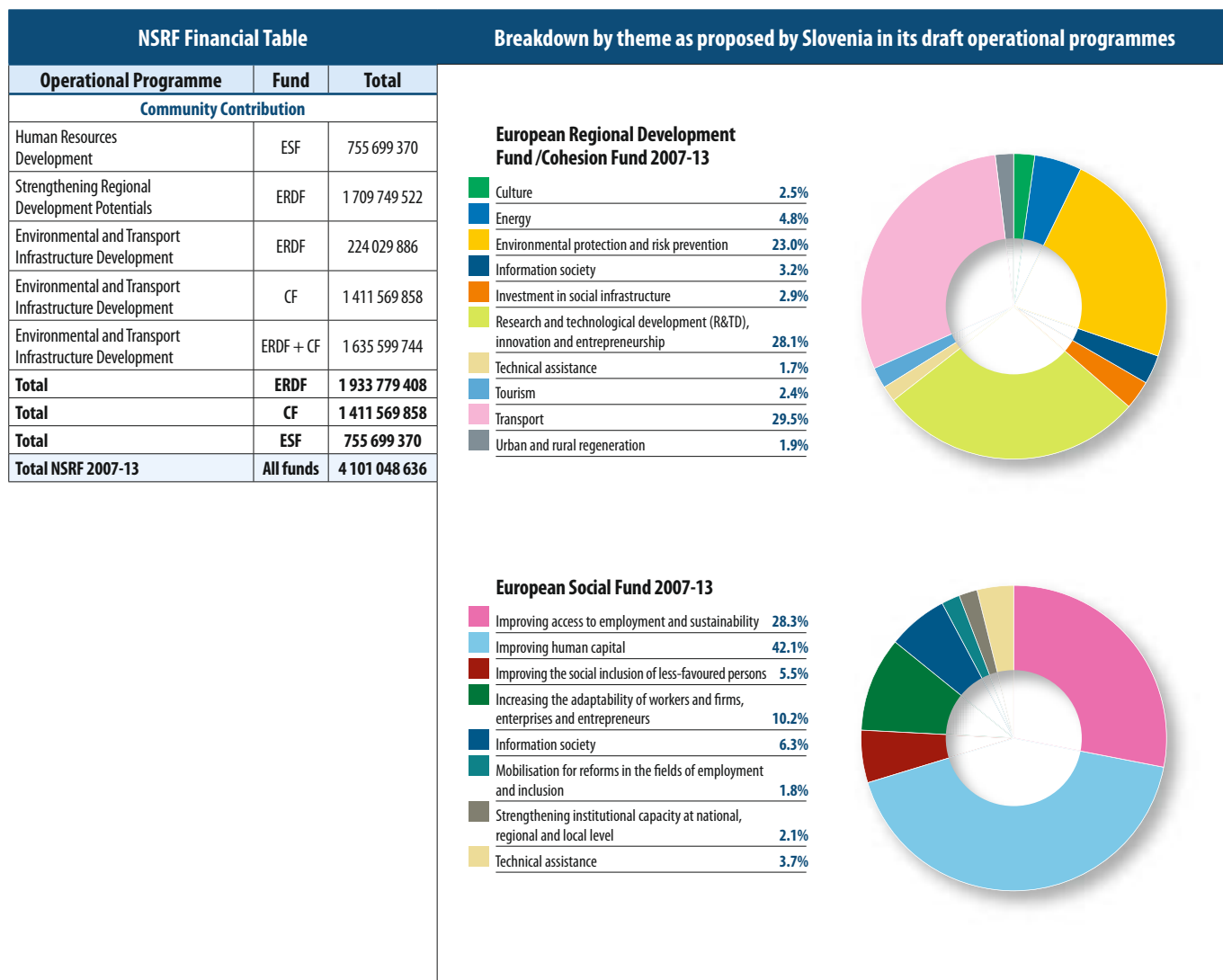
Operational programmes

The priorities of the National Strategic Reference Framework will be implemented through **three operational programmes**. The first, the operational programme for Strengthening Regional Development Potentials will receive funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The second, designated as the operational programme for Human Resources Development, will be funded by the European Social Fund (ESF). Finally, the third programme, the operational programme for Envi-

ronmental and Transport Infrastructure Development, will be funded by both the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund (CF).

The ERDF will also finance initiatives under the European Territorial Cooperation objective consisting of three strands for cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation. Under

this objective, Slovenia will be taking part in 13 operational programmes: five on cross-border cooperation, four on transnational cooperation and four on interregional cooperation.



Contact point in Slovenia

Slovene authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Government Office for Local Self-government and Regional Policy

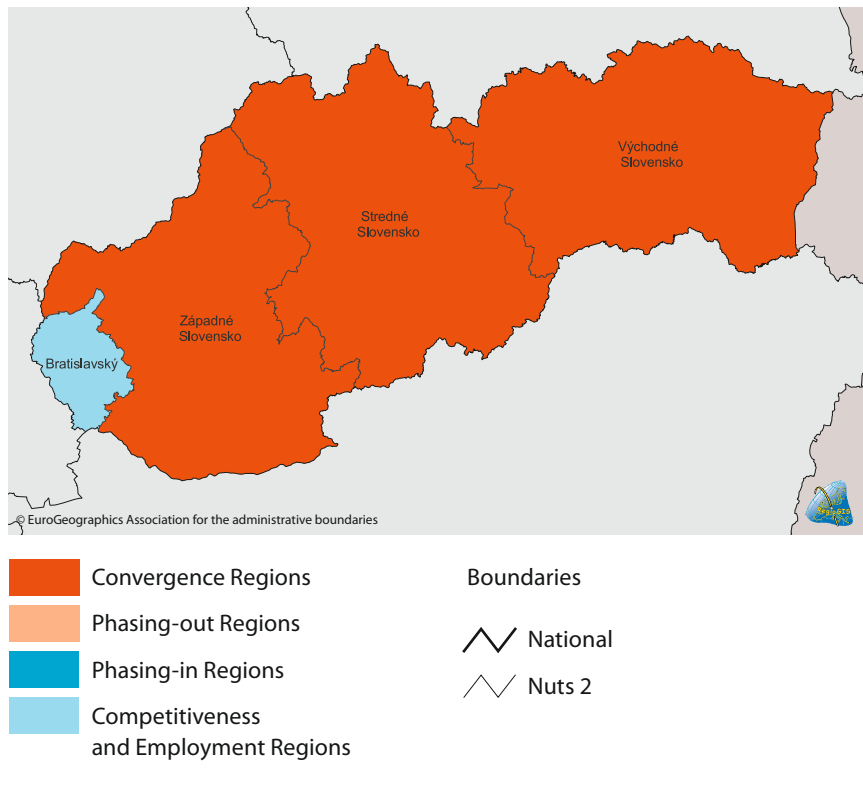
Kotnikova 28
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Tel: +386 1 308 31 78
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Email: gp.svlr@gov.si
> www.svlr.gov.si/en/

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.svlr.gov.si/index.php?id=719&no_cache=1



Slovakia

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



The investment

For the 2007-13 period, the Slovak Republic has been allocated €11.6 billion in total, €10.9 billion under the Convergence objective, €0.5 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €0.2 billion under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Regions to receive investment

The regions of Western Slovakia, Central Slovakia and Eastern Slovakia fall under the Convergence objective, while the Bratislavan region is the only region to fall under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective.

Between 2007 and 2013, 4.78 million people (88.8% of the total) will live in Convergence regions. Between 2000 and 2006, approximately the same percentage of the population lived in regions supported under Objective 1.

Strategic objectives

The overall objective of Slovakia, as set out in the Slovak National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) for 2007-13, is to "significantly increase the competitiveness and performance of regions, the Slovak economy and employment by 2013, while respecting the principles of sustainable development". The EU funding will be invested in three strategic priorities:

Infrastructure and regional accessibility:

- regional infrastructure - educational infrastructure with an emphasis on the knowledge economy; social care facilities; archiving institutions (libraries); support for the competitiveness and innovative capacity of regions – urban renewal and regional roads;
- environmental infrastructure - protection and rational use of water and anti-flood protection; protection of

air including support for renewable energy resources; waste management; protection and regeneration of nature and landscape;

- transport infrastructure - highway construction; modernisation of railways in Trans-European Networks (TEN); construction of public intermodal terminals, public railway transport;
- modernisation of the health infrastructure.

Innovation, information society and knowledge economy:

- information society - development of electronic services, content and infrastructure for public administration;
- research and development;
- university infrastructure;
- support for competitiveness of companies and services through innovation.

Human resources and education - the aim being to increase employment, achieve a higher quality labour force reflecting the needs of the knowledge economy, and increase social inclusion of disadvantaged groups:

- modern education;
- fostering growth in employment and social inclusion.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

A preliminary evaluation indicates that implementation of the Slovak NSRF could lead to attaining an economic level of 60% of the EU-15, with the employment rate also potentially growing to 63.4% compared to 57.7% in 2005. The energy intensity of the economy is expected to reduce from 854 kg oil equivalent /€1 000 to 663 kg oil equivalent /€1 000.

An investment for growth and jobs

The Slovak Republic's NSRF increases the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and

growth in comparison to the 2000-06 programming period.

Operational programmes

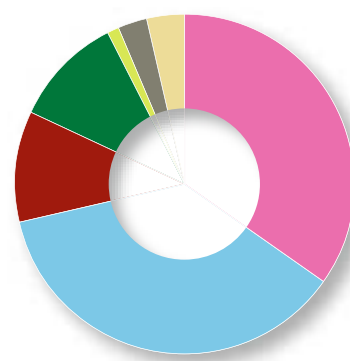
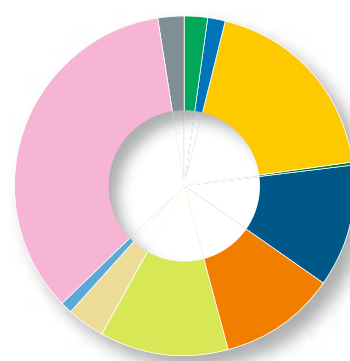
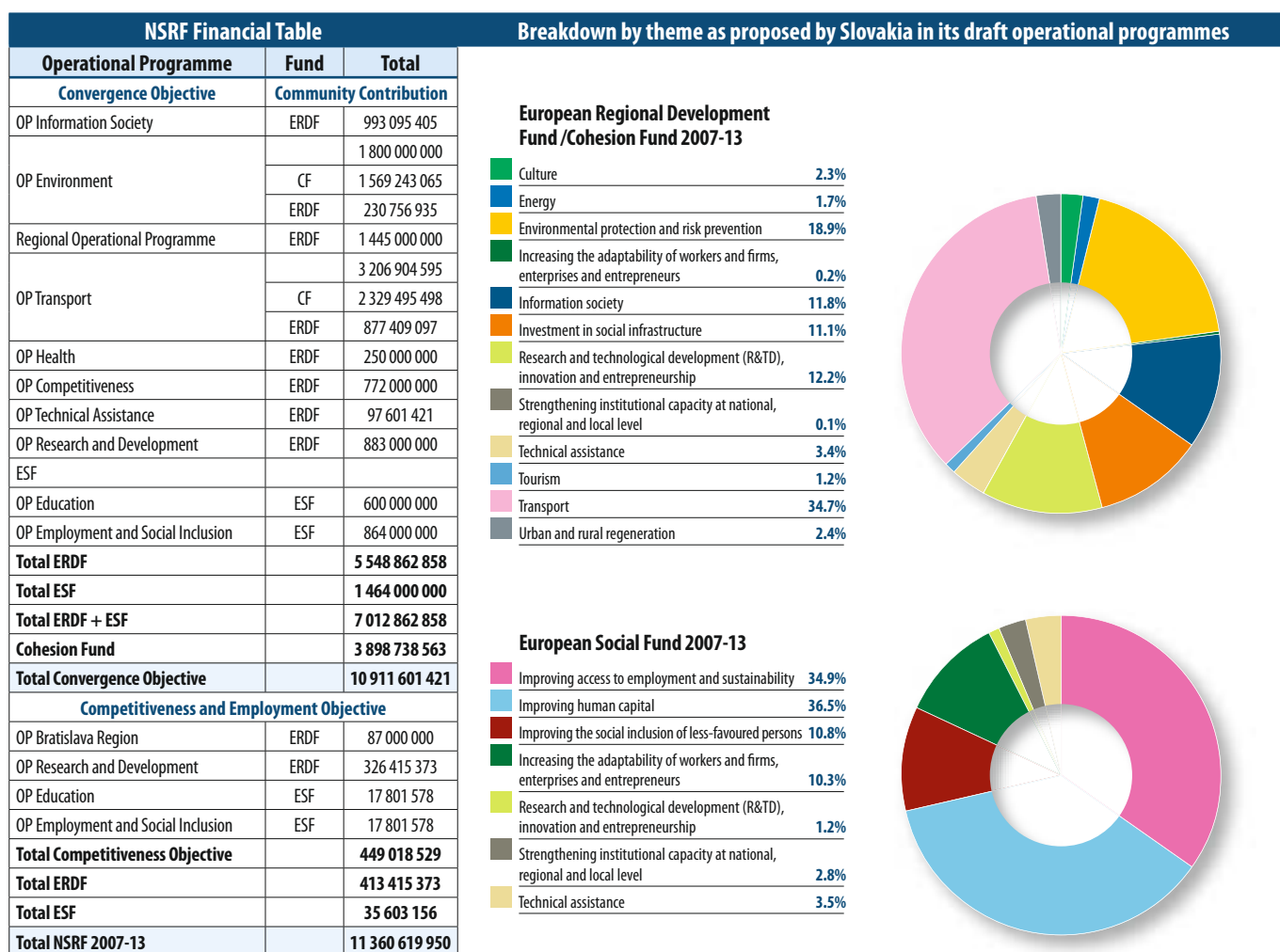
The Slovak Republic's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through **10 operational programmes**:

- ERDF – European Regional Development Fund (7 operational programmes):

- 1 regional operational programme (Convergence objective)
- 5 sectoral operational programmes (Convergence objective)
- 1 operational programme Bratislava (Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective)
- 1 'multi-objective' operational programme (Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives).
- ESF – European Social Fund

- (3 operational programmes):
- 2 multi-objective operational programmes (Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives).

The NSRF does not cover the operational programmes within the European Territorial Cooperation objective.



Contact point in Slovakia

Slovak Republic authority with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

Ministry of Construction and Regional Development Section of Regions' Development Strategy

Prievozská 2/B
825 25 Bratislava
Slovak Republic
Tel: +421 2 58 31 73 90
Fax: +421 2 58 31 75 77
> www.strukturalnefondy.sk

The full text of the NSRF is available at:
> www.strukturalnefondy.sk/Default.aspx?CatId=72



Finland

Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Finnish National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the EU funding for mainland Finland will be invested in four strategic objectives:

- **Promoting business** - notably to develop business productivity, create more jobs and safeguard existing jobs.
- **Promoting innovation, networking and strengthened knowledge structures** - to activate an expert and advisory network with strong links to national development projects of enterprises, universities, research institutes and regional businesses.
- **Skills, labour, employment and entrepreneurship** - to improve the ability of work organisations to anticipate and manage restructuring caused by globalisation, technological development and the ageing population.
- **Improving regional accessibility and the environment** - long distances, the sparse population, a vulnerable environment and a cold climate pose challenges when it comes to increasing the competitiveness of enterprises and creating comfortable living environments.

The autonomous status of the Åland Islands means that they have their own two strategic priorities:

- **Entrepreneurship and innovation**
- **Skills and employment**

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

To measure the impact of the investment, the Finnish regions will set target indicators for their operational programmes. The Regional Funds will contribute to implementation of the Lisbon Agenda for jobs and growth with the aim of increasing competitiveness, employment and well-being in the Finnish regions.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Finland has been allocated €1.6 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework, Finland's contribution will amount to at least €1.9 billion at current prices.

Regions to receive investment

- Phasing-in: Eastern Finland.
- Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective: Åland Islands, Southern Finland, Western Finland and Northern Finland.

Between 2007 and 2013, none of the population will be living under the Convergence objective or Statistical Phasing-out. Between 2000 and 2006, 19.9% of the Finnish population lived in regions supported by Objective 1.

The authorities expect the following impact:

- creation of new businesses and jobs;
- increased employment;
- development of the regional economy;
- increased business productivity, competitiveness and exports;
- higher levels of education;
- enhanced research and innovation.

An investment for growth and jobs

The NSRF strategy will strongly support the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth, with at least 88% of the funds in the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective programmes earmarked for Lisbon related activities.

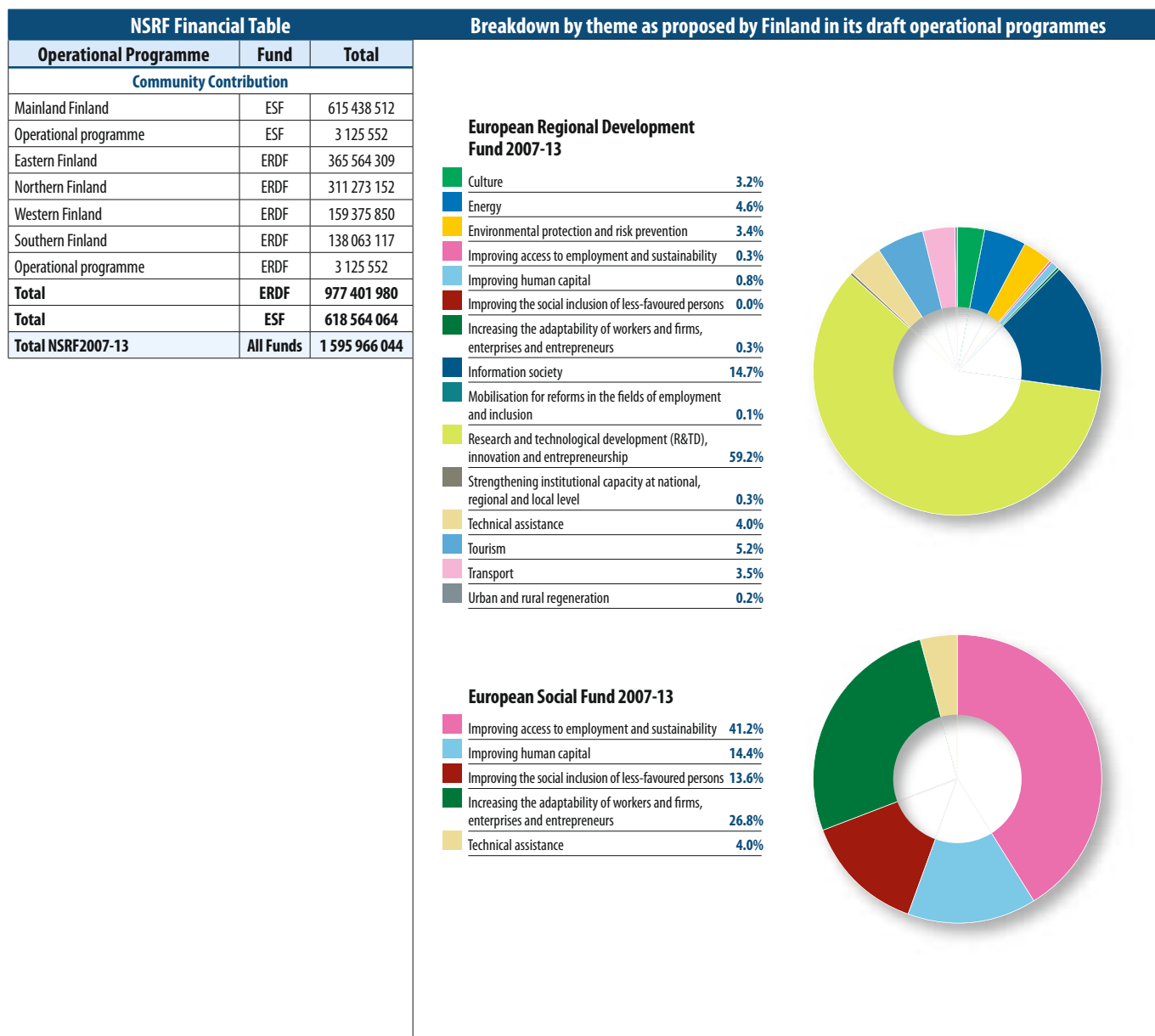
Operational programmes

The strategic priorities of the Finnish NSRF will be implemented through **seven operational programmes**: five regional programmes for Eastern Finland (Phasing-in), Northern Finland, Western Finland, Southern Finland and the Åland Islands co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, and two thematic programmes for mainland Finland and the Åland Islands co-financed by the European Social Fund.

Eastern and Northern Finland regions will benefit from a special allocation from the European Regional Development Fund given the very sparse population. This amounts to €35 per inhabitant per year, totalling €359 million over the programming period.

The Finnish NSRF does not cover the operational programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

The initial indicative breakdown estimate of the total Community assistance available through the Funds is €977 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and €619 million from the European Social Fund (ESF).



The National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) does not include programmes relating to the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

Contact points in Finland

Finnish authorities with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

For mainland Finland - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Ministry of the Interior, Department for Development of Regions and Public Administration

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FI-00023 Government

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Tel: +358-9-16001

Fax: +358-9-160 44635

For mainland Finland - European Social Fund (ESF)

Ministry of Labour, Structural Fund Team

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FI-00023 Government

Finland

Tel: +358-10-60 4001

Fax: +358-10-60 48990

For the Åland Islands - ERDF and ESF

Regional Government of Åland, Department of Trade and Industry

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Fax: +358-18-19155

Websites:

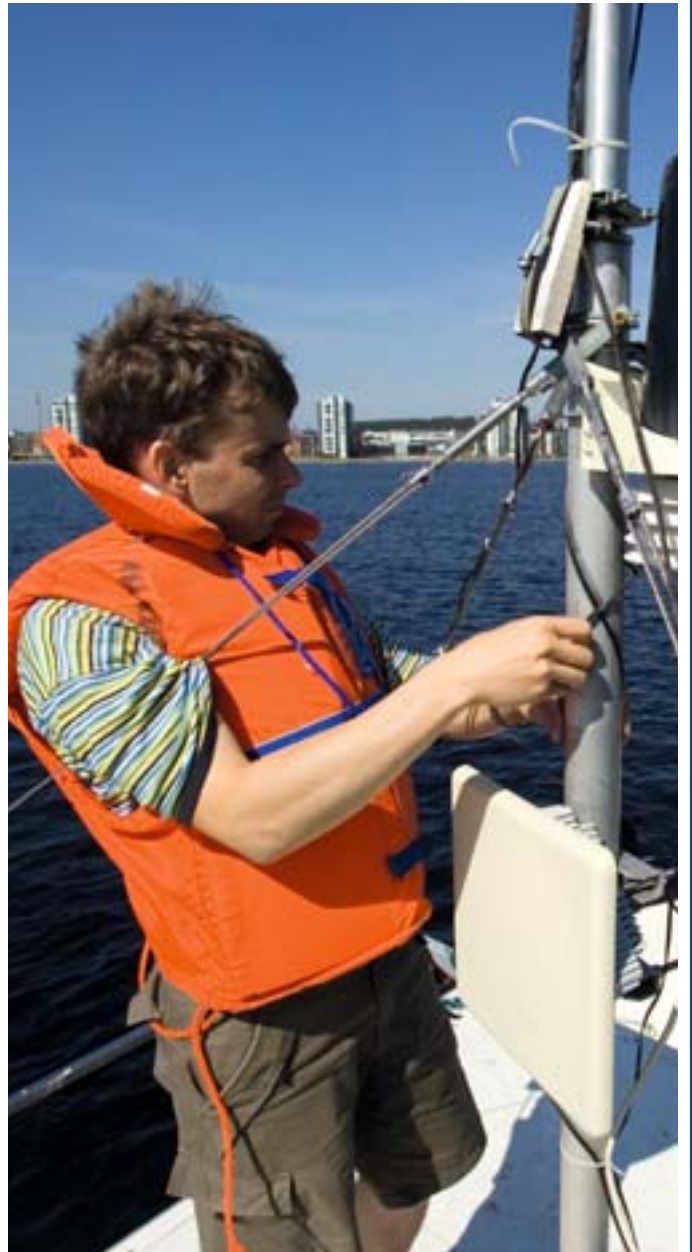
> www.intermin.fi/intermin/home.nsf/pages/index_eng

> www.mol.fi/mol/en/index.jsp

> www.regeringen.ax

The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.intermin.fi/intermin/home.nsf



Sweden

Competitiveness and Employment Objective 2007-13



plans whose geography matches those of the ERDF programmes.

Strategic objectives

As laid down in the Swedish NSRF, the Regional Competitiveness and Employment programmes should focus on four thematic priorities, with a territorial dimension (special emphasis on urban areas and the needs of the sparsely populated areas in the north of the country):

- **Innovative environments and entrepreneurship** - the purpose is to develop new and attractive products, create a culture of entrepreneurship and improve access to capital risk.
- **Skills supply and increased labour supply** - given that, more than one million people of working age in Sweden find themselves outside the labour market or working less than they would like to.
- **Accessibility** - Sweden needs to expand its national road and railway networks (European accessibility is naturally low for this peripheral country) and to develop the information society.
- **Strategic cross-border cooperation** - for instance, a special programme (part of INTERREG) will give support to indigenous people in Sweden, Norway and Finland to help them retain their culture and work with reindeer husbandry.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

A preliminary assessment indicates that implementation of the Swedish NSRF could, through the respective operational programmes, lead to the creation of at least 33 800 new jobs and 12 800 new enterprises. The NSRF – with its clear focus on entrepreneurship, innovation and Research and Development (R&D) – is also expected to create viable structures for growth and innova-

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, Sweden has been allocated €1.9 billion in total, €1.6 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €265 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), Sweden's contribution will be €1.9 billion (including Territorial Cooper-

ation), bringing the total regional support to €3.8 billion over 7 years.

Regions to receive investment

The entire country, i.e. all nine million inhabitants, will be covered by the new regional fund programmes. There are eight European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programmes and one European Social Fund (ESF) programme; the latter being subdivided into eight regional

tion. Furthermore, a particular focus will be placed on skills supply and increased labour supply to ensure adequate skills in enterprises, better integration of people in working life and access for young people to the labour market. It is estimated that more than 300 000 people will take part in measures designed to increase their adaptability and employability.

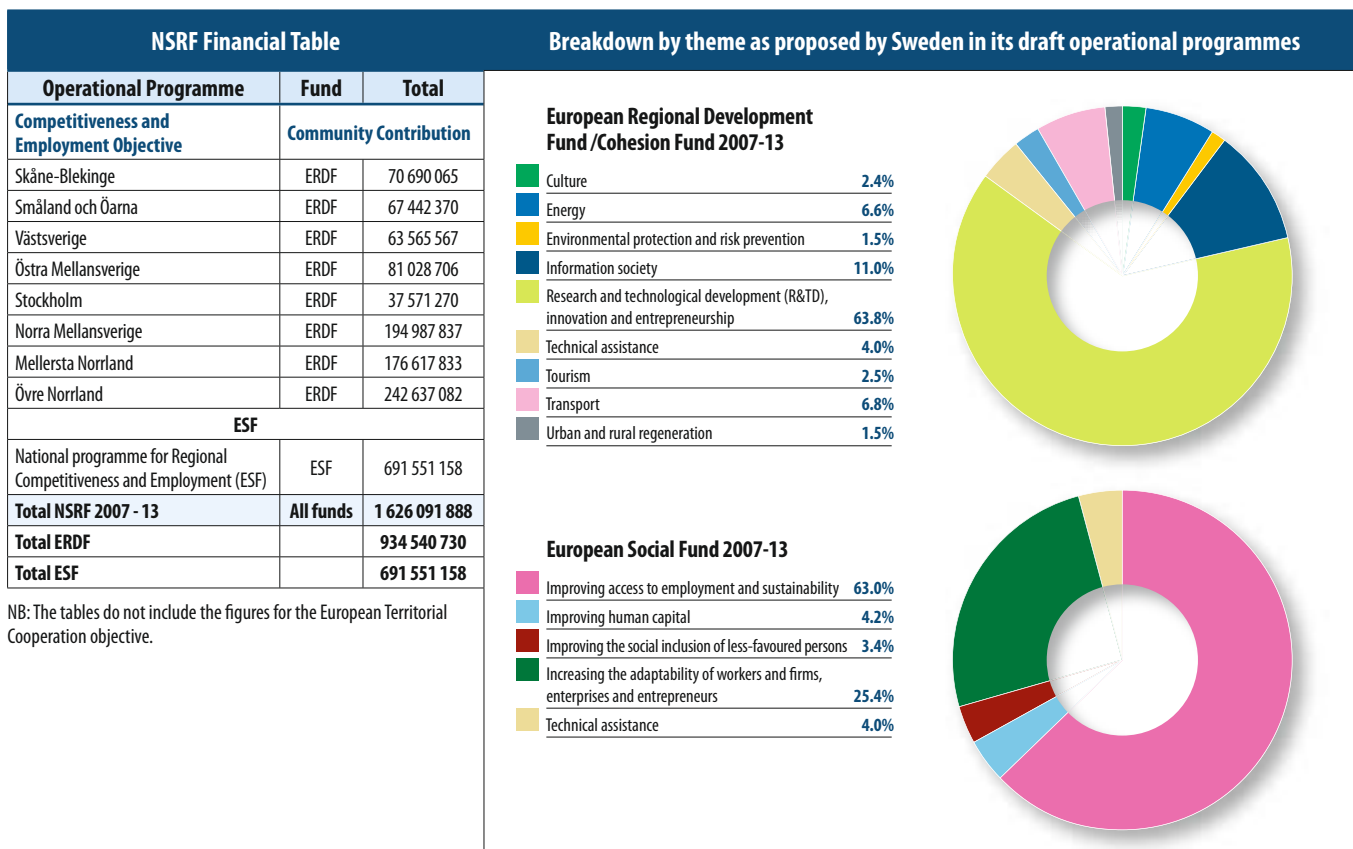
An investment for growth and jobs

The NSRF increases the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth to 75% from 73% in the 2000-06 programming period.

Operational programmes

Sweden's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period will be implemented through **eight operational pro-**

grammes and one national Social Fund programme. Under the European Territorial Cooperation objective, Sweden will take part in nine Territorial Cooperation programmes, which will support projects involving more than one country. The initial estimated breakdown among the Funds of the total Community assistance available will be €934.5 million from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and €691.5 million from the European Social Fund (ESF).



Contact points in Sweden

Swedish authorities with overall responsibility for Cohesion policy 2007-13:

ERDF: Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications

Jakobsgatan 26,
SE-103 33 Stockholm
Sweden

Tel: +46-8-405 10 00

- > www.regeringen.se/sb/d/1470
- > www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2067

ESF: Ministry of Employment

Jakobsgatan 26,
SE-103 33 Stockholm
Sweden

Tel: +46-8-405 10 00

- > www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/8281

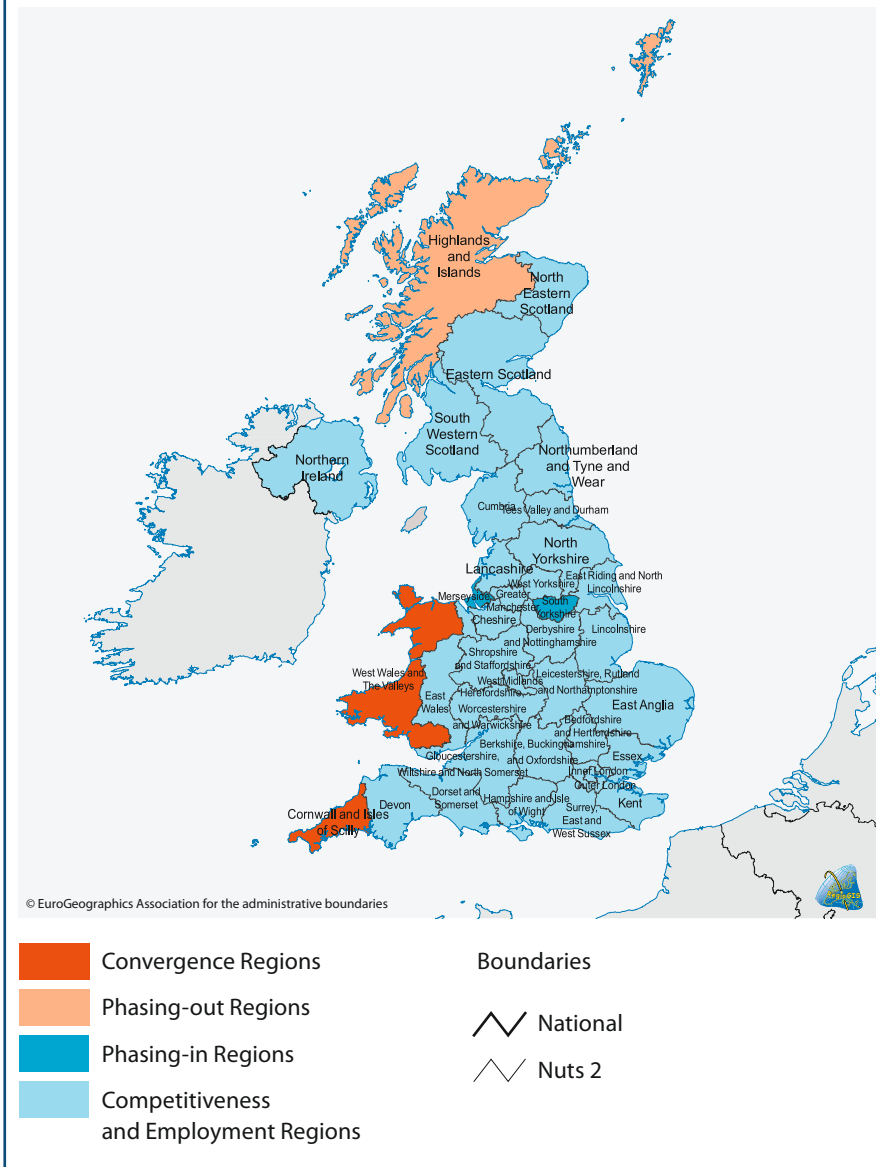
The full text of the NSRF is available at:

- > www.regeringen.se/sb/d/2498
- > <http://www.nutek.se/sb/d/1008>



United Kingdom

Convergence and Competitiveness Objectives 2007-13



tistical Phasing-in and Phasing-out regions. 90.4% of the UK population will be living in Competitiveness regions.

Strategic objectives

The general objectives of the UK NSRF are to support the UK Government's aim to increase the rate of sustainable growth, improve prosperity and achieve a better quality of life, with economic and employment opportunities for all.

To address these objectives, the UK NSRF sets out three overarching themes and four high level principles to be applied to all UK Structural Fund programmes:

Themes

- **Enterprise and Innovation** - promoting research, knowledge transfer and commercialisation of new products and services, encouraging entrepreneurship and supporting a thriving Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) sector. For instance, in the South-West of England (under the Convergence objective), the authorities will build on the Combined Universities of Cornwall (CUC) project and the experience of the "knowledge spa" centres which foster close ties between the academic and business sectors.
- **Skills and Employment** - building a skilled and adaptable workforce, tackling disadvantage in the workplace and supporting employment opportunities for all.

The UK has already exceeded the three Lisbon employment targets (70% overall employment, 50% older worker employment rate, 60% female employment rate). However, the Government's ambition is to reach an employment rate of 80% of the working-age population in the long-term. To achieve this, a further 2.3 million people would require assistance in securing work.

The investment

For the 2007-13 period, the UK has been allocated €10.6 billion in total: €2.9 billion under the Convergence objective, €7 billion under the Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective, and €722 million under the European Territorial Cooperation objective. To complement the EU investment under the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), the UK contribution would amount to at least €5.2 billion at current prices.

Regions to receive investment

- Convergence objective: West Wales and the Valleys, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.
- Statistical Phasing-out: Highlands and Islands.
- Statistical Phasing-in: South Yorkshire and Merseyside.

Between 2007 and 2013, 2.4 million people (4.6% of the total) will be living in Convergence regions, with 3 million (5% of the total) living in Sta-

- **Environmental and Community Sustainability** - encouraging innovation to support sustainability, ensuring sustainable development, production and consumption, and promoting social and economic cohesion in local economies, including in urban and rural areas.

Principles

- **Focusing on market failures** - transversal to the above themes, regional policy interventions will be made where free markets have genuinely failed.
- **Environmental sustainability and equality** - integrated strategies to be included for addressing environmental concerns and respecting the principles of sustainable development, to take account of the principles of gender equality, equal opportunities and non-discrimination and to incorporate the needs of local communities.
- **A working partnership** - to ensure that effective partnership arrangements are built into the new programmes, including with local authorities, higher and further

education sectors, the voluntary and community sector and the private sector.

- **Structural Funds and the Lisbon Agenda** - to ensure that 60% of all expenditure under the Convergence objective and 75% of the expenditure under the Competitiveness and Employment objective support the Lisbon Agenda.

The expected impact of the new Cohesion Policy

UK authorities are focused on improving four main sectors:

- Skills.
- Research and Development (R&D) – especially in the private sector.
- Innovation.
- Entrepreneurship.

An investment for growth and jobs

The UK NSRF increases the share of investment earmarked for the Lisbon Strategy for jobs and growth (73% under Convergence and 83.4% under Regional Competitiveness and Employment).

Operational programmes

The UK's strategic planning for the 2007-13 period endeavours to translate the broad priorities contained in the NSRF into **22 operational programmes**. These include three Convergence and two Phasing-out programmes, together with 16 Regional Competitiveness and Employment programmes and one programme under both the Convergence and Regional Competitiveness and Employment objectives. The initial indicative breakdown among the funds of the total Community assistance available will be €5.4 billion from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and €4.5 billion from the European Social Fund (ESF).

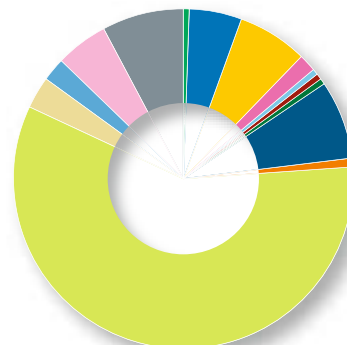
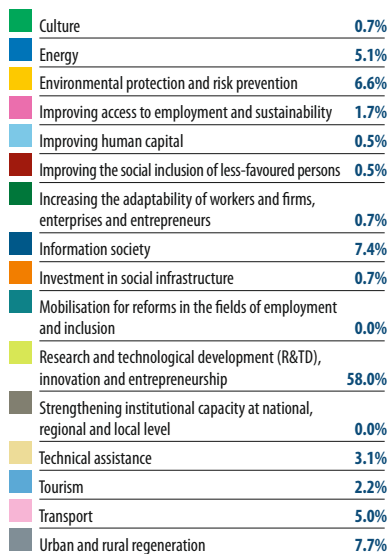
Operational programmes covering more than one of the three objectives are not permitted except where otherwise agreed by the Commission and the Member State. Such is the case with the "England and Gibraltar ESF Convergence, Competitiveness and Employment Programme", which covers two of the objectives.

NSRF Financial Table

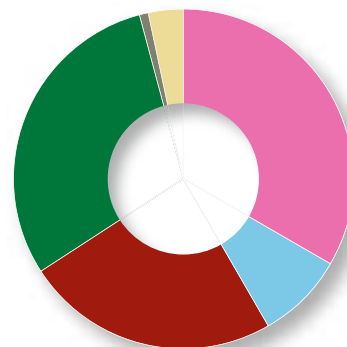
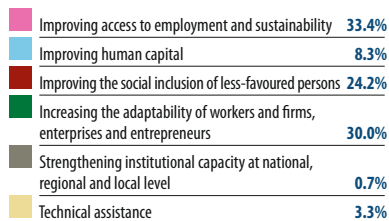
Breakdown by theme as proposed by the United Kingdom in its draft operational programmes

Operational Programme	Fund	Total
Convergence Objective		
Community Contribution		
Highlands and Islands of Scotland	ESF	52 150 195
West Wales and the Valleys	ESF	833 585 460
England and Gibraltar	ESF	196 433 940
Highlands and Islands of Scotland	ERDF	121 862 392
West Wales and the Valleys	ERDF	1 250 378 189
Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	ERDF	458 056 615
Total	ERDF	1 830 297 196
Total	ESF	1 082 169 595
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	2 912 466 791
Competitiveness and Employment Objective		
East Wales	ESF	63 597 452
Lowlands and Uplands of Scotland	ESF	269 920 942
Northern Ireland	ESF	165 777 300
England and Gibraltar	ESF	2 893 452 439
Lowlands and Uplands of Scotland	ERDF	375 957 844
South East England	ERDF	23 706 375
Northern Ireland	ERDF	306 833 439
East of England	ERDF	110 994 719
North East England	ERDF	375 698 920
London England	ERDF	181 889 213
West Midlands England	ERDF	399 899 930
North West England	ERDF	755 754 611
Yorkshire and Humberside England	ERDF	583 580 959
East Midlands England	ERDF	268 495 983
South West England	ERDF	124 658 086
East Wales	ERDF	72 451 721
Gibraltar	ERDF	5 800 739
Total	ERDF	3 585 722 539
Total	ESF	3 392 748 133
Total NSRF 2007-13	All Funds	6 978 470 672

European Regional Development Fund 2007-13



European Social Fund 2007-13



NB: The tables do not include the figures for the European Territorial Cooperation objective.

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The full text of the NSRF is available at:

> www.berr.gov.uk/consultations/page28796.html



European Commission

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Cohesion Policy 2007-13

National Strategic Reference Frameworks

This brochure contains summaries of the National Strategic Reference Frameworks (NSRF) of all 27 EU Member States.

NSRF provide the overall vision for the use of the Structural Funds available to each Member State. They were prepared by each Member State in close cooperation with the European Commission. The strategy serves as a benchmark for the programming and implementation of the EU's Regional Policy.

This brochure provides an overview of the national investment priorities, beneficiary regions, financial allocations and expected impacts of the operational programmes in each Member State.



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