



Synergies and Complementarity of EU Framework and Structural Funds, in favour of Research and Innovation, including SMEs

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Expert in EU Funding

- 1) Research, Technological Development and Innovation in the EU &
- 2) Regional Cohesion within the EU

TWO SEPARATE EU POLICIES, DIFFERENT CONTENT BUT...
A SINGLE COMMON AIM:

Implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy, i.e.
GROWTH, which is:

- 1) Smart: based on Knowledge, Research and Innovation
- 2) Sustainable: based on a more Efficient and "Green"
Management of Resources and a more Competitive
industry
- 3) Inclusive: based on high employment rates and resulting
in Social and Territorial Cohesion

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME, HORIZON 2020 (H2020) AND THE COHESION POLICY STRUCTURAL FUNDS (SFs):

H2020:

- **RULES FOR PARTICIPATION** (European Commission)
- **SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES** (European Commission and Beneficiaries)
- **WORK PROGRAMS** (European Commission and Beneficiaries)
- **Non territorial approach; directly to final beneficiaries; competitive calls; peer-review based on excellence**

Create: Knowledge, Technology and Innovation

SFs:

- **THEMATIC PRIORITY LIST, COMMON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK** (European Commission)
- **PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS** (European Commission and Member States)
- **OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES** (Regional and National levels)
- **Place based approach; through shared management; non competitive attribution; socio-economic impact**

Create: Growth and Jobs (including RTD&I human potential for the Regions)

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H2020 AND SFs PRIORITIES FOR THE PERIOD 2014-2020

HORIZON 2020 (H2020) :

1. **EXCELLENT SCIENCE**
(including *Future and Emerging Technologies and Research Infrastructures*)
2. **INDUSTRIAL LEADERSHIP**
(including *Innovation in SMEs*)
3. **SOCIETAL CHALLENGES**
(including *Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture* and *Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and the Bioeconomy*)

COHESION POLICY (SFs):

1. *Strengthening RTD and Innovation*
2. *Enhancing accessibility and use of ICTs*
3. *Enhancing SMEs competitiveness*
4. *Supporting shift towards low-carbon economy*
5. *Promoting climate change adaptation and risk prevention*
6. *Protecting the environment and promoting sustainable use of resources*
7. *Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructure*
8. *Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility*
9. *Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty*
10. *Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning*
11. *Enhancing institutional and administrative capacities*

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WHAT IS EUROSTARS

A EUREKA-EU programme supporting research-performing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which develop innovative products, processes and services, to gain competitive advantage.

Eurostars provides funding for transnational innovation projects, having partners from two or more Eurostars countries.

The project products developed, are then rapidly commercialized.

Thanks to this international collaboration, SMEs can more easily gain access to new markets.

The Eurostars programme is publicly financed with a total budget of 1.14 billion euro and is currently supported by 33 EUREKA countries and the European Union.

AVERAGE PROJECT PROFILE: 3 to 4 Participants, 2 to 3 Countries involved, 29 Month duration, 1.4 M€



WHAT IS COSME (Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises)

An EU (DG Enterprise and Industry) programme, running from 2014 to 2020 with a planned budget of €2.3bn

COSME will support SMEs in the following areas:

- Better access to finance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- Supporting entrepreneurs
- Access to markets
- More favorable conditions for business creation and growth



COHESION POLICY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INVESTMENT PRIORITIES, FOR THE PERIOD 2014-2020

- Enhancing **research and innovation infrastructure (R&I) and capacities** to develop R&I excellence and promoting **centres of competence**
- Promoting **business R&I investment, product and service development, technology transfer**, social innovation and public service application, demand simulation, networking, clusters

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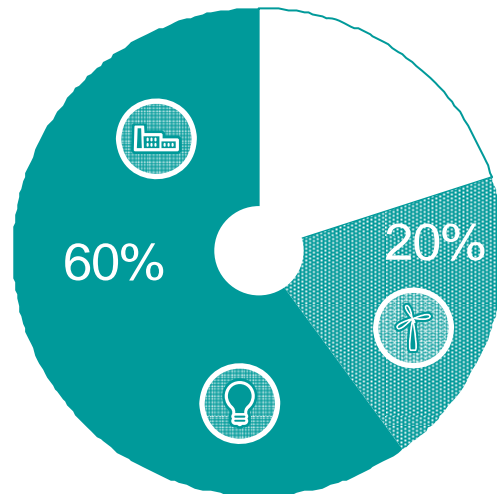


CONCENTRATING RESOURCES/INVESTMENTS TO MAXIMISE IMPACT

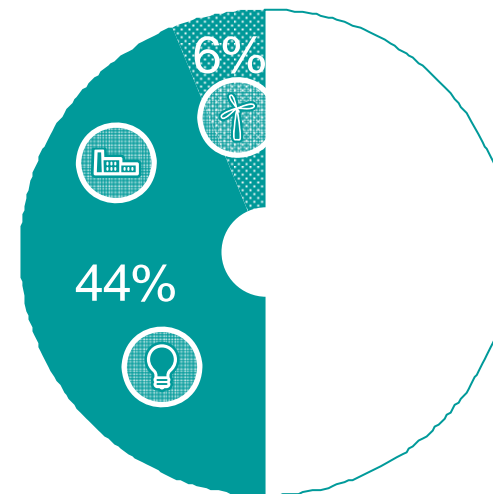
 Energy efficiency & renewable energy

 Research & innovation

 Competitiveness of SMEs



More developed &
transitional regions



Less developed regions

Flexibility – different regions have different needs
Special arrangements for ex-convergence regions

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IMPORTANT NOVELTIES FOR R&I IN THE NEW (2014-2020) REGULATIONS

- THEMATIC PRIORITY **RESEARCH & INNOVATION** (TOGETHER WITH SMEs AND ENERGY), WILL REPRESENT **80% OF THE ERDF FOR THE DEVELOPED AND TRANSITIONAL REGIONS AND 50% FOR THE LESS DEVELOPED ONES**
- POSSIBLE TO **COMBINE H2020 FUNDS AND SFs** (AS WELL AS FUNDS FROM OTHER EU FUNDING TOOLS) FOR DIFFERENT EXPENSES OF THE **SAME PROJECT**
- POSSIBLE TO **USE FUNDS FROM ONE OPERATIONAL PROGRAM (OP) IN ANOTHER REGION** (UP TO 10% OF THE OP BUDGET) PROVIDED THE ACTIVITY TO BE FUNDED IS TO THE BENEFIT OF THE REGION "OWNER" OF THE OP IN QUESTION
- ERDF SHALL SUPPORT PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENT, WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO CREATING AND SAFEGUARDING SUSTAINABLE JOBS, THROUGH **DIRECT AID TO INVESTMENT IN SMEs**

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INTRODUCTION OF EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES TO ENSURE THAT THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE SUPPORT ARE IN PLACE

For research and innovation:

The existence of a national or regional research and innovation strategy for smart specialisation in line with
the National Reform Programme

- *to leverage private research and innovation expenditure*
- *complies with the features of well-performing national or regional research and innovation systems*

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WHAT IS SMART SPECIALISATION?

- *A strategic approach to economic development through **targeted support to Research and Innovation**;*
- *A process of developing a vision, identifying competitive advantage, setting strategic priorities and making use of **smart policies to maximise the knowledge-based development potential of any region** (strong or weak, high-tech or low-tech);*
- *A **Concentration** of resources **on a small number of thematic priorities***
- *An effort to assign a **role for all regions in the knowledge economy**, through identification of comparative advantages in specific R &I domains/clusters (not just winning sectors);*

*Challenges: Smart specialisation has to embrace the concept of **open innovation: not only investment in (basic) research.***

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COMPETITIVE EUROPEAN REGIONS THROUGH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

*“NEW PRACTICAL GUIDE TO EU FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION”*



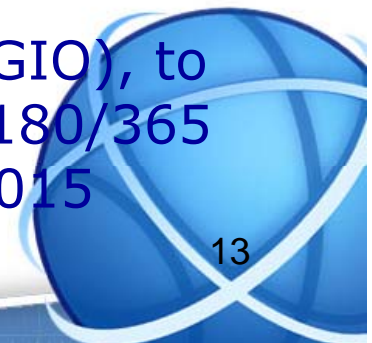
[http://ec.europa.eu/research/regions/documents/publications/
new_practical_guide.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/regions/documents/publications/new_practical_guide.pdf)

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EXAMPLE OF AN ESFRI RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE MAKING USE OF SFs

ELI:

- Funding of the site in **CZ** with Structural Funds had been approved by EC (as of April 2011; 236/290 M€ from SF)
- Discussions between Hungarian authorities and EC (REGIO) had been initiated back in 2011, in order for the HU OP to be modified, to allow for SF use for the **HU** site (85% of 254 M€); work is ongoing by the partners of ELI-HU Nonprofit Ltd., and experts of all collaborating institutes, in view of ensuring the successful implementation of the project, i.e. the super-laser up and running by the end of 2015
- Likewise, between Romanian authorities and EC (REGIO), to explore the feasibility of using SF for the **RO** site (~180/365 M€). This site is also expected to be operational in 2015



EXAMPLES OF NON ESFRI RESEARCH FACILITIES MAKING USE OF SFs

WROCLAW Research Centre EIT+, in PL: has been co-funded by the Region of Lower Silesia and the City of Wroclaw

CEITEC and BIOCEV, both in CZ: construction of the CEITEC facilities financed by ERDF Brno Region (OPRDI); BIOCEV core facilities also supported by ERDF (Central Bohemian Region)

POTSDAM – GOLM Science Park in DE: supported with 74 M€ (1997-2007) from ERDF funds

NENCKI Institute in PL: about 250 M€ investments from PL OPs between 2007-2013

UNIVERSITE DE MEDITERRANEE in FR: has been co-financed between: 50% ERDF, 20% University (own funds), 13% Région PACA, 13% Conseil Général de Bouches du Rhône and 4% Mairie de Marseille

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CONCLUSIONS AND ROLE OF THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

- RESEARCH & INNOVATION TRIGGER GROWTH AND JOBS AND MAY THUS CONTRIBUTE IN HELPING US EXIT THE CRISIS
- R&I NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT EUROPE REMAINS AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE FOR WORLD CLASS SCIENCE, VIBRANT INNOVATION AND HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS
- THERE IS CLEAR POTENTIAL FOR COMPLEMENTARY FUNDING OF R&I (INCLUDING SMEs) WITH FUNDS FROM H2020 AND STRUCTURAL (AND OTHER EU) FUNDS

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES MUST BE WELL INFORMED AND CONTRIBUTE IN THE BETTER EXPLOITATION OF THIS POSSIBILITY:

1. BY PROMOTING COORDINATED ACCESS TO COMPLEMENTARY EU FUNDS
2. BY ENSURING APPROPRIATE INFORMATION OF (e.g. use of practical guide) AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN, INTERESTED PARTIES

ATTENTION !

In the context of the discussions between Managing Authorities and the R&I Representatives it is extremely important to:

1) Examine and assess the socio-economic impact of the proposed R&I activities on the Region concerned, especially in the form of creation and/or development of innovative businesses (including spin-offs, start-ups, etc.).

For example, when applying for SFs: identify possible industrial partners interested and willing to participate in the R&I activities!

2) Equally important to assess on a case by case basis the possibility of involvement of the European Investment Bank, because the SFs are usually reimbursed after the completion of projects!

USEFUL links

Practical Guide on EU funding opportunities for research & innovation:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/regions/documents/publications/new_practical_guide.pdf

HORIZON 2020:

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

REGIONAL POLICY:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm

MANAGING AUTHORITIES:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?language=EN&pay=gr#1

COSME:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/cosme/index_en.htm

EUROSTARS: <https://www.eurostars-eureka.eu/>

26 March 2014



Σας ευχαριστώ *Merci*

Danke

Va multumesc

Bedankt

Gracias

Grazie!

Hvala

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Tack

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Obrigado

Thank you

Köszönöm

Teşekkür ederim *ありがとう*

СПАСИБО *धन्यवाद*

26 March 2014



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