



Linking Smart Cities to Structural Funds

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Political Context

- **Urban Agenda for the EU – Pact of Amsterdam**
 - Acknowledging that urbanisation is *the* territorial trend in Europe (positive and negative urbanisation effects)
 - Capitalising on the large number of instruments, legislation and initiatives on urban at European level
- **Urban Agenda is the 'chapeau' of EU urban policies**
- **Aims for "better funding", "better regulation" and "better knowledge"**
- **Work on 12 urban priority themes, such as urban mobility, energy transition or digital transition, but also on the social side**
- **In partnership: COM, MS, cities, stakeholders**



Linking Smart Cities with European Structural and Investment Funds

3 key messages

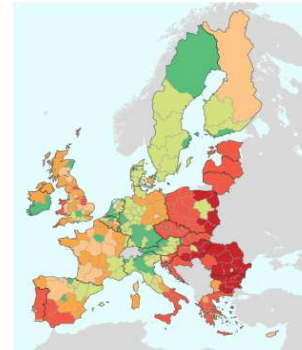
1. Use European Structural and Investment Funds to complement a Smart City project
 - *Key features of ESIF*
 - *Strong urban dimension in ESIF*
2. No automatism: need to be pro-active
 - *Know how ESIF is managed*
 - *Get help from the guide*
3. Consider additional networking and funding opportunities

ESIF 2014-2020

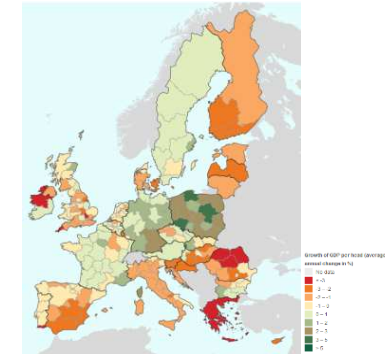
➤ *The investment arm for Europe 2020*

➤ *EUR 351 billion for 2014-2020*

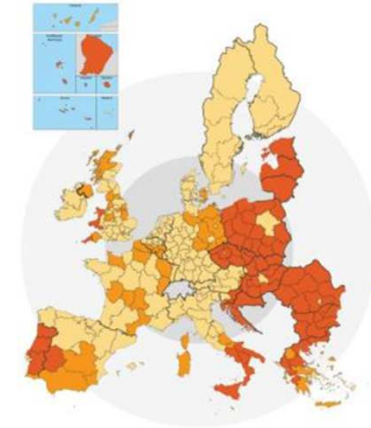
➤ *Funds for all, focus on less developed regions*



GDP per head 2011



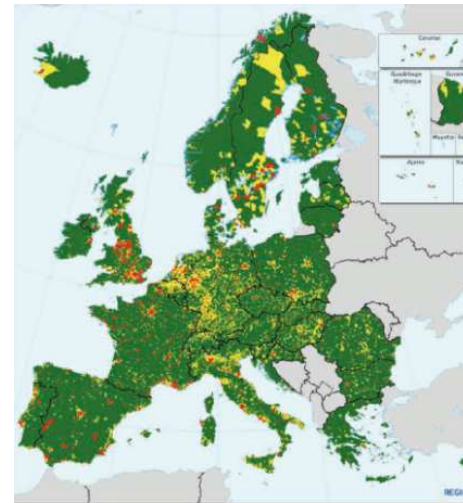
GDP growth per head 2008-2013



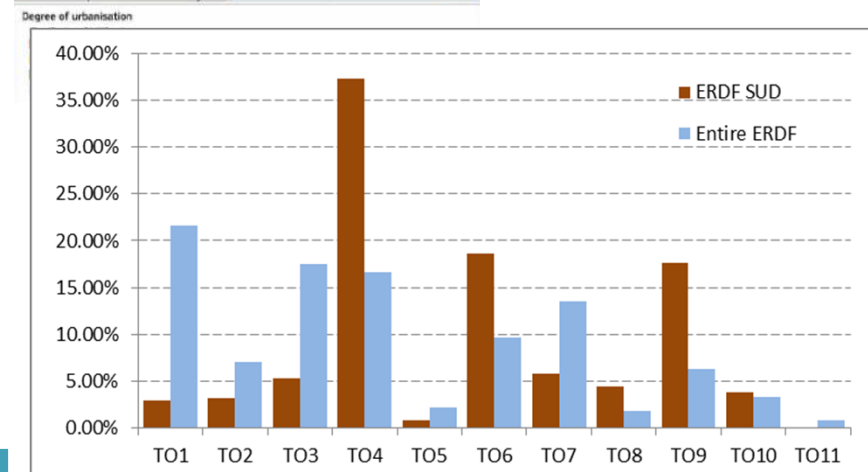
➤ *Thematic concentration on top EU priorities*

Urban policy within ESIF

- EUR 15 billion for sustainable and integrated urban development
- 700+ cities/ metropolitan areas
- Territorial approach: the thematic focus depends on respective urban challenges
- Cities focus on investments towards a low carbon economy, resource efficiency and social inclusion
- Empowerment of urban authorities: City develops strategy, and selects the projects
- Reinforced networking: Urban Development Network, URBACT III



Degree of urbanisation





Urban and territorial dimension of CP 2014-2020

The integrated, place-based approach

Why?

- to help **address territorial challenges** in their **complexity** through CP
- to help **align specific local development needs** with the **thematic priorities of CP**
- to **promote multi-level governance** (empowerment and cooperation)

How?

- PLANNING: requesting **long-term** and **integrated** urban/territorial **strategies**
- PARTNERSHIP: by fostering **horizontal and vertical cooperation** (urban-rural, LAGs)
- FLEXIBILITY: allowing to **combine different sources of thematic funding** to support the implementation (ITI, CLLD)
- INCENTIVE: **earmarking resources** in pursuit of these objectives (SUD Article 7)
- OWNERSHIP: giving **more responsibility to the local level** (SUD Article 7, CLLD)



Management of European Structural and Investment Funds

- **Operational strategies at national/ regional level for 2014-2020: "Operational Programmes"**
 - 205 country/ regional specific programmes ("Investment in Growth and Jobs")
Incl. 110 programmes with a focus on sustainable urban development
 - 91 cross border/ transnational/ interregional programmes ("Interreg Programmes")
- Principle of **shared management:**
 - **Commission** sets overall priorities
 - Operational programmes are **proposed by Member States and regions**
 - **Commission negotiates and approves** the programmes
 - Member States/ regions **manages the programmes, selects projects, monitors and assesses implementation**
 - MS/ region acts in partnership with relevant regional and local stakeholders

Links between Smart Cities projects and Urban Policy within the European Structural and Investment Funds

- *ESIF can provide*
 - ✓ *complementary financing*
 - ✓ *rollout financing*
 - ✓ *financing for follower cities*
- *Guide on synergies*
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf
- *Seal of excellence (pilot phase for SME)*





Additional funding opportunities within ESIF

- Urban Innovative Actions (EUR 370 M ERDF)
 - For cities/ metropolitan areas; single cities can apply (above 50.000 citizens, groups of cities possible)
 - Max EUR 5 M per project
 - 2nd call will open end 2016
 - topics
 1. *Circular Economy*
 2. *Sustainable Urban Mobility*
 3. *Integration of Migrants and Refugees*
- www.uia-initiative.eu/
- URBACT III (EUR 74 M ERDF) – specifically for cities
- Interreg Europe (EUR 360 M ERDF) – cities and regions



For info or further questions on this seminar and the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform, please contact:

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