



EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

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SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

... WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY?

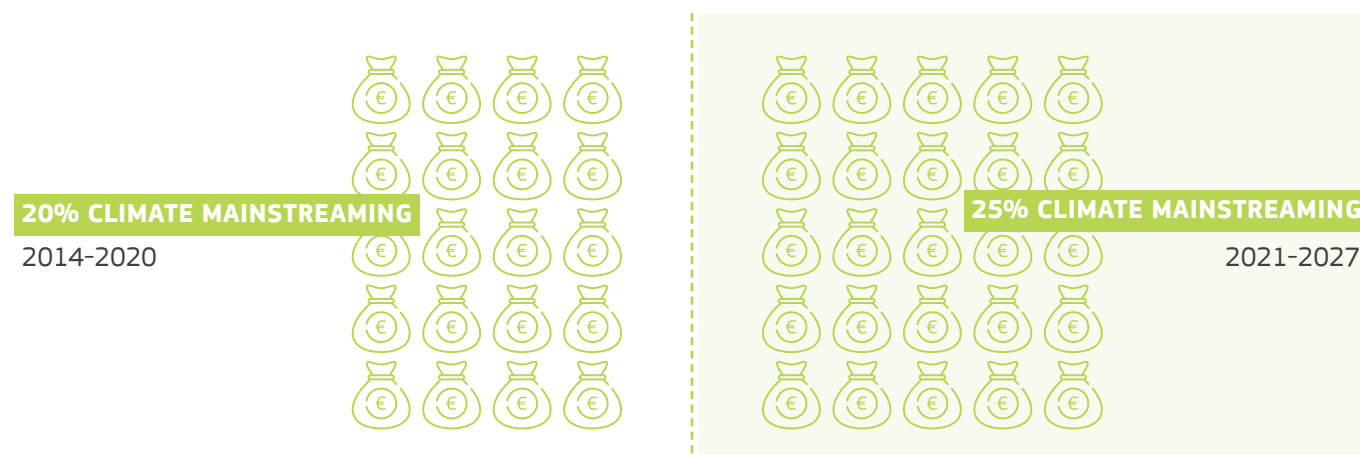
The European Union is a global frontrunner in sustainability and climate policies. The EU has shown its commitment to implement the Paris Agreement and the fight against climate change by mainstreaming spending on climate action across all EU programmes.

The Commission has integrated climate action into all major EU spending programmes, in particular cohesion policy, regional development, energy, transport, research and innovation, the Common Agricultural Policy as well as the EU's development policy, making the EU budget a driver of sustainability.

The Commission will adopt at the end of the year a Reflection Paper "Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030, on the follow-up to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change" to address possible ways of how to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals further in EU policy making.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN IN FINANCIAL TERMS?

To implement the Paris Agreement and the commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the Commission proposes to raise the level of ambition for climate mainstreaming across all EU programmes, with a target of at least 25% of EU expenditure contributing to climate objectives.





WHAT IS NEW IN THE COMMISSION PROPOSALS?

A **modernised Common Agricultural Policy** will place a greater emphasis on environment and climate. It will support the transition towards more sustainable ways of providing safe and high-quality food for the EU's 500 million consumers. The reformed Common Agricultural Policy will have environmental objectives which will be reinforced through improved rules. All farmers receiving area payments will have to comply with a range of requirements related to climate change, water, soil, biodiversity and landscapes. At the same time, the new Common Agricultural Policy gives Member States many possibilities to make its implementation simpler for farmers.



HOW ELSE WILL THE FUTURE EU BUDGET MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS AREA?

- **LIFE** is the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action. It focuses on developing and implementing innovative ways to respond to environment and climate challenges, such as the transition to clean energy. LIFE will have a dedicated of **€5.4 billion** in the next EU budget.
- **Cohesion Policy** with an overall budget of **€273 billion**, supports sustainable development through investments in climate change adaptation and risk prevention and in environmental protection measures and infrastructure. Sustainable development is enshrined in the regulations establishing the funds and must be promoted at all stages during preparation and implementation.
- **Horizon Europe** with a budget of **€97.6 billion**, is a research and innovation programme and a driver of economic growth and jobs. Its function is to support EU policies such as the transition to a low carbon economy, the protection of the environment and climate actions.
- **InvestEU** is the Union's new investment instrument. It provides an EU guarantee with a view to mobilising public and private financing, for strategic investments in the support of EU policies. It includes a sustainability proofing of investment and helps orienting capital flows towards sustainable investment.



NEXT STEPS

