EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE

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MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK: PROCEDURES AND TIMING

A **swift political agreement** on a new, modern EU budget will be essential to demonstrate that the Union is ready to deliver on the positive political agenda outlined in Bratislava and Rome.

This would show that, following the withdrawal of the United Kingdom in 2019, the **Europe of 27 is unified, has a clear sense of purpose and direction, and is ready to deliver**. It would give the best possible chance for new programmes to hit the ground running on 1 January 2021, turning political objectives into quick results on the ground.
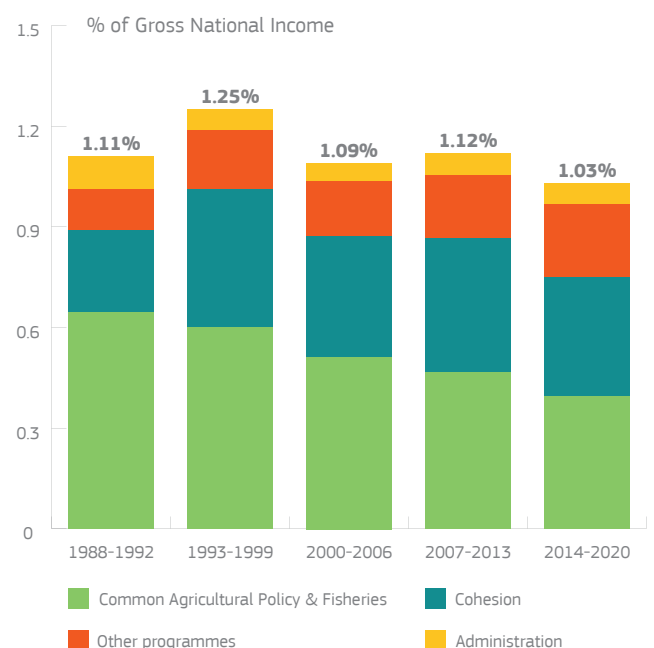
An early agreement is not only politically desirable. It is also a practical imperative.

All our partners and beneficiaries of EU funding as well as national and regional authorities need **legal and financial certainty**. They need time to prepare the implementation of the new programmes. The late adoption of the current Financial Framework led to significant delays in the launch of the new programmes and consequently to the achievement of our funding priorities.
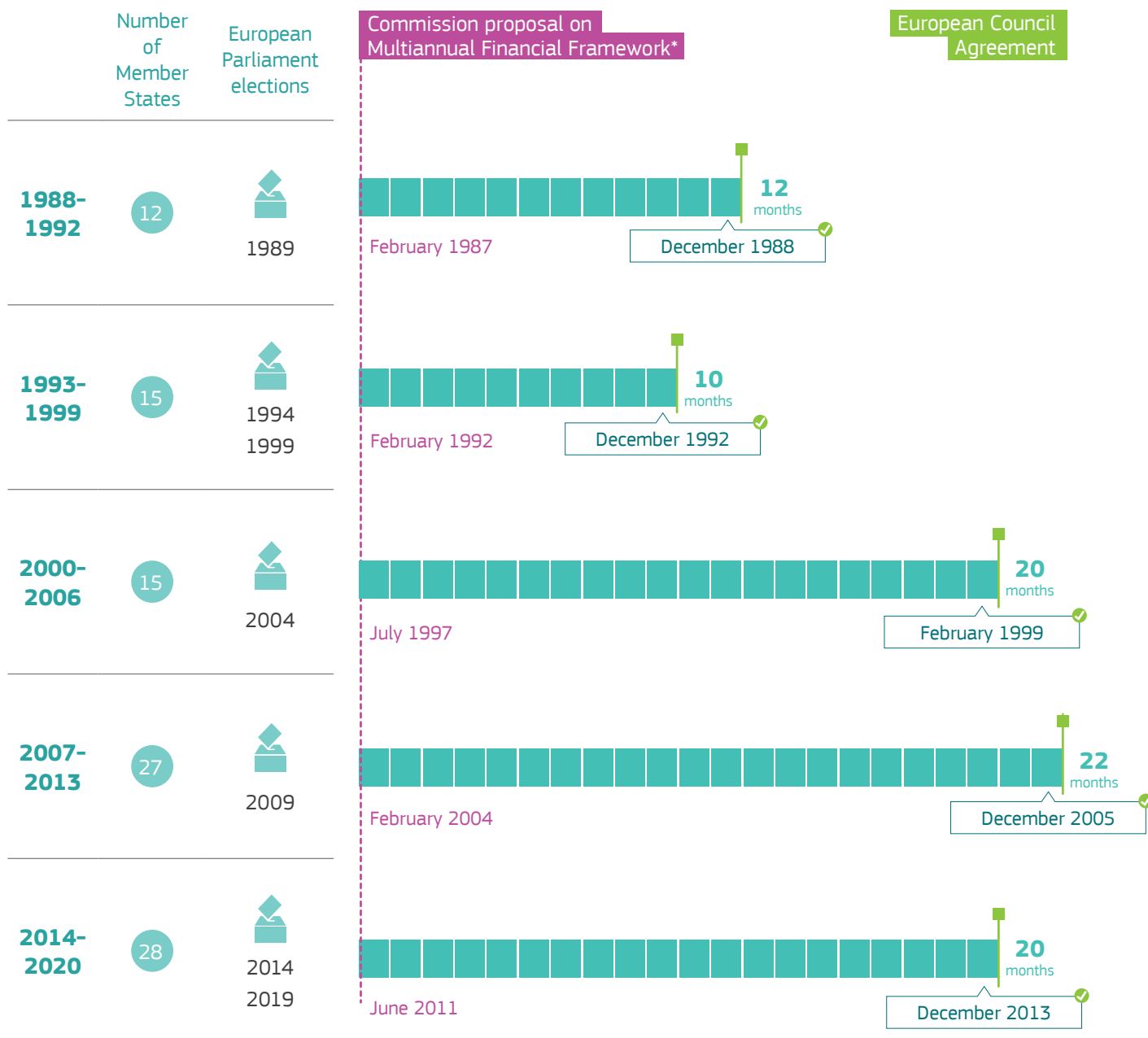
The opportunity cost of such delays is high. A seamless transition to the new Multiannual Financial Framework will be vital to maintain the momentum of the economic recovery, and to allow the Union to continue to act swiftly and decisively in the many areas where speed of response is key to success.

We must therefore make sure that the experience of the current Multiannual Financial Framework, which was adopted very late, is not repeated.

The size of the EU budget as percentage of Gross National Income and the evolution of main policy areas

% of Gross National Income

Bar chart legend:
- Common Agricultural Policy & Fisheries
- Cohesion
- Other programmes
- Administration

Values by period: 1988-1992: 1.11%; 1993-1999: 1.25%; 2000-2006: 1.09%; 2007-2013: 1.12%; 2014-2020: 1.03%

Multiannual Financial Framework: European Council agreement

	Number of Member States	European Parliament elections		

Commission proposal on Multiannual Financial Framework*

European Council Agreement

1988-1992
12

1989

12 months

February 1987

December 1988 ✓

1993-1999
15

1994
1999

10 months

February 1992

December 1992 ✓

2000-2006
15

2004

20 months

July 1997

February 1999 ✓

2007-2013
27

2009

22 months

February 2004

December 2005 ✓

2014-2020
28

2014
2019

20 months

June 2011

December 2013 ✓

◼ Analysis and negotiation in Council / European Council

* until the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the Multiannual Financial Framework was referred to as 'Financial Perspectives' and was agreed in the form of an Inter-Institutional Agreement.