

# Opportunities for rural areas in the energy transition with 2021-27 Cohesion policy



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# Thematic menu

11 objectives are simplified and consolidated into 5:

1. A smarter Europe (innovative & smart economic transformation)
2. **A greener, low-carbon Europe (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)**
3. A more connected Europe (mobility and ICT connectivity)
4. A more social Europe (the European Pillar of Social Rights)
5. **A Europe closer to citizens (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives)**

Horizontal issues: administrative capacity building, cooperation outside the programme area

ERDF: PO 1-5

Cohesion Fund: PO 2-3 (excl. broadband)

# Policy objective 2

**A greener, low-carbon Europe (including energy transition, the circular economy, climate adaptation and risk management)**

- (i) promoting energy efficiency measures;
- (ii) **promoting renewable energy;**
- (iii) **developing smart energy systems, grids and storage at local level;**
- (iv) promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience;
- (v) promoting sustainable water management;
- (vi) promoting the transition to a circular economy;
- (vii) enhancing biodiversity, green infrastructure in the urban environment, and reducing pollution;

# ERDF thematic concentration

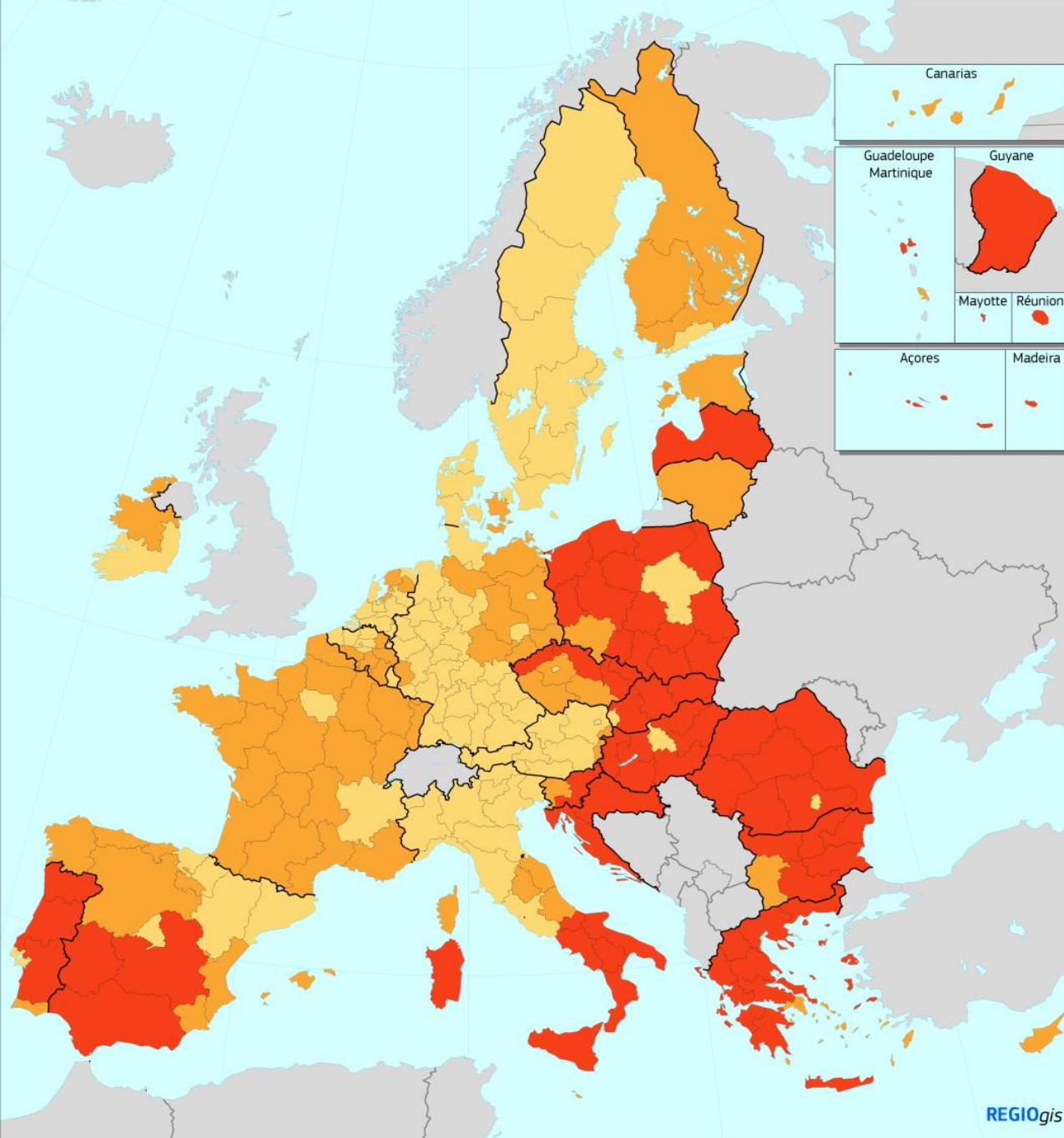
- Maintaining spending in the key areas for growth and jobs
- At national level based on GNI per head => flexibility

For countries with:	minimum % PO1 ("smarter Europe")	minimum % PO2 ("greener, low carbon Europe")
GNI below 75%	35%	30%
GNI 75-100%	45%	30%
GNI above 100%	60%	and PO1 + PO2 min. 85%

- 6% of budget to urban development, delivered through local development partnerships (can overlap with above)

# New regional eligibility map

## 2021-2027



Index, EU-27 = 100

- < 75% (less developed regions)
- 75% - 100% (transition regions)
- >= 100% (more developed regions)



# Continued concentration on less developed

	2014-2020	2021-2027
Cohesion Fund	22%	13%
ERDF Less developed regions	53%	62%
ERDF Transition	10%	14%
ERDF More developed	15%	11%
Total	100%	100%
<b>Share CF + ERDF less developed</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>75%</b>



# Enabling conditions

## ■ Horizontal:

- Public procurement, State aid, Charter of Fundamental Rights, United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities

## ■ Thematic:

- Smart specialisation strategies
- Energy efficiency,
- **Renewable energy (compliance with 2020 targets and with this baseline up to 2030; increase in share of RES in heating & cooling by 1% per year up to 2030)**
- National plans on water and wastewater, waste management, prioritised action framework for nature conservation
- Transport plan
- ...

# Components of Interreg

- **Cross-border cooperation** (component 1)
- **Transnational cooperation and maritime cooperation** (component 2)
- **Outermost regions cooperation** (component 3)
- **Interregional cooperation** (component 4)
  - Interact
  - ESPON
- **Interregional innovation investments** (component 5)



# Key elements post 2020

- 2020 = critical year for programming of the whole 2021-27 period (priorities, type of actions, allocations!)
- Put support to RES/Renewable energy communities in context of transitions (energy/industrial transitions) + just transition
- Strategic approach to ERDF programming in context of rural areas & RES (PO2 & PO5)
- Opportunities of Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI's) & Community Led Local Development (CLLD's)

# Conclusion

- Cohesion policy can support RES & RES energy communities
- Act now! Window of opportunity to design 10 years of investments of ERDF/CF
- Energy transition with stakeholders, municipalities etc = be inclusive & build ownership

# THANK YOU !

