An independent expert evaluation of 2007-2013 funding found that Cohesion Policy investments had positive, tangible results ranging from job creation, a positive impact on regional disparities and an increase in GDP.

Every region and country in the EU benefits from Cohesion Policy, via the direct effects of the investments and/or the indirect effects like increased trade.

€1 of Cohesion Policy investment during 2007–2013 will generate €2.74 of additional GDP by 2023.

€346.5 billion invested in 2007–2013

1 million jobs created in 2007–2013

Estimated return nearly €1 trillion of additional GDP by 2023

1/3 of net job creation during that period

EU Cohesion Policy investments in 2007–2013 were a vital source of finance for many Member States, representing up to 57% of government capital investment.
In Germany, support from the European Regional Development Fund amounted to EUR 16.1 billion over the 2007-2013 period.

Investments were mainly made in the areas of:

- Research and Innovation
- Support to SMEs

Key achievements of Cohesion Policy investments in Germany:

**FIRMS**
- Over 108,000 jobs created, of which almost 45,000 jobs in SMEs and 5,400 in research
- 750 start-ups supported
- 8,200 projects to help firms finance investments

**ENERGY**
- 210 MW increase in renewable energy capacity

**TRANSPORT**
- 294 km of new roads, of which 101 km are TEN-T
- 185 km of new railway lines, of which 159 km are TEN-T

**ENVIRONMENT**
- Almost 213,000 people connected to new or upgraded wastewater treatment facilities

**RESEARCH**
- 8,294 RTD projects supported
- Almost 3,400 cooperation projects between enterprises and research centres

**URBAN**
- 10% of ERDF invested in urban development projects (including education, health & childcare facilities)

More information:

EU Cohesion Policy: key achievements

Results of EU Cohesion Policy in Germany