COHESION POLICY
DELIVERING BENEFITS FOR CITIZENS
MAIN RESULTS 2007-2013

€346.5 BILLION
invested in 2007-2013

An independent expert evaluation of 2007-2013 found that Cohesion policy has delivered results - in each and every impact
Investments made a real difference

- reducing disparities between regions
- promoting balanced and sustainable development
- increasing economic, social and territorial cohesion

including for SMEs when private financing was hard to find

- creating jobs, addressing regional disparities and increasing GDP

Investment concentrated on key themes, important for citizens' lives.

- Business support: Helped many small businesses survive the economic crisis, providing support to:
  - Quality of life: 6 million people connected to new/improved supply of clean drinking water
  - Preserving the environment: Reduced consumption of fossil fuels helped to fight global warming and lowered energy bills

- Transport: Removed transport bottlenecks, reduced travel times and supported the development of sustainable public transport

- Quality of life: A million jobs ~ 1/3 of net job creation during that period

- Positive impact on macro-economic level

Areas for improvement were identified:
Some programmes were not focused enough on the results to be achieved 2014-2020 programmes have stronger result-orientation to ensure that taxpayers' money is spent efficiently.

- Projects applying for EU funds will have to explain clearly, upfront, how they aim to reach their targets.
- Stronger monitoring will track progress towards targets and evaluation will assess impact of the programmes.

Lasting impact in all member states:
- Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia
- over 4% in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Spain, Malta, Portugal, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Poland, Hungary, Sweden

Important support to public investment

Cohesion Policy provided up to 57% of government capital investment. A closer connection between the Cohesion Policy and public investment is needed.

COHESION POLICY FUNDING AS A % OF GOVERNMENT CAPITAL INVESTMENT 2007-2013

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More information:
- Eurostat: Data and analysis
- DG REGIO: Regional and Urban Policy
- EU in my region: