

Cohesion Policy and Denmark

⋈ In 2014-2020, Denmark will manage **two operational programmes** under EU Cohesion Policy. Of these, one will receive funding from European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and one from European Social Fund (ESF).



Structural Funds (ERDF and ESF) eligibility 2014-2020

- Less developed regions
(GDP/head < 75 % of EU-27 average)
- Transition regions
(GDP/head between $\geq 75\%$ and $< 90\%$ of EU-27 average)
- More developed regions
(GDP/head $\geq 90\%$ of EU-27 average)

How much EU funding will be invested in Denmark (2014-2020)?

For 2014-2020, Denmark has been allocated around **€553 million** (current prices) in total Cohesion Policy funding:

- **€84 million** for transition regions (Zealand).
- **€329 million** for more developed regions (Northern Jutland, Mid-Jutland, Southern Denmark, Capital region and Bornholm).
- **€140 million** for European Territorial Cooperation.

Of this, the ESF in Denmark will represent a minimum of **€206.6 million**. The actual share will be set in light of the specific challenges the country needs to address in the areas covered by the ESF.

What are the main investment priorities for Denmark?

The investment priorities for 2014-2020 are set out in a Partnership Agreement with the European Commission. The priorities include:

- Improving businesses' competitiveness and growth through support to innovation, energy efficiency and labour market skills and mobility.
- Promoting entrepreneurship.
- Reducing emissions of green house gases.
- Increasing inclusion of people at the margins of the labour market.
- Promoting an environmentally friendly and resource-efficient economy.

What results have been achieved so far?

The total allocation from Cohesion Policy funding for the 2007-2013 period was € 613 million.

Since the beginning of the 2007-2013 funding period, amongst other achievements, the ERDF has helped Denmark to:

- support over 3 500 start-ups;
- invest in 245 RTD projects;
- fund 104 renewable energy projects.

Through the European Social Fund, around 17 000 people have acquired new skills. More than 1 000 people supported by ESF have received employment or entered the labour force. In addition, some 200 SMEs have been created due to ESF interventions.

Cohesion Policy success stories

ERDF projects

● Clean technology

The ERDF has also invested in [Copenhagen Cleantech Cluster](#), which helps businesses in Denmark's Capital region and the region of Zealand to develop innovative and sustainable solutions to environmental challenges. The Cluster provides opportunities for knowledge sharing and collaboration between Danish and foreign companies, and helps to raise awareness of Danish expertise in cleantech internationally.

Total cost: € 19.5 million (ERDF contribution: € 9.7 million)

● The 100 % renewable city

An ERDF investment is helping the north Danish city of Frederikshavn to achieve its ambitious goal of becoming the first European city to rely solely on renewable energy by 2015. The pioneering [Energiby \(‘Energy City’\) initiative](#) aims to create a 100 % renewable energy system by tapping multiple energy sources rather than only one. It will offer green growth opportunities which are expected to have a positive impact on the city's economic attractiveness and development.

Total cost: € 667 000 (ERDF contribution: € 333 000)

ESF projects

● Improving job prospects for minorities

A nationwide project supported by the ESF has helped to almost halve school and training drop-out rates for young people from ethnic minority backgrounds. The [Hold On Tight Caravan project](#) (Fastholdelseskaravanen) involves retention coordinators, based in schools, who ensure a coordinated approach for each young person at risk. The project also provides targeted training for teachers, activities to encourage parental involvement and mentoring for young people from ethnic minority backgrounds.

Total cost: € 6.4 million (ESF contribution: € 3.2 million)

- **Business support in Northern Jutland**

Flere virksomheder i vækst is a business development project in Northern Jutland. Using ESF funding, the project provides support in areas from consultancy to the development of competencies of employees in areas like strategy, HR, management, sales and marketing, productivity and e-business. One business that has benefited from the project is the company Bila, which started as a local machine shop and maintenance business but was assisted in optimizing the workflow and is today Denmark's biggest company in robot automation.

Total cost: €25.3 million (ESF contribution: €11.2 million)

Find out more about EU cohesion policy projects in Denmark

For more project examples, as well as links to the complete list of beneficiaries of EU cohesion policy funding, see the following websites:

- [European Commission Regional Policy website](#)
- [European Social Fund website](#)