



European Commission



THE OUTERMOST REGIONS EUROPEAN LANDS IN THE WORLD



SAINT-MARTIN



- Saint-Martin is an island of the Caribbean Sea. The Northern part of the island is a French overseas department, 6700 km away from Paris, with 36 000 inhabitants.
- Recently devastated by hurricane Irma, Saint-Martin needs to rebuild its key infrastructure.
- While its rich biodiversity can help boost tourism, its industry (mainly construction) is relatively weak and poorly structured. The Region currently doesn't offer any University level education training. However, building on **the multilingualism of its population** (French, English and Spanish) the region would like to develop a language education offer.
- Saint-Martin has a young population, heavily affected by unemployment and early school leaving.



36 000 inhabitants

51 km²

WHAT WILL THE NEW EU STRATEGY BRING TO SAINT-MARTIN?

By encouraging the outermost regions to **capitalise on their unique assets**, the strategy will help them create new **opportunities** for their people, boost **innovation** in sectors like agriculture, fisheries or tourism, while deepening the **cooperation** with neighbour countries. For the Saint Martin, the strategy could help support in particular:

- ✓ **The preservation of biodiversity** and the promotion of business opportunities in the area of renewable energy, waste management and circular economy
- ✓ **Enhanced mobility, employability and new skills for young people** by financially helping students and volunteers travelling under Erasmus + and the European Solidarity Corps
- ✓ **Improved resilience and adaptation to climate change**, by better taking into account the outermost regions' specific needs under EU climate and environment programmes and policies
- ✓ The **region's interests taken into account** upstream when negotiating trade agreements and **deeper cooperation** with neighbouring countries
- ✓ Further support to **transport connections**



WHAT DOES THE EUROPEAN UNION DO FOR SAINT MARTIN?

EU funding 2014-2020



Some **expected results** of this EU support:

- ▶ Enhanced mobility of 3,500 young people
- ▶ 3,500 participants in programmes fighting illiteracy and early school leaving
- ▶ 10 000 households with new access to broadband
- ▶ 14 000 households connected to better waste water treatment networks

IN ADDITION

€10 million under the **European cooperation programme** for Saint-Martin/Sint-Maarten

€131 million under the **European Maritime Fisheries Fund** for the French outermost regions

POSEI, the specific agriculture programme for the outermost regions can support the French outermost regions with **up to €278 million per year**

Specificities of other EU policies

The outermost regions benefit from specific or derogating legislative and non-legislative measures, in areas such as regional development, agriculture, state aid and taxation, transport and fisheries in order to mitigate the impact of their specific constraints and boost economic growth.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE EU IN SAINT-MARTIN



Vocational training for fisheries professionals

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

EU funding: €129 000

This project supports unemployed young people, in order to help them acquire the relevant competencies to work in the fish industry.

This vocational training project aims to equip young people with the skills they need to be immediately employable in the local market. Several training courses help participants get a job or create their own company.



Becoming facilitator for extracurricular activities

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

EU funding: €66 000

With this training, young people can become facilitators for extracurricular activities. This project helps address the increased needs in this field of competence consequent to the growth of the school population.