



EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS: Making the difference, everyday

2019 STATE OF PLAY ON IMPLEMENTATION



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EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

The ERDF has targeted 9,728 firms so far, including 3,937 start-ups, with 1,463 new direct jobs created. ERDF is also supporting research, with 183 new jobs of researchers created. Furthermore, 165 enterprises have been supported by ERDF to introduce new-to-the-market products.



EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)

ESF supported projects aim to bring more people onto the job market, reinforce social inclusion, in particular through the social economy, support qualification and skills, education – in particular by tackling early school leaving – and lifelong learning. To date, around 750,000 people have been supported, including 150,000 young people.



EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)

Thanks to EAFRD supported projects, some 76% farms and 2,000 young farmers have been supported to set-up farms and improve competitiveness, 75,500 hectares have received support for organic farming and 162,000 hectares for agri-environment-climate measures.

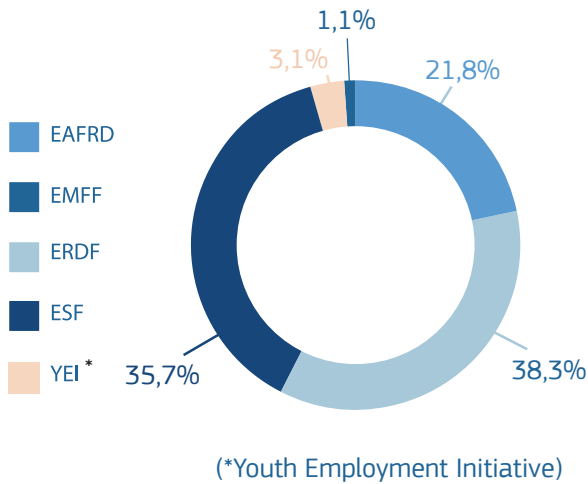


EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)

By the end of 2018, almost 60% of the EMFF budget was committed to almost 150 projects. Belgium improved its contribution to the Common Fisheries Policy objectives, e.g. scientific knowledge and control of fishing activities, but also invested greatly in health and safety on board for fishers.

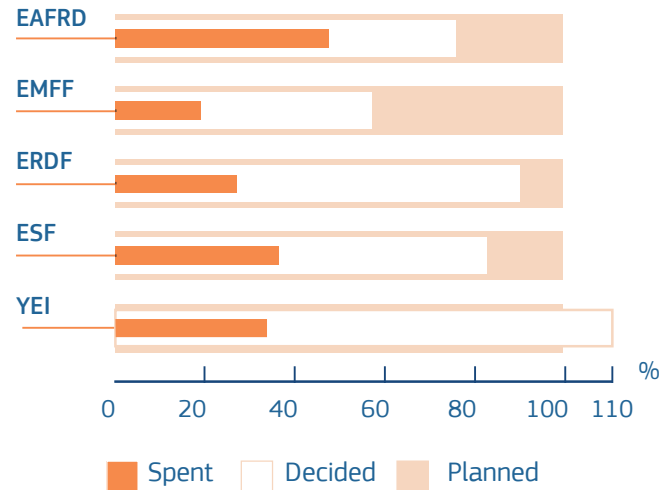
OVERALL FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Budget by Fund

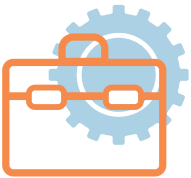


Implementation by Fund for Belgium

(total cost % of planned)



EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS



EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

Training for the future

TechnoCampus prepares people in Hainaut-Namur (Wallonia) for future jobs, offering a wide range of trainings covering the most important competences needed in the industrial sector. Total investment amounts to €2.7 million, including €1.1 million from the ERDF. Similarly, in Flanders, T2 Campus is a “state-of-the-art” talent campus in Genk that provides training in electronics, energy, new materials and IT. Total investment amounts to €43 million, including 12,5 million from the ERDF.

<http://www.technocampus.be>
<https://t2-campus.be/>



EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)

Hands-on training for greater job opportunities

The ESF supports a series of training activities aiming at giving the beneficiaries hands-on approach and direct contact with the concrete working environment. For example, EPICURIS, the center of competence for food&drink in Wallonia, provides jobseekers with training in the fields of catering (cooking, service, etc.), butchery, bakery/pastry-making, hygiene and regulation, etc. The ESF support to this project is of €3.7 million.



EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)

Sustainable dairy farming

To take advantage of the new technologies for producing renewable energy from manure, a farm owner in Plombières (Liège region) decided to invest in a biogas plant. The plant pumps daily a fixed quantity of manure from the reactor to the digestate storage, and replenishes the discharged volume with fresh manure from the manure pit. Total investment amounted to €220,000, including over €18,000 from the EAFRD.



EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)

Testing the first offshore mussel farm between wind turbines

Edulis is an ambitious pilot project investigating the feasibility of mussel farming between the wind turbines in offshore wind farms in the North Sea, 30 to 50 km from the Belgian coast. Experimental mussel farming systems have been installed in two wind farms, where the capture of mussel seeds and further mussel growth are monitored with regular sampling. Total investment amounts to over €1.2 million, including €175,000 from the EMFF.

<http://www.aqua.ugent.be/edulis>