

# Challenges of the 2014-20 programming period

**Annual conference of competitiveness  
operative programmes  
Double challenge: closing the old and  
launching the new programmes**

Budapest  
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## Key questions on the achievements of 2007-2013 programming period

- **Have the structural funds contributed to the removal of regional disparities?**
- **Were the structural funds an effective tool in preventing the negative impacts of financial crisis?**
- **Were the member states successful in avoiding the problems which occurred in previous programming period(s)?**
- **Why are we facing a high level of decommitment?**

## Tangible benefits of cohesion policy in 2007-2013

- Income has increased in the poorest EU regions with GDP per capita growing in these areas from **60.5 % of the EU average in 2007 to 62.7 % in 2010**
- 769 000 jobs created – at least 274 000 in SMEs
- 102 000 start-up companies supported
- 2 700 KM of new or reconstructed railways
- 25 800 KM of new or reconstructed roads
- Broadband access for 5 million citizens
- Access to clean drinking water for 4.2 million citizens
- ESF: 15 million participants per year
- 940 financial instruments in 25 Member States rising EUR 12.6 billion € OP funding (including EUR 8.36 billion structural Funds) for equity, loans and guarantees
- **72 920** research projects have been supported
- **11 050 projects** improved the sustainability and attractiveness of towns and cities
- **Has Europe become more competitive? And a better place for life?**

## Challenges for 2014 – 2020 Programming Period

### Contents: The five targets for the EU in 2020

- **Employment: 75% of the 20-64 year-olds to be employed**
- **Research & Development: 3% of the EU's GDP to be invested in R&D**
- **Climate change and energy sustainability:**
  - **Greenhouse gas emissions 20% (or even 30%, if the conditions are right)**
  - **20% of energy from renewables**
  - **20 % increase of energy efficiency**
- **Education:**
  - **Reducing the rates of early school leavers below 10%**
  - **At least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion**
- **Fighting poverty and social exclusion: At least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion**

## Challenges for 2014 – 2020 Programming Period

### Contents: The five targets for the EU in 2020

- **Employment:** The crisis has widened disparities in employment rates, EU2020 employment target of 75 % is currently far from reach, Unemployment highest in the EU in over a decade; major risks for youth
- **Climate change and energy sustainability:** Dispute over possible negative economic impacts for the competitiveness
- **Education:** Early school leaving rates improve but significant challenges for education and training systems;
- **Fighting poverty and social exclusion:** At-risk-of-poverty rates increased in 17 MS; Severe material deprivation is on the rise 11% of the EU population in 2012. It is worst in southern and eastern MS.

## Challenges for 2014 – 2020 Programming Period

### Contents: Structural and Implementation „bottlenecks“

- **Financial instruments**
  - Lessons learned from 2007-13 programming period
- **Sustainable Urban Development**
  - No or little experience in some countries
  - Strategies to be prepared yet
- **Ability to draw the funds**
  - (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania)
  - Are managing authorities and other bodies shaped to effective implementation?
  - Are legal instruments properly set, especially procurement procedures?
  - Are administrative capacities sufficient and motivated?

**Thanks for your attention.**