

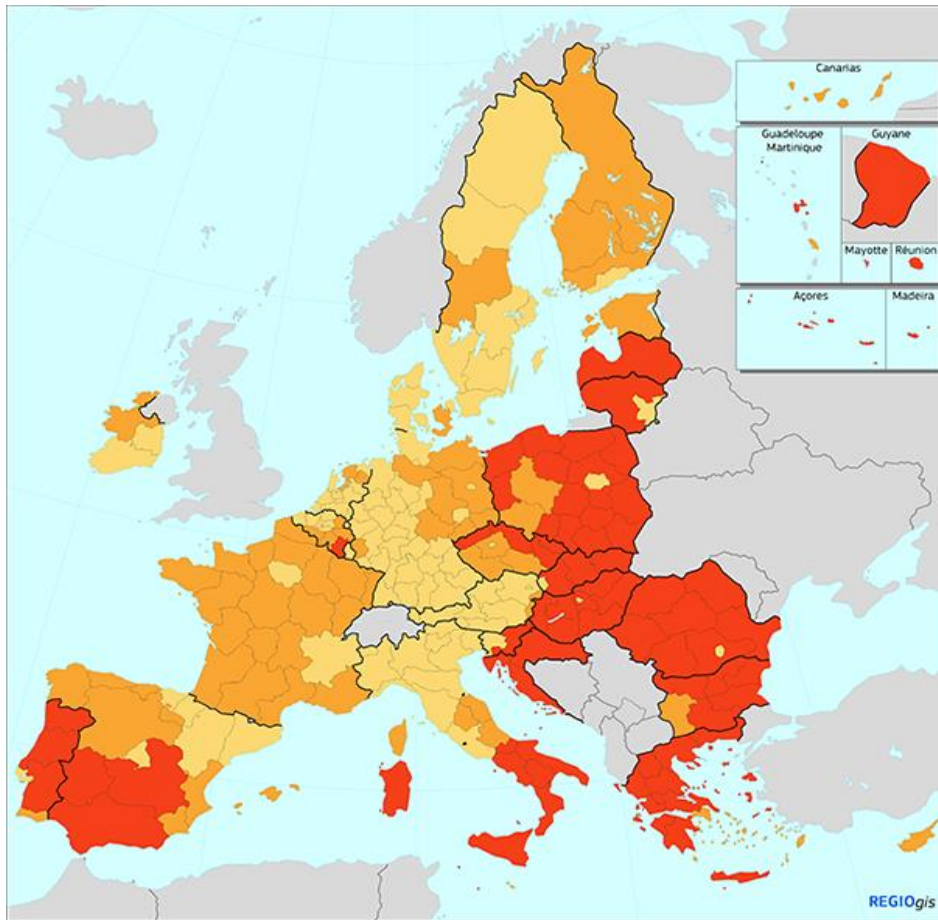
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# EU cohesion policy - opportunities for small and medium sized urban areas

16 March 2023  
17.00 – 18.30



# Cohesion policy benefits all EU regions and types of territories



Investment for jobs and growth goal (ERDF and ESF+) eligibility, 2021-2027

Categories of regions

- Less developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) less than 75% of the EU-27 average)
- Transition regions (GDP/head (PPS) between 75% and 100% of the EU-27 average)
- More developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) above 100% of the EU-27 average)

GDP/head: average 2015-2016-2017

0 500 km

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Cohesion Policy contributes to strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union.

It aims to correct imbalances between countries and regions, and delivers on the Union's political priorities, especially the green and digital transition.

Cohesion policy 2021-2027 EUR 378 billion:

- 1) Investment for jobs and growth, funded by:
  - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
  - European Social Fund+ (ESF+)
  - Cohesion Fund (CF)
  - Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- 2) Interreg: European Territorial Cooperation goal (ERDF)
- 3) Commission managed EU instruments and

# Cohesion policy 2021-2027 framework - basis for investments at national, regional and local level

5 policy objectives, urban dimension explicitly linked to 3 specific objectives:



## 1. A smarter Europe



## 2. A greener, low-carbon Europe

(vii) enhancing protection and preservation of nature, biodiversity, and green infrastructure, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution



(viii) promoting sustainable multimodal urban mobility, as part of transition to a net zero carbon economy



## 3. A more connected Europe

## 4. A more social Europe



## 5. A Europe closer to citizens

- sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories and local initiatives

(i) fostering the integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism, and security in urban areas (min. 8% of ERDF)

# Urban dimension of cohesion policy - supporting cities of all sizes

## Minimum Requirements

Entails a **specific method** of integrated territorial development, that requires territorial or local development strategies, that are place-based, integrated and with the involvement of relevant partners in the preparation and implementation of the strategy.

**Territorial tools to use:**  
CLLD, ITI, or other territorial tool (national)

For urban areas:  
Minimum 8% of ERDF at national level



- Cohesion policy is the policy to **territorialize the European goals and priorities** in close partnership with national, regional and local authorities and stakeholders.
- Member States are required to **analyse territorial disparities, needs and challenges** for their programmes and also outline an integrated approach for **addressing specific challenges and needs** of such regions.

A “cross-cutting **territorial policy objective**” for the integrated and sustainable development of urban and other territories, to address the diverse and interlinked territorial and local needs and challenges

# THANK YOU!

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/2021-2027\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/2021-2027_en)

