



# Cohesion and structural funds: contribution to TEN-T

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# Structure

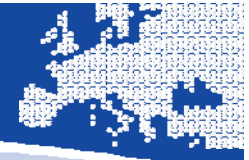
- Cohesion Policy and TEN-T (2007-2013)
- What makes regions grow?
- What are the lessons of the past?



# Cohesion Policy and TEN-T (2007-2013)

- **“Convergence” Objective:** regions in which GDP per head does not reach 75% of the EU average - €283 billion (81.5%)  
*84 regions - 154 million people*
- **“Regional Competitiveness & Employment” Objective:** regions facing difficulties such as changes in key sectors, decline of traditional activities, economic/social crisis, deterioration in urban areas, depopulation of rural areas - €55 billion (16%)  
*168 regions - 314 million people*
- **“Territorial Cooperation” Objective** - €8.7 billion (2.5%)

**Cohesion Policy (2007-2013) focuses on Lisbon priorities (innovation & knowledge society, employment, environment/risk prevention, accessibility)**



# Five levels of programming and follow-up

1

## **Community's strategic guidelines on cohesion**

*proposed by the Commission, adopted by the Council, assent by the European Parliament*

2

## **National Strategic Reference Framework**

*proposed by the Member State in applying the partnership principle; reflects on the Union's orientations, lays down a national strategy and its programming; finally decided by the Commission*

3

## **Operational Programmes**

*one programme by fund and Member State or region, description of priorities, management and financial sources; proposed by Member State or region; finally decided by the Commission*

4

## **Programme management and project selection**

*by Member States and regions; "shared management" principle = concertation with the Commission*

5

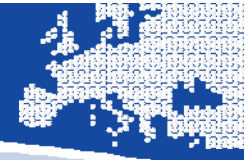
## **Strategic follow-up and annual debate**

*by the European Council in Spring, based on an annual report of the Commission and Member States*



# Cohesion Policy and TEN-T (2007-2013)

- Enhancing accessibility is of key importance to strengthening regional economies and achieving cohesion and competitiveness → Transport included in development strategies
  
- **2007-13:**
  - **New system of codes includes 5 new TEN-T categories (Railways, mobile rail assets, motorways, multimodal and inland waterways)**
  - **Reporting rhythm**
    - **Planned programme spending in dr. OPs (& earmarking)**
    - **Actual committed spending in annual reports**
  - **Estimates from notified draft OPs show**
    - **total transport plans ~ € 74 bn (23.3% of Cohesion budget)**
    - **Of which TEN-T ~ € 37.4 bn (12%)**
    - **Of which Rail: € 18 bn ; Motorway : € 18.2 bn**
  
- **2000-06 total transport:**
  - **ERDF (25 Member States): +/- €34 billion**
  - **Cohesion Fund (14 Member States): +/- €16 billion**



# Cohesion Policy and TEN-T (2007-2013)

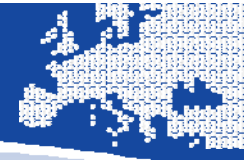
- Cohesion Policy builds capacities in Member States for project identification, selection, implementation and management.
- Financial engineering in project preparation and financing.
- Cohesion Policy finances up to 85% of the total costs of the project in convergence regions.
- Cohesion Policy finances up to 50% in competitiveness and employment regions.
- Major projects (+ 50 mio EUR) are under review by the Commission.



# What makes regions grow?

- **the capital stock dimension:** essentially the level of past and present investment in a region's infrastructure (*transport* and ICT).
- **the labour market dimension:** this includes policies relating to both the labour market and human capital development.
- **the business environment dimension:** this covers a range of policies designed to support firms, such as cluster policies, policies to promote links between research and industry, and, in particular, promotion of innovation in regions.

(OECD)



# What are the lessons of the past?

- **infrastructure is an essential element for regional development (connection, congestion; modes, nodes...),**  
.....but needs to be embedded in an integrated development strategy in order to avoid “leaking by linking”;
- **coordination between MS needs to be enhanced (transnational links);**
  - improve the use of possibilities under territorial cooperation – but limited budget
- **complex projects require lengthy preparation**
  - capacity building in Member States of key importance;
  - mobilising national and regional implementation capacities for carrying out the significant number of projects;
  - lasting effects of capacity building;
- **better definition of TEN-T priorities**
  - better identification of priority axes;
  - better definition of priority projects;