



# Linking Smart Cities to Structural Funds

*Horizon 2020*  
**Smart Cities & Communities**  
**Info Day**

**#H2020SCC1**

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Energy

# Political Context

- **Urban Agenda for the EU – Pact of Amsterdam**
  - Acknowledging that urbanisation is *the* territorial trend in Europe (positive and negative urbanisation effects)
  - Capitalising on the large number of instruments, legislation and initiatives on urban at European level
- **Urban Agenda is the 'chapeau' of EU urban policies**
- **Aims for "better funding", "better regulation" and "better knowledge"**
- **Work on 12 urban priority themes, such as urban mobility, energy transition or digital transition, but also on the social side**
- **In partnership: COM, MS, cities, stakeholders**

# Linking Smart Cities with European Structural and Investment Funds

## **3 key messages**

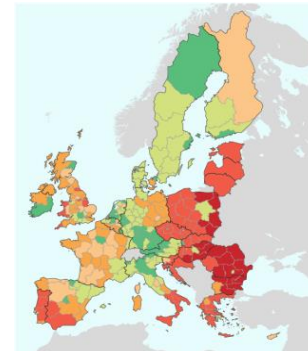
1. Use European Structural and Investment Funds to complement your Smart City project
  - *Key features of ESIF*
  - *Strong urban dimension in ESIF*
2. No automatism: You need to be pro-active
  - *Know how ESIF is managed*
  - *Get help from the guide*
3. Consider additional networking and funding opportunities



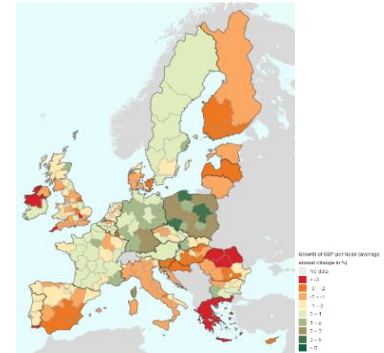
European Commission

# ESIF 2014-2020

➤ *The investment arm for Europe 2020*



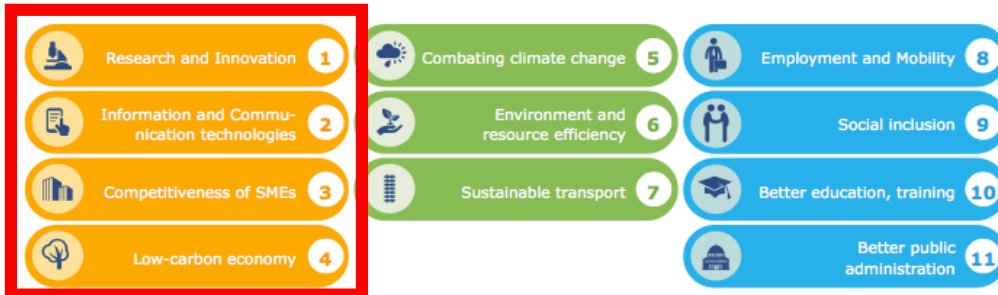
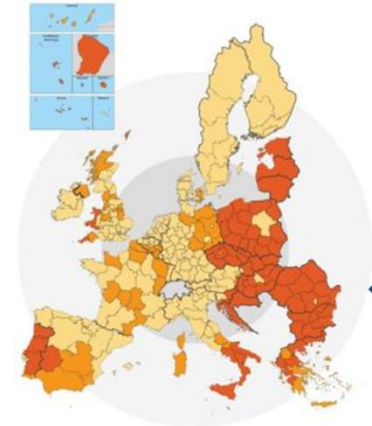
GDP per head 2011



GDP growth per head 2008-2013

➤ *EUR 351 billion for 2014-2020*

➤ *Funds for all, focus on less developed regions*



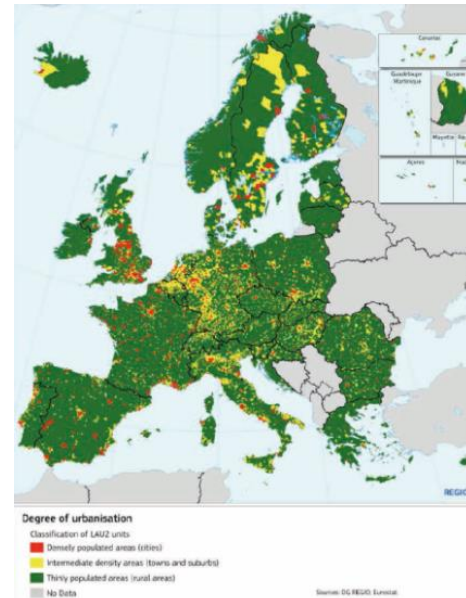
➤ *Thematic concentration on top EU priorities*



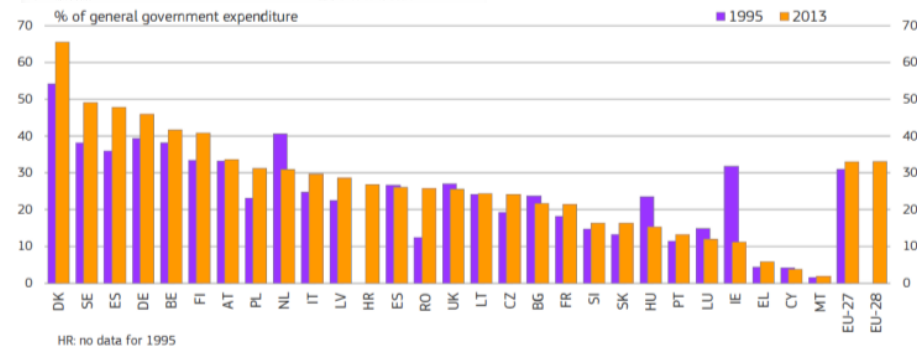
European Commission

# Urban policy within ESIF

- EUR 15 billion for sustainable and integrated urban development
- 700+ cities/ metropolitan areas
- Territorial approach: the thematic focus depends on respective urban challenges
- Cities focus on investments towards a low carbon economy, resource efficiency and social inclusion
- Empowerment of urban authorities: City develops strategy, and selects the projects
- Reinforced networking: Urban Development Network, URBACT III



*Degree of urbanisation*



*Sub-national government expenditure, 2013*

# Management of European Structural and Investment Funds

- **Operational strategies at national/ regional level for 2014-2020: "Operational Programmes"**
  - 205 country/ regional specific programmes ("Investment in Growth and Jobs")  
Incl. 110 programmes with a focus on sustainable urban development
  - 91 cross border/ transnational/ interregional programmes ("Interreg Programmes")
- Principle of **shared management:**
  - **Commission** sets overall priorities
  - Operational programmes are **proposed by Member States and regions**
  - **Commission negotiates and approves** the programmes
  - Member States/ regions **manages the programmes, selects projects, monitors and assesses implementation**
  - MS/ region acts in partnership with relevant regional and local stakeholders



European  
Commission

# Links between Smart Cities projects and Urban Policy within the European Structural and Investment Funds

- *ESIF can provide*
  - ✓ *complementary financing*
  - ✓ *rollout financing*
  - ✓ *financing for follower cities*
- *Guide on synergies*  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf)
- *Seal of excellence (pilot phase)*





European  
Commission

# Additional funding opportunities within ESIF

- Urban Innovative Actions (EUR 370 M ERDF)
  - For cities/ metropolitan areas; single cities can apply (above 50.000 citizens, groups of cities possible)
  - Max EUR 5 M per project
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> call will open end 2016
  - topics
    1. *Circular Economy*
    2. *Sustainable Urban Mobility*
    3. *Integration of Migrants and Refugees*
- [www.uia-initiative.eu/](http://www.uia-initiative.eu/)
- URBACT III (EUR 74 M ERDF) – specifically for cities
- Interreg Europe (EUR 360 M ERDF) – cities and regions





***Thank you for your attention***

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