Cohesion Policy support for Sustainable Energy

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Proceedings at http://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar09_BXL.htm
• Sustainable Development & Cohesion Policy 2007-13

• Support for Sustainable Energy

• Future Orientations
Cohesion Policy 2007-13

• **Key targets:**
  – Growth, competitiveness & employment
  – Sustainable Development

• **Key principles:**
  – Complementary and additionality of EU funds
  – Principle of ‘shared management’:
    • EC view on strategic levels – plans
    • MS responsible for the implementation of Operational Programmes and decide on specific projects
EU Cohesion Policy 2007-2013

Eligible Regions

- **Convergence Regions**
- **Phasing-out Regions**
- **Phasing-in Regions**
- **Competitiveness and Employment Regions**

**Total Budget:**
EUR 347.4 Bn
(35.6% of the EU-Budget)

Of which **82% for Convergence Regions**, **15% for Competitiveness**
Position EU as lead market in green technologies
Create new and sustainable jobs in local economies (growth)
Improve and protects the environment

30% of total Cohesion Policy funds 2007-2013
- 3 times more than in 2000-2006 (€ 37 billion)

Cohesion Policy Environment Support

= € 105 bn

Environmental Rulebook €54 bn

Low Carbon Economy €48 bn

Eco-Innovation €3 bn

Renewable energies € 4.8 billion
Energy efficiency: € 4.2 billion
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• **Community Strategic Guidelines** for Cohesion 2007-13 “address Europe’s intensive use of traditional energy sources” → promote Energy Efficiency & Renewables.

• **New!** Proposed **ERDF Amendment** may support energy investments in existing housing in EU 27 - up to 4% of total allocation to the MS.
Allocations to Energy Sector as % of total CP allocations per MS 2007-2013

Source: Infoview 2008
Examples of projects

POWER project
€5.8m inter-regional programme co-funded by INTERREG IVC

- Aimed at driving Low Carbon Economies
- 7 EU regions: Andalucia; Emilia-Romagna; Malopolska; Noord-Brabant; South East England; Stockholm; Tallinn
- 5 areas for joint co-operation and pilot initiatives:
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Renewable Energies
  - Eco-innovation and environmental technologies
  - Sustainable transport
  - Behaviour Change
- http://www.powerprogramme.eu/
Examples of projects

Lahti Cleantech cluster
ERDF and 5th Framework Programme, 2004–07
€3.5 million in total, of which €1.5 million in European funding

• Encourages innovation and investment in environmental technologies
• 20 clean-tech companies and organisations relocated to the region
• Attracted investment worth more than €30 million
• Some 170 new jobs to the region
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The Future Cohesion Policy?

Main Issues:

• Improving the way regional and local resources from all territories are used, so that they contribute to the competitiveness of all Europe.

• Focusing the policy more on results so that its impact can be better measured.

• Continue simplifying the process used to implement the policy, at the same time ensuring it remains effective.

• Focusing the policy towards the future and helping regions deal with future challenges.
Regions 2020 – Regional Vulnerability to Global Challenges

• Analyse vulnerability of regions to the challenges from globalisation, demographic change, climate change and energy.

• Regions most vulnerable to 2020 challenges are peripheral, so exacerbates existing disparities.

Conclusions for future:
– Continued focus on the Lisbon objectives.
– Reinforcement of investments to address the challenges posed by the shift to the low carbon economy.
– Reinforced territorial cooperation to address common problems.

Barca Report - Conclusions

1. Strong rationale for allocating a large share of the EU budget to a “place-based development strategy”

2. Cohesion policy provides the appropriate basis for this strategy, but a comprehensive reform is needed
Barca Report - An agenda for a reformed Cohesion Policy

1. **Focusing resources** on core priorities
2. **Results oriented** - new strategic framework (by Spring 2012).
3. **Mobilising & Learning** - Promoting experimentation and mobilising local actors. Promoting evaluation that focuses on “what works”, “for whom” and “why”
4. **Strengthening the Commission** - more ambitious and demanding role for the Commission. Enhanced coordination between DGs.
5. **Reinforcing political checks and balances** include more active role for Council and European Parliament.
New focus on climate change & energy challenges?

- Cohesion Policy must take account of the impact on climate change when designing measures.
- Climate Change has asymmetric impacts (also across borders) & regions have differentiated capacity to adapt therefore rationale for place-based intervention.
- Adapting to climate change and a low-carbon economy is potentially a relevant issue for EU cohesion policy.
Thank you!

Any questions?