



# **Climate change impacts, planning methods and appraisals tools for major projects under Regional and Urban Policy**

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# Regional Policy: characteristics

- shared management
  - MS/Regions responsible for selection and implementation of projects
  - Commission importance during strategic phase
  - Policy functions only if all levels deliver



# Regional Policy: the way ahead

## Regional Policy at the heart of Europe 2020

- strong links to the European Semester process
- key EU instrument to promote growth and competitiveness
- addressing present and future key challenges via:
  - strengthened result orientation
  - focused development strategies (e.g. regional smart specialisation)
  - conditionalities



# Key challenges

- jobs and growth
- reduction of territorial disparities



## Thematic objectives

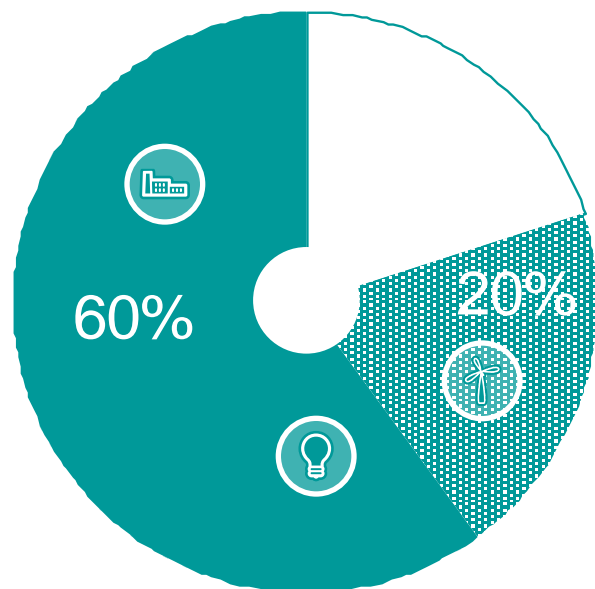
1. Research and innovation
2. Information and Communication Technologies
3. Competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
4. Shift to a low-carbon economy
5. Climate change adaptation and risk management & prevention
6. Environmental protection and resource efficiency
7. Sustainable transport and disposal of congestion on major network infrastructure
8. Employment and support for labour mobility
9. Social inclusion and poverty reduction
10. Education, skills and lifelong learning
11. Increased institutional capacity and effectiveness of public administration

# Concentration of ERDF

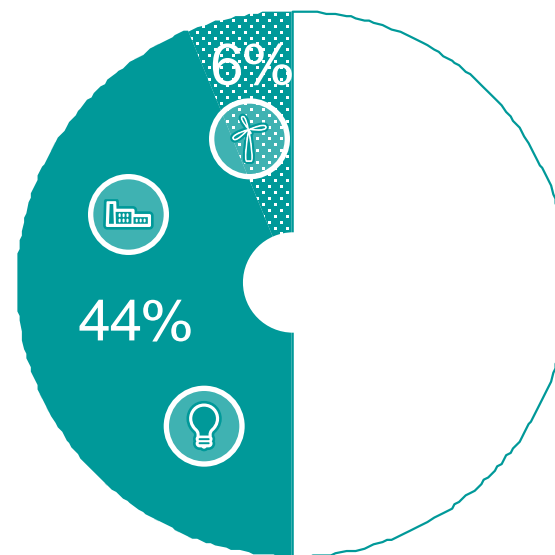
 Energy efficiency & renewable energy

 Research & innovation

 Competitiveness of SMEs



More developed &  
transition regions



Less developed  
regions

Mitigation of climate change  
(reducing emissions)



# Mainstreaming climate change: the CPR

- **Climate change "proofing"**
  - Horizontal principle (Article 8)
    - Each OP to describe specific actions taking into account climate change in the selection of operations (Article 87.3)
    - Ex-ante evaluation – adequacy of planned measures to promote sustainable development (Article 48.3 (m))
    - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (Article 48.4)
    - Procedures on selection of operations (Article 114.3 (a) ii)
    - Major Projects: analysis of environmental impacts to take into account mitigation and adaptation aspects (Article 91)
- **Tracking climate change and assessing impact**
  - Tracking of expenditure for climate change objectives (Article 8)
  - Followed up in reporting (AIR)
  - Assessment of impact against headline targets (20/20/20)

# Practical way ahead: tools & instruments for climate mainstreaming







# COM<sub>2</sub>PARE

CO<sub>2</sub> Model for Programme Assessment in the Regions of Europe



UCL ENERGY  
INSTITUTE



KAPES  
CRES

CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE  
ENERGY SOURCES AND SAVING



Italian National Agency for New Technologies,  
Energy and Sustainable Economic Development



# The CO2MPARE tool

- 'Carbon management' of OP's
- Simple excel spread sheet easy to get trained on and then to use
- Turns financial allocations into CO2 emissions
- Enables to compare different scenarios / alternatives of programme content and the resulting carbon impact
- Successful test in 5 'test regions' with different OP's
- MS & MA's should be encouraged to take this up for their 2014-2020 programmes!

# Major Projects as part of Operational Programmes:

- often large share programme resources
- need to clearly contribute to the objectives of regional development strategies
- need to assure sustainability over the long run (due to nature of projects)
  - financially
  - socially
  - environmentally



# Major Projects are an important tool in development strategies:

## ERDF and Cohesion Fund :

- + 850 projects for > € **115 billion** out of €350 billion Structural Funds (2007-2013)

## 2014-2020

- Major Projects remain an instrument but with more efficient procedures through an independent expert
- ceilings increase to 50/75 million eligible costs
- Operational Programmes key instruments for implementation

# Major Projects appraisal 2014-2020:

Appraisal by independent expert or by Commission on basis following information:

- (a) body responsible for implementation and its capacity
- (b) description of the investment and its location
- (c) total cost and total eligible cost
- (d) **feasibility studies, including options analysis**
- (e) **cost-benefit analysis, including economic and financial analysis, and risk assessment**
- (f) **analysis of environmental impact, taking into account climate change issues**
- (g) consistency and expected contribution to the relevant priority axes of the operational programme(s)
- (h) financing plan, physical and financial indicators
- (i) timetable



# Conclusions

- Climate Change horizontal themes in Regional and Urban Policy
- Mitigation is specifically addressed in thematic objectives
- Adaptation be included as horizontal topic by
  - taking into account specific subsidiarity
  - integrating considerations into the whole project life cycle



Thank you!