

EU financial tools for Nature and Biodiversity

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- I. Overview of the organisation of European Policies

- II. Financial instruments for nature and biodiversityEuropean

- III. Biodiversity projects: a tool for lobbying?



I. An overview of European Policies



2007-2013 organization of policies and financial instruments



**Common
Agricultural
Policy**

**Social and
economic
cohesion
policy**

Sectoral policies

Transports : Marco Polo II

**Industrial Innovation :
Competitiveness and Innovation
Framework Programme (CIP)**

**Energie : Intelligent Energy
Europe**

R&D : FP7

**Education, employment and
social affairs: Progress, Youth,
Lifelong Learning**

Culture : Culture 2007, MEDIA

**External Affairs : European
Neighbourhood, Cooperation,
stability instruments**

Justice, security, citizenship...

**European
Environment
Policy**

LIFE+

**EAGF
EAFRD**

**Common
Fisheries Policy**

EFF

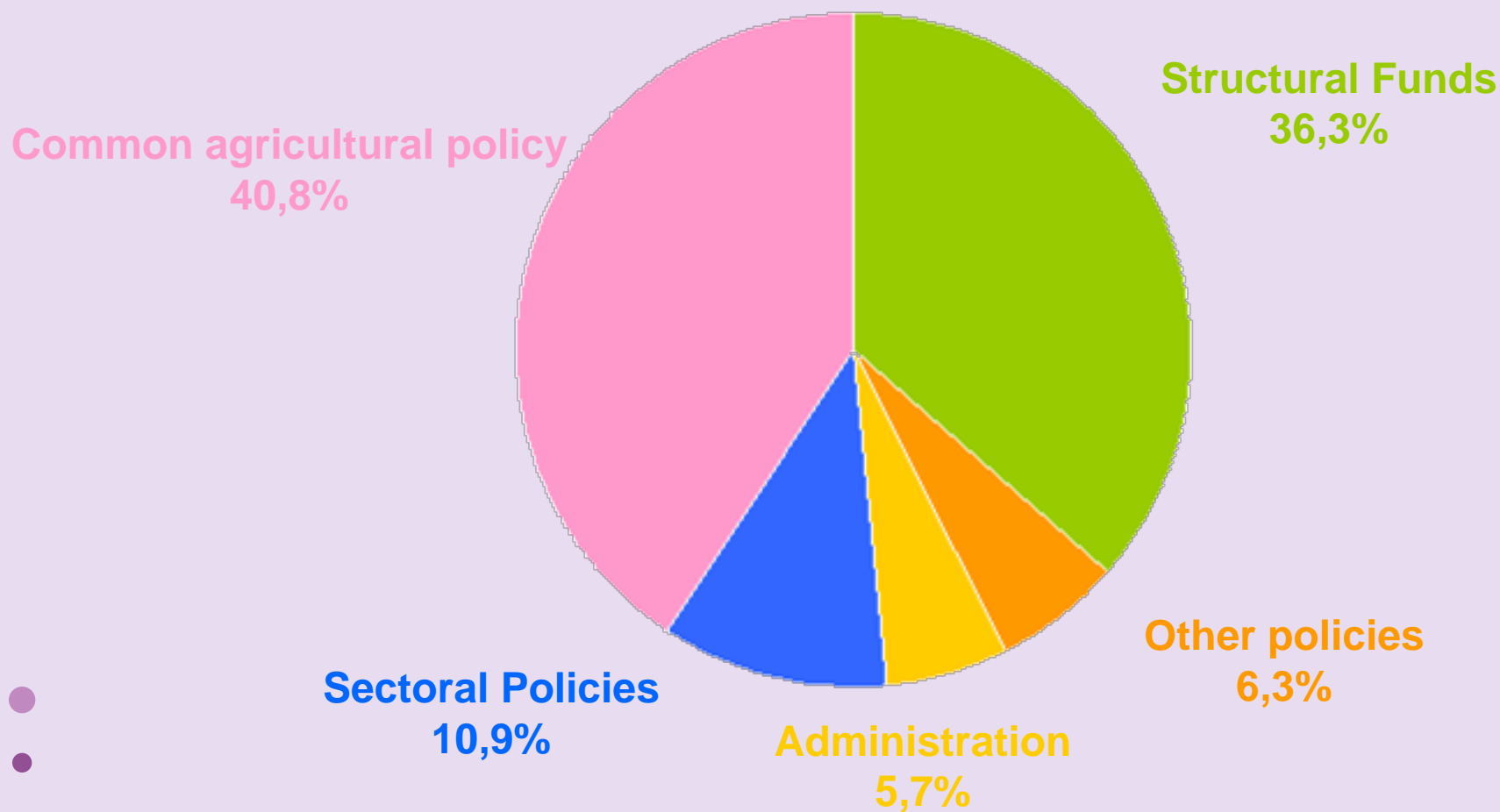
3 axes :

- Convergence
- Competitivity
- Cooperation
(Interreg IV)

**ERDF, ESF,
Cohesion Fund**

**Instrument for
Pre-Accession
Assistance**

2009 Budget distribution



European policies to support a population or territories

CAP, Cohesion

Funding programmed at the national or regional levels

Functions on a « first come, first served » basis

Strategic orientations

Structural funds

National and regional programmes

Projects to implement sectoral EC policies

Funding programmed at the level of the Commission

Functions like a competition

Action programmes

Work programmes



II. Financial Instruments for Nature and Biodiversity projects



FP7



COOPERATION €32,292 bill

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Health | 6. Environment (including climate change) |
| 2. Food, Agriculture, Fisheries, Biotechnology | 7. Transport (including aeronautics) |
| 3. Information and Communication Technologies | 8. Socio-economic sciences and the humanities |
| 4. Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, Materials and new production Technologies | 9. Security |
| 5. Energy | 10. Space |

IDEAS €7,460 bill.

PEOPLE €4,727 bill.

CAPACITIES €4,291 bill.

Research Infrastructures	Research for the benefit of SMEs	Regions of Knowledge
Research Potential for Convergence Regions	Science in Society	International Cooperation

Nuclear Research

Total Budget :
€50,521 bill.

Practical information

- ✓ Average duration of projects: 3 to 5 years.

- ✓ Cofunding rates:
 - Up to 50% for most partners.

 - Up to 75% for SMEs and research centres.

- ✓ Minimum of 3 partners from 3 different Member States.

LIFE +



Nature and biodiversity
At least 50% of the budget

Policy and governance

Information and communication

Total Budget:
€2.1 bill.

LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity

Nature

- ✓ Best practice or demonstration projects
- ✓ Projects support the implementation of the Birds and Habitats directives; must take place in Natura 2000 sites
- ✓ Min. 25% of budget for concrete conservation actions

Biodiversity

- ✓ Demonstration or innovation projects
- ✓ Projects support the implementation of the EU's biodiversity policy (2006 communication); projects may take place in the overseas departments
- ✓ Min. 25% of budget for concrete conservation actions

Practical information

- ✓ Average duration of projects: 3-5 years.
- ✓ Projects must take place in the EU territory.
- ✓ LIFE+ is primarily aimed at public organisations and NGOs.
- ✓ Cofunding rates: Up to 50% of eligible costs (75% for Nature projects targeting priority species and habitats).
- ✓ Each Member State disposes of an annual budget (€21.9 mill. for France in 2009).
- ✓ Transnationality not mandatory.
-
-

European territorial cohesion policy

- ✓ The structural funds allow the EU to implement its regional cohesion policy, whose main objective is to **reduce the gap in the different regions' levels of development.**
- ✓ This regional policy is implemented through 3 operational objectives:

Convergence - €283 bill.

60% of the budget for actions « earmarked Lisbon »

Competitiveness and employment - €55 bill.

75% of the budget for actions « earmarked Lisbon »

European territorial cooperation - €8,7 bill.

**Total budget:
€347 bill.**

**French budget :
€12,7 bill.**

Structural Funds

✓ **Convergence Objective:**

Concerns regions whose GNP per capita is **less than 75% of the average European GNP** (*in France, only the overseas departments are concerned*).


✓ **Regional Competitiveness and Employment objective:**


Concerns all the regions **not covered under the Convergence objective** (*objective: stimulate the creation of regional development programmes that will reinforce the attractiveness of the European territories*).

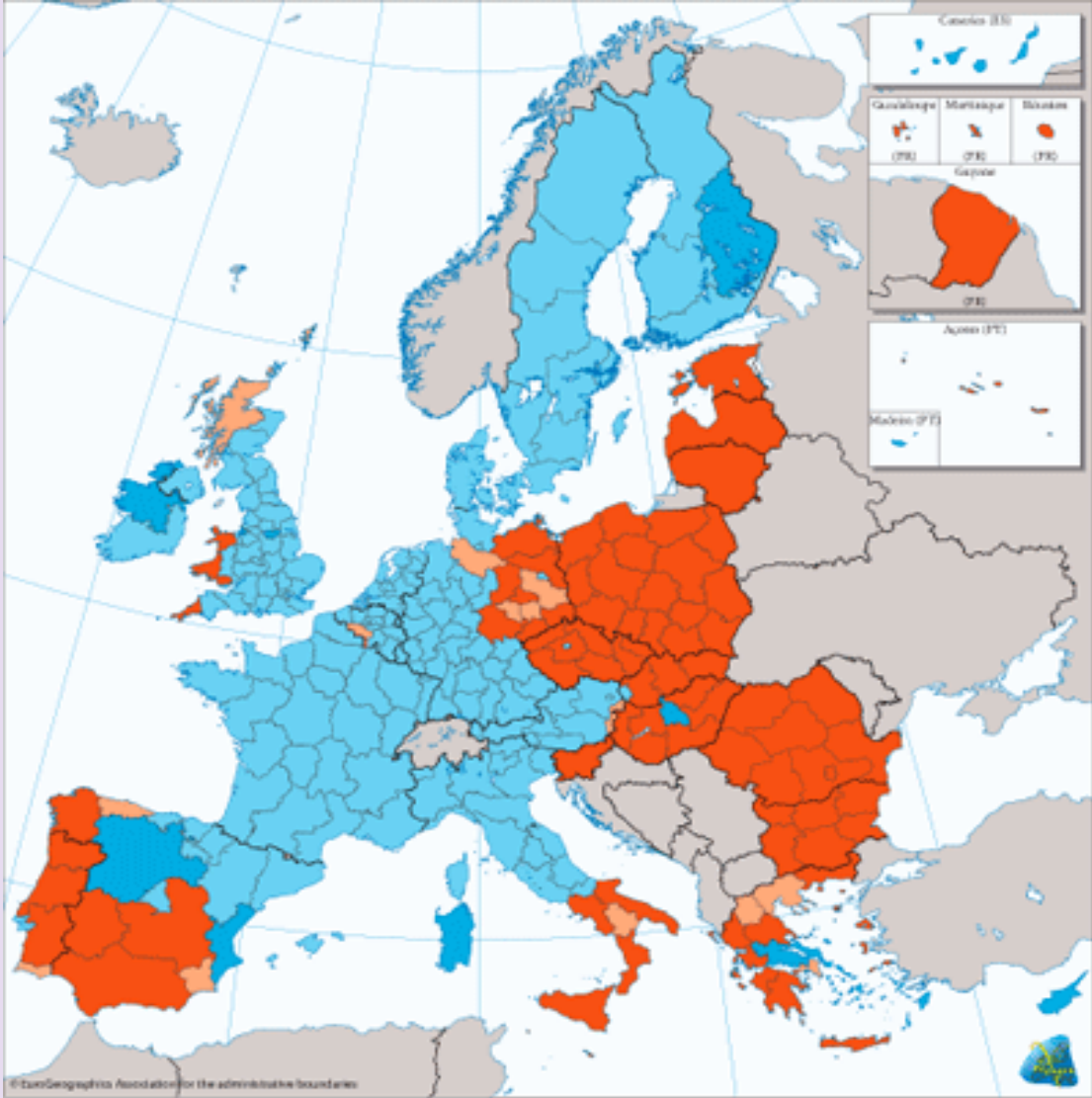
✓ **Territorial cooperation objective (INTERREG):**

Concerns **all Regions** (*objective: reinforce cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation; resolve problems that go beyond borders*).



 Convergence Objective

 Competitiveness Objective



Structural Funds

There are 3 structural funds:

- ✓ **European regional development fund (ERDF)**; supports productive investment leading to the creation or safeguarding of jobs, infrastructure contributing to development, local development initiatives and the business activities of SMEs,
- ✓ **European Social Fund (ESF)**, dedicated to training, qualifications and human resources,
- ✓ **Cohesion Fund**, dedicated to major projects involving the environment and transport infrastructure. Concerns the least prosperous member states of the Union whose (GNP) per capita is
 - below 90% of the EU-average
 -

Structural Funds

To support the application of these 3 operational objectives, the EC has written a set of **Community strategic guidelines** according to which Member States design their own **National Strategic Reference Frameworks (NSRF)** and national and regional **Operational Programmes (OPs)**.

These OPs will be re-evaluated in 2010.

Structural Funds

Objective 2: Regional Competitiveness and Employment

- ✓ Objective funded by the ERDF and the ESF.
- ✓ Each region writes an **Operational Programme** in line with the strategic Community guidelines and National strategic reference frameworks.
- ✓ For each OP, one managing authority
- ✓ Each OP is unique to its region; it must be consulted before submitting a project.
- ✓ The selection process is carried out according to a schedule decided by each region

Structural Funds

Objective 3: Territorial cooperation:

There are 3 types of territorial cooperation:

- ✓ Cross-border cooperation
→ Interreg IVA – Co-funding: **50%**

- ✓ Transnational cooperation
→ Interreg IVB – Co-funding: **50%**

- ✓ Interregional cooperation
→ Interreg IVC – Co-funding: **75%** or **85%** (*Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia*).



III. European biodiversity projects: a tool for lobbying?



What kinds of projects are eligible?

COM (2006) 216 : “Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 – and beyond”:
Biodiversity Action Plan

COM (2010) 4 : “Options for an EU vision and target for biodiversity beyond 2010”

- ✓ Actions in favour of a particular species or habitat
- ✓ Invasive alien species
- ✓ Green and blue ecological corridors
- ✓ Biomimicry
- ✓ Ecological engineering
- ✓ Soil biodiversity
- ✓ Education and awareness-raising activities
- ✓ Adaptation of biodiversity to climate change
- ✓ Ecosystem services
- ✓ Business and biodiversity...

Key elements of a European project:

- ✓ Objectives correspond with the priorities identified in the guidelines or operational programme
- ✓ A coherent plan of action: each activity is explained, planned and budgeted for
- ✓ The objectives are clear and attainable, and results will be reproducible
- ✓ Concrete outputs and results are expected
- ✓ Offers an innovative approach to the problem targeted
- ✓ Has an important communication/dissemination dimension
- ✓ Is a good value for money

Mistakes to watch out for:

- ✓ Poor technical coherence
- ✓ Poor financial coherence
- ✓ Lack of quantifiable indicators to measure project's progress and results
- ✓ Lack of solid monitoring and/or management
- ✓ Insufficient durability of results
- ✓ Project too local or national in ambition; lack of European added-value
- ✓ Technical problems with the application

Project examples: LIFE+ “URBANBEEES”

Coordinator: INRA (France)

Partners: ARTHROPOLOGIA, Lyon, Villeurbanne,
National History Museum of London

Budget: €2,171,842 (€1,084,196 from LIFE+)

Duration: January 2010 – December 2014 (5 years)

Project objectives:

- develop and implement an action plan to conserve and enhance wild bee diversity in urban habitats
- develop network of biological corridors across and between the project sites to increase favourable habitats for wild bees and reduce the genetic isolation of individual populations
- Implement recommendations in 10 urban zones in the Greater Lyon area
- carry-out dissemination and awareness-raising activities in 20 European cities



Project examples: LIFE+ “COREXERUN”

Coordinator: La Réunion National Park

Budget: €2,571,548 (€1,284,699 from LIFE+)

Duration: January 2009 – December 2013

Project objectives:

- Restore and preserve 30 ha of relic-type habitat undergoing high anthropogenic and natural pressures, in order to ensure its ecological functionality, + 9 ha of unique semi-xerophilous habitats located on a plateau between two gullies to create the possibility of restoring an ecological corridor
- Combat the erosion of biodiversity by reinforcing the populations of at least 22 rare and endangered species
- Develop innovative protocols for the restoration and the reconstitution of semi-xerophilous habitats on Reunion that can be transferred to similar projects in the Southwest Indian Ocean area
- Acquire detailed knowledge of the semi-xerophilous habitats
- Exchange, share, raise awareness and communicate the importance of biodiversity conserving this type of habitat; create lasting networks for technical and scientific exchange for people working to preserve and restore semi-xerophilous habitats.



Project examples: LIFE+ “European Business and Biodiversity Campaign”



Coordinator: Global Nature Fund (Germany)

Partners: IUCN Regional Office for Europe, Fundación Global Nature, Triple E Arnhem, Lake Constance Foundation Radolfzell, Dokeo Stuttgart, ALTOP Verlag München

Budget: €2,162,110 (€1,079,205 from LIFE+)

Duration: January 2010 – December 2012

Project objectives:

- Improve awareness understanding among corporate decision-makers about impacts of business operations and business opportunities in relation to biodiversity conservation
- Promote biodiversity partnerships between business, NGOs and other stakeholders
- Provide information about existing Business and Biodiversity Initiatives
- Disseminate information and demonstrate methodologies and tools that help businesses to assess and mitigate their impacts on biodiversity
- Refine the global challenge of loss of biodiversity to the local level, and motivate and support concrete action by SMEs at local and regional level
- Assist businesses in adapting to key legislation, i.e. Birds and Habitats Directives

Project examples: ERDF

“Preserving dune species and habitats by controlling invasive alien plants”

Coordinator: National Natural Reserve of Mas Larrieu

Budget: €73,500 (€29,420 from ERDF)

Duration: January 2008 – December 2010



Project objectives:

- Protect the heritage of the natural reserve and stop the biotope's degradation, a natural habitat of Community interest identified in the Habitats directive (Mediterranean coastal dunes), by controlling invasive alien species introduced to the reserve in the 20th century
- Complete elimination of the *Opuntia sp.* (prickly-pear cactus) and the *Senecio inaequidens* (narrow-leaved Ragwort)
 - ❖ Manual pulling out of *Opuntia sp.* (prickly-pear cactus) in the southern part of the site
 - ❖ Cartography and pulling out of *Senecio inaequidens* on the entire site
 - ❖ Cartography and pulling out of *Opuntia* in the central part of the site
 - ❖ Monitoring and pulling out of any re-growth of either species in the treated zones

Project examples: ERDF “Butterfly Bioindicators”

Coordinator: Maison natale de Jean-Henri Fabre

Budget: €30,000 (€6,000 from ERDF)

Duration: June 2008 – June 2009



Project objectives:

- Create an awareness-raising tool (a traveling exhibition) on the diversity and the importance of butterflies, their biology and their ecology in Aveyron (southwest France).
 - ❖ 8 watercolour signs (1m70 each), a documentary, an educational folder, 2 educational leaflets for different age levels (elementary school students)
 - ❖ Other educational tools: paper models, butterfly disguises, puzzles, landscape sheets, etc.

Project examples: ERDF – INTERREG IVA “Landscape and Nature for All”

Coordinator: Parc Naturel Régional des Caps et Marais
d'Opale (PNRCMO)

Partners: 16 partners in England and France, including the Kent Downs Area of
Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Conservatoire des sites naturels du Nord et
du Pas-de-Calais

Budget: €4,771,346 (€2,369,672 from ERDF)

Duration: January 2007 – March 2012

Project objectives:

- Improve understanding and management of cross-channel natural heritage and biodiversity
- Preserve and improve the natural heritage (key habitats and species, ecological corridors)
- Raise awareness among and educate local actors about this natural heritage
- Create a cross-Channel network to favour sustainable socio-economic development





Thank you for your attention!

Merci de votre attention !

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