



Opportunities for support from Regional Programmes:

**The European Structural and Investment
Funds (ESIF),
Smart Specialisation Strategies &
Synergies with Horizon 2020**

Ana-Maria GRIGORE

Policy Officer, DG Research and Innovation

Key Enabling Technologies

Strategy D1

Challenges & Opportunities

- ❑ *The EU is committed to creating growth and more and better jobs and increase competitiveness;*
- ❑ *We need to work together, to reduce the varying levels of development in regions and islands across the EU (reduce the innovation divide);*
- ❑ *75% of the EU's budget is managed by the MS themselves (ESIF), the rest is managed directly by the EC (Horizon 2020);*

Cohesion policy (2014-20) focuses more on research and innovation:

- ❑ Support to **applied research and innovation** for the purpose of regional socio-economic development
- ❑ Capacity building for innovation and growth through **the promotion of innovation friendly business environments**
- ❑ New regulatory provisions for **thematic concentration (R&I part of the minimum 80% concentration for ERDF funds in more developed regions - 50% in less developed regions)**
- ❑ **Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3)** should be elaborated keeping in mind Horizon 2020 priorities and the shaping of a European Research Area (ERA)
- ❑ **The Smart Specialisation Platform** established by the Commission **in the Joint Research Centre in Seville** offers analytical and hands-on support to the development of these strategies, policy learning at regional level through international evaluation by peers and best practice sharing (<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>)
- ❑ RIS3 is **an Ex-ante Conditionality** for Cohesion policy support

Smart specialisation strategy (RIS3)

- ❑ It is a **strategic approach to prioritise public investments for research and innovation** for the economic transformation of regions, to build competitive advantages and address market opportunities in new value chains.
- ❑ The goal is to **improve the use of the Structural Funds of the EU,** by investing in priority areas and to ensure a certain synergy between the different communitary policies, national and/or regional, etc.

Five European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF) working together

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

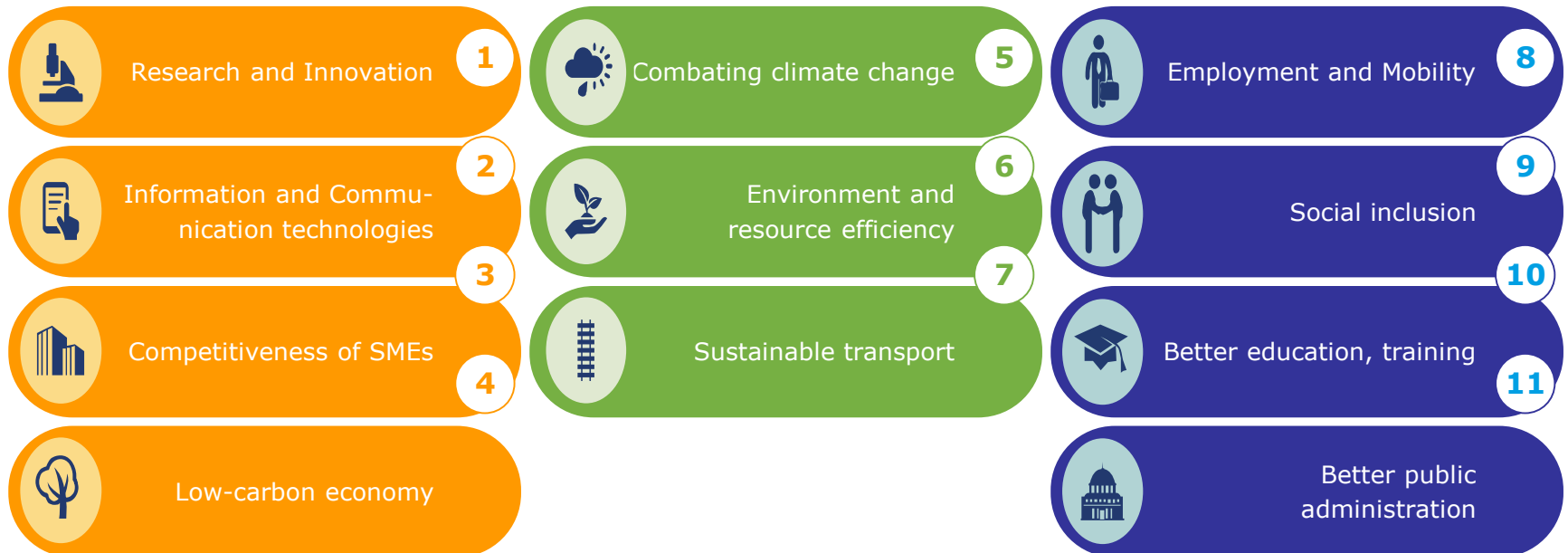


The funds support investment in innovation, businesses, skills and employment and create jobs.

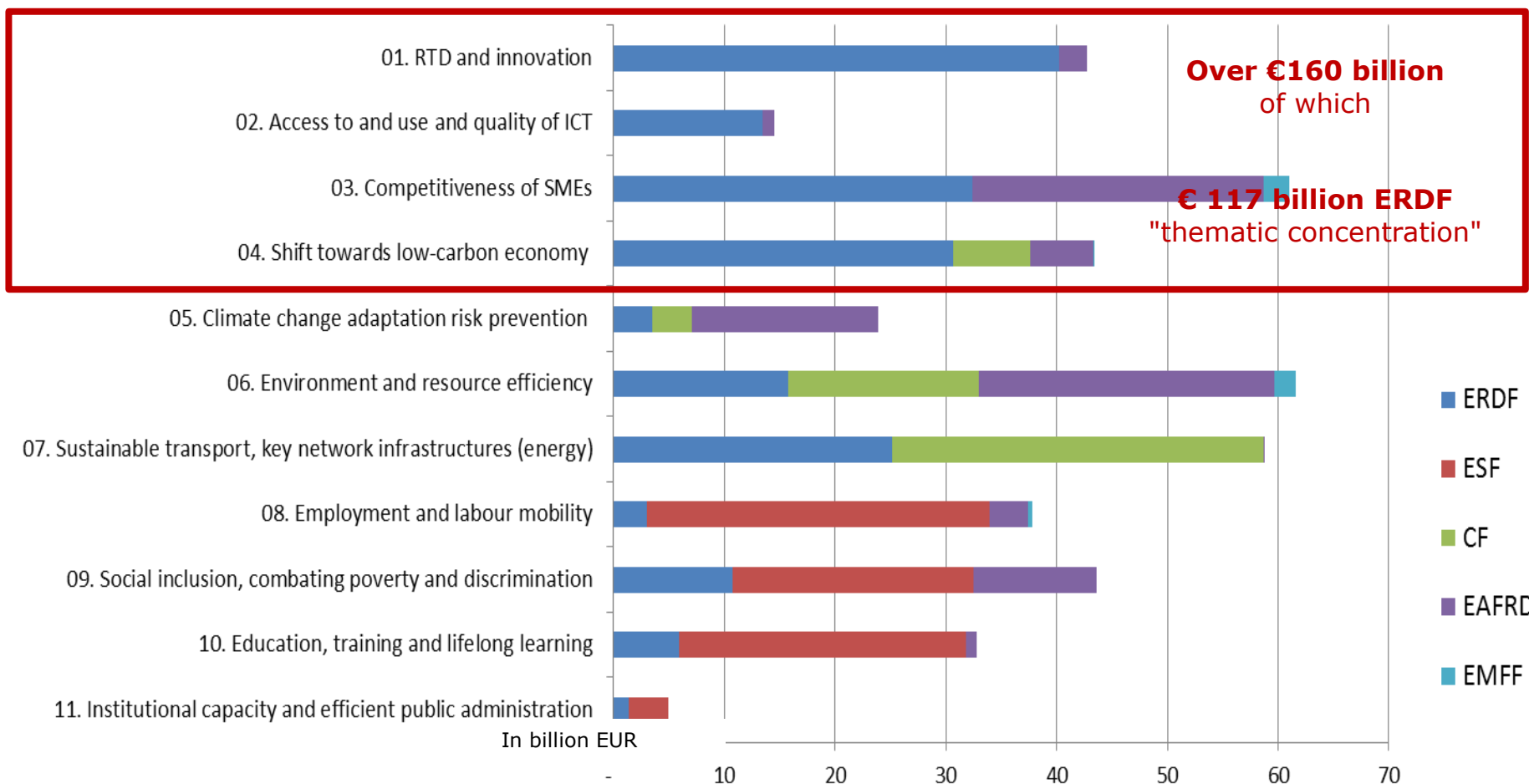
Common rules for ESI Funds:

- Simplified cost options.
- E-governance.
- Eligibility rules.
- Financial instruments.
- CLLD- Community –Led Local Development.

11 thematic objectives



ESIF funding per thematic objective: State of play



Source: Final ESIF partnership agreements as of December 2014

Which fields of specialisation emerge in the RIS3 analysis?

- Energy
- Life science
- ICT
- Environment
- Agro-food
- Tourism
- New materials

*... overlaps?
... opportunities for
cooperation and synergies?
... natural alignment with
Horizon2020 and societal
challenges!*

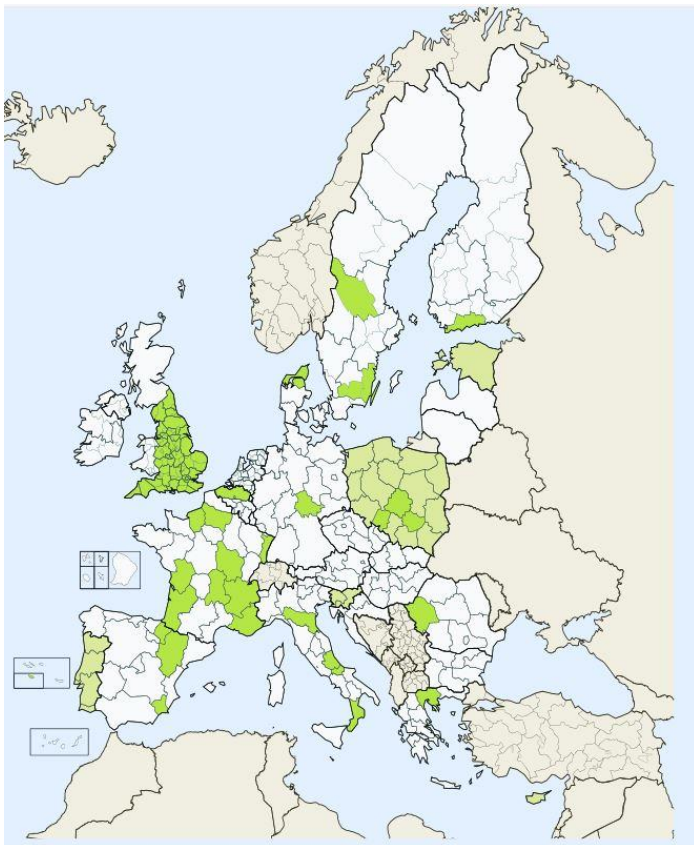
*→ New format of S3Platform
workshops: around
specialisation fields / priorities*

*→ Guidance on synergies CSF-
Horizon2020*

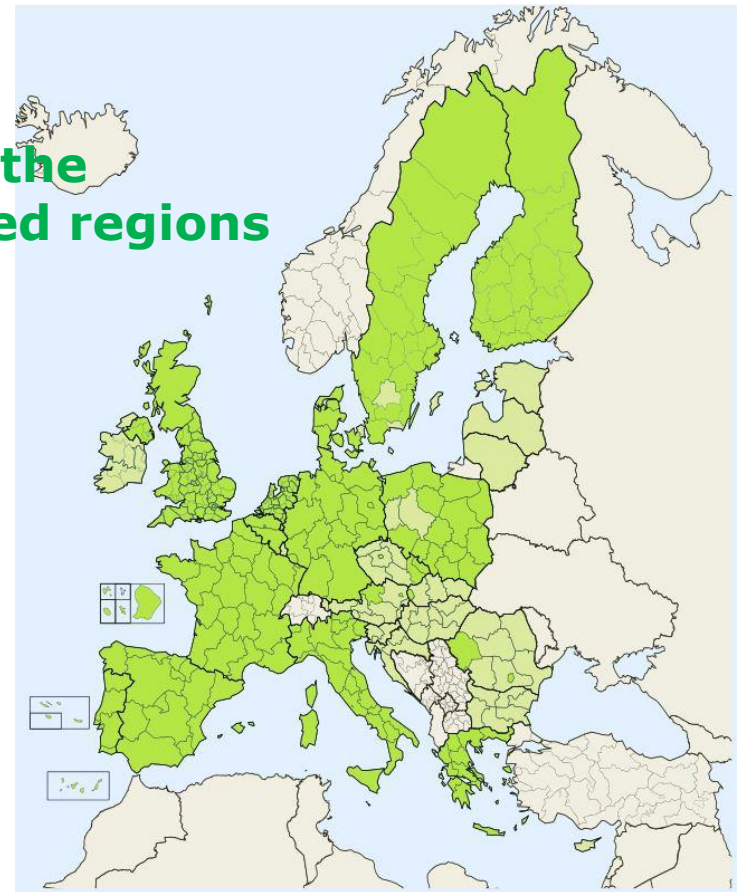
Where to find opportunities?

- ❑ **EYE@RIS3 Platform-** Member States and regions encode their priorities.
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/map>
- ❑ **Study "Analysis of Smart Specialisation Strategies in NMP"** (2014):
http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/analysis_of_RIS3_in_NMP.pdf
- ❑ **Managing Authorities (MA) of your Member State and region (who is my MA?)**
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/

EYE@RIS3 Platform: regions with declared priority in Construction/Advanced Materials



...out of the
registered regions
so far...



Advanced materials- Main results

- The cross-cutting and enabling materials technologies and material development and transformation and sustainable (low-carbon) material energy solutions are the categories where regions indicated most priorities.
- Also priorities have been indicated concerning metrology, standards and quality control:
Moravskoslezsko CZ08; BREMEN DE5; Bretagne FR52
Haute-Normandie FR23; Languedoc-Roussillon FR81
Puglia ITF4; Mazowieckie PL12; Norte PT11; Norra Mellansverige SE31; Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire UKJ1



Advanced material (examples)

Flanders region-Belgium:

- Structural materials, nano-materials, self-healing materials, recyclable materials and materials for energy and light. Part of 'Specialised manufacturing solutions'.
- Eco renovation of buildings. Part of 'Sustainable living'

Cyprus: Sustainable Urban Development, Sustainable Construction, Existing Building Stock, Innovative and Intelligent Materials and Reuse of Building Materials, Cultural Heritage

Estonia: Knowledge-based construction - digitalisation of construction processes, automation of construction processes, renewable energetics in construction, and development of timber utilisation technologies.

Kentriki Makedonia: Building materials and household equipment



Advanced material (examples)

Helsinki-Uusimaa-Finland: Urban Cleantech-The goal is to make the Region the leading European platform for the development of Cleantech solutions, including the testing, development and commercialization of environmental technologies, energy solutions, biomass utilization, key infrastructure and service models.

Haute-Normandie- France: high performance materials for construction;

Poitou-Charentes-France: Green building: improve durability, ergonomics and conception of buildings;

Rhône-Alpes-France: Smart & energy-efficient buildings;

Abruzzo-Italy: Smart constructions and buildings (KETs for sustainable and innovative materials and technologies for monitoring materials deformations, face recognition and seismic control systems)



Advanced material (examples)

Emilia-Romagna-Italy: Energy efficient buildings;

Lodzkie-Poland: Advanced construction materials (including design);

Vest Region-Romania: Eco building & eco construction;

Slovenia: Smart buildings and homes - energy refurbishment of buildings, interfaces between a smart building and a smart grid, integrated management systems for buildings;

Kronobergs län- Slovakia: smart housing



Synergies between ESIF, Horizon2020 and other innovation-related EU Funds

Why synergies ?

Scarce resources :

- More efficiency
- Best use of public funds

Novelties for synergies btw. H2020 and ESIF

Legal basis

CPR – Reg. 1303/2013:

- 65(11) – possibility of cumulating grants from different EU funding instruments in one operation;

Horizon2020 rules for participation– Reg. 1290/2013

- 37 - possibility of cumulative funding, provided that the grants do not cover the same cost items.

Concept of synergies

- Bringing together in **one project** (possible only for Horizon2020)
- **Successive** projects
- **Parallel** projects
- ESIF financing successful Horizon2020 projects but not financed

Horizon 2020 and Cohesion Policy: differences and complementary objectives



EU R&D and Innovation Policy –Horizon 2020	EU Cohesion Policy
Differences	
Based largely on individual R&D and innovation Projects of a pre-competitive nature aiming at advancing knowledge and fostering innovation for growth and jobs, including frontier research (also co-funding national and regional programmes)	Based on multiannual Programmes aiming to reduce regional disparities, including through close to the market competitive R&D and innovation efforts
Awarded directly to final beneficiaries (firms, public and private R&D centres and Universities, national and regional governments in certain cases – Art. 185, ERA-NET etc.)	Awarded through shared management exclusively to national and regional public intermediaries
Through transnational competitive calls addressed to international groupings through peer review based on excellence criteria	Non-competitive attribution addressed to regional players based on strategic planning negotiation (however calls possible at national or regional level)
Synergies and Complementarities	
Horizon 2020 focus on tackling major societal challenges, maximising the competitiveness impact of research and innovation (Industrial leadership) and raising and spreading levels of excellence in the research base	Cohesion policy focus on galvanising smart specialisation that will act as a capacity building instrument, based on learning mechanisms and the creation of critical skills in regions and Member States.

About Synergies ...

- ✓ Obtaining more impacts on competitiveness, jobs and growth by combining ESIF and Horizon2020
- ✓ Amplifying projects / initiatives under the other instrument
- ✓ Carrying further the projects of the other instrument towards market, e.g. SME instrument "seals of excellence"
- ✓ Exploit complementarities while at the same time avoid overlaps and exclude double-financing (fraud).

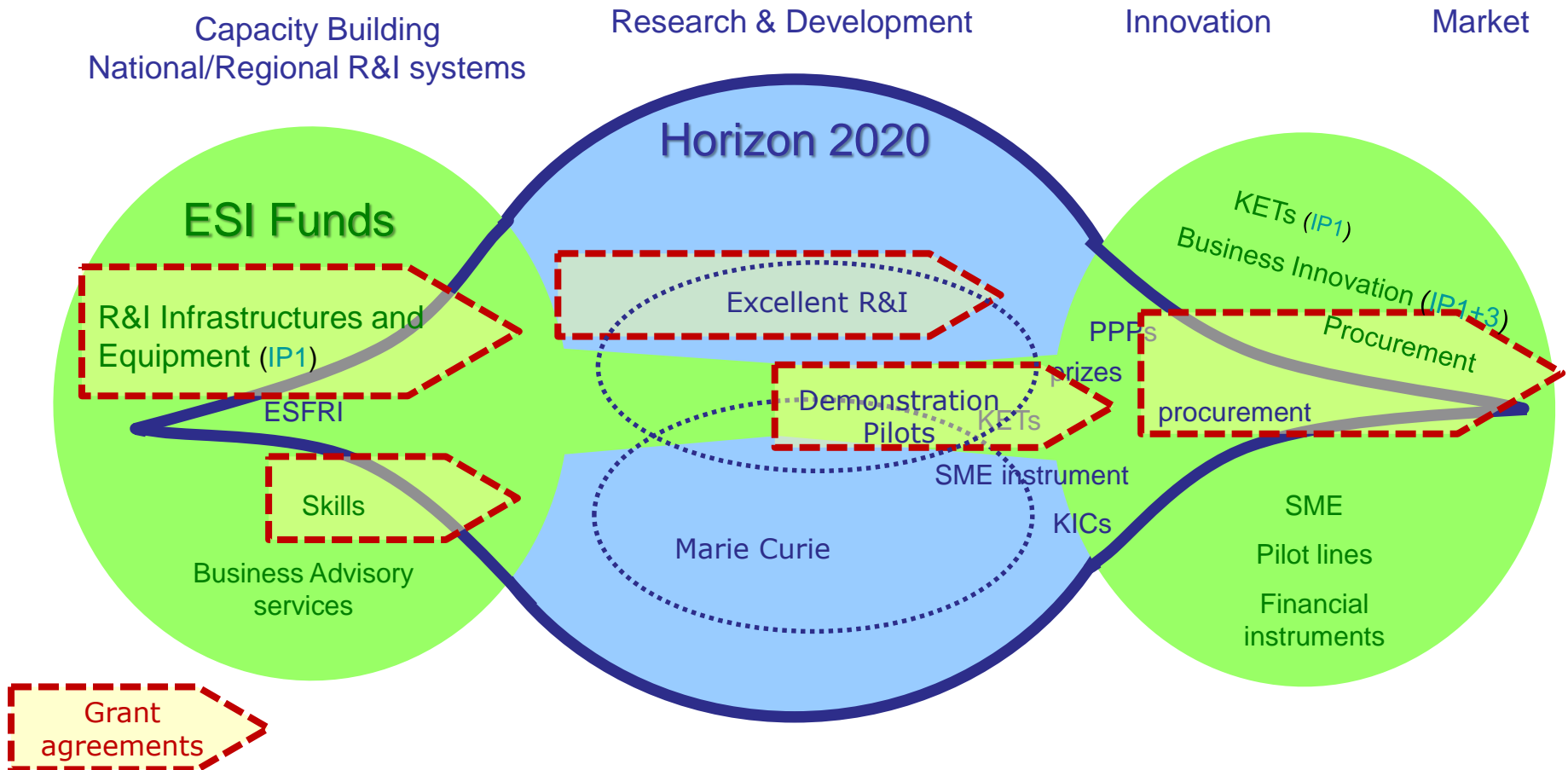
About Synergies

... but beware ! :

NO substitution of national, regional or private co-funding to projects or programmes by money from the other instruments

NO diversion of funding from the purpose of the respective instrument/operational programme (e.g. smart specialisation strategy)

Synergies: How can stakeholders benefit from both instruments?



How to create synergies?

→ Think strategic (not project-oriented)

→ Act in collaboration (not isolation)

→ Identify / generate opportunities (in all programmes)

→ Set up suitable implementation mechanisms

Opportunities for R&I synergies with centrally managed EU funding programmes

- **All ESI Funds** (ERDF, ESF, Cohesion Fund + ETC = € 325 billion, EAFRD = €85 billion, EMFF= €5.5 billion)
- **Horizon2020** for mostly transnational research and innovation projects, incl. non-EU: €79.4 billion
- **COSME** for SME competitiveness, financial instruments, business support services, etc.: € 2 bn
- **Erasmus+** for students, teachers, pupils mobility + training: €14.5 bn
- **Creative Europe** for culture and creative industries: €1.4 billion
- **Digital service part of CEF** for EU wide e-government platforms to roll-out e-ID, eProcurement, electronic health care records: €0.85 billion

Also of interest with regard to take-up of eco-innovation, uptake of climate-related R&I results, but not covered in guide:

- **LIFE** programme for environment and climate, incl. financial instruments: € 3,4 billion
- **Programme for Employment and Social Innovation** ("EaSI"): € 0.92 billion

See annex I to CPR: Common Strategic Framework (CSF)



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AND WHY

FIND OUT WHO IS THE MANAGING AUTHORITY FOR ESIF IN YOUR COUNTRY / REGION

They are responsible for managing the ESIF money and know the eligibility rules etc...

FIND OUT WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ESIF PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS IN YOUR COUNTRY / REGION

They are the ones identifying the content of the SF programmes for the next period 2014 - 2020

HOW IS YOUR SCIENCE / RESEARCH MINISTRY INVOLVED IN THAT PROCESS?

They may have a role to play in that context e.g. for strategies regarding RI, universities etc.

IS THERE A NATIONAL ROADMAP FOR INFRASTRUCTURES AND ARE YOU ON THAT LIST (OR CAN YOU GET ON IT)?

Research infrastructures are often co-financed by ESIF, being on that list gives a kind of priority status

HAS YOUR COUNTRY/REGION STARTED A SMART SPECIALISATION STRATEGY? POTENTIAL THAT YOUR AREA OF RESEARCH IN A BROAD SENSE IS A PRIORITY?

Smart specialisation strategies will be a pre-condition for SF funding. How could you fit in there?

ARE THERE CONCRETE LINKS ALREADY TO ACTIVITIES THAT MAY GET CO-FUNDED FROM HORIZON 2020?

JPI, Art. 185, ETP, KIC involvement important in the context of combined funding and strategic planning

TAKE ACTION

- **GET IN TOUCH WITH THE RELEVANT PEOPLE**
- **PROMOTE THAT WHEN THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES ARE BEING DEVELOPED THEY DO CONTAIN SUFFICIENTLY THE BROAD LINES OF FUNDING YOU COULD FIT IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION / RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES / OR ANY OTHER DEGREE OF DETAIL POSSIBLE**
- **LOOK WHERE YOUR ACTIVITIES FIT IN - training under the ESF; research and any infrastructures, under the ERDF.**

YOU NEED TO EXPLAIN WHY FUNDING YOUR PROJECT / INFRASTRUCTURE ETC. IS NOT ONLY VALUABLE FROM A SCIENTIFIC POINT OF VIEW BUT HOW IT HELPS THE GOALS OF THE STRUCTURAL FUNDS: CREATION OF JOBS, ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, CAPACITY BUILDING, CONTRIBUTION TO GROWTH AND COHESION ETC...



Tools made available by the EC

- **Guide Enabling synergies between ESIF, H2020 and other research, innovation and competitiveness-related Union programmes**
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/guides/synergy/synergies_en.pdf
- **Smart Specialisation Platform:**
<http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/home>
- **European Cluster Observatory:**
<http://www.clusterobservatory.eu/index.html>
- **European Territorial Cooperation**
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/cooperation/index_en.cfm
- **Regional Innovation Monitor Plus (RIM PLUS)**
<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/regional-innovation/monitor/>
- **Regional Innovation Scoreboard**
http://ec.europa.eu/news/pdf/2014_regional_union_scoreboard_en.pdf

Thank You!