

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AFTER 2027

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Sector for coordination of smart specialisation

Implementation status of the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027



What is financed under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027?

Content	Estimated value (EUR million) / status
University of Maribor (Innovum)	120 – in preparation / call for proposals
New Faculty of Mechanical engineering building, University of Ljubljana	80 – design not selected / excessive prices
STEP – EAST	60 – selection planned for January 2027
STEP - WEST	30 – construction works underway
FI – WOOD	20 – final construction phase
Digitalisation for businesses	20 – completed
Centre for Cell and Gene Therapy Technologies	8 – implementation underway
Promoting research and development programmes (TRL 3–6)	32 – contracts signed
Research and Development Infrastructure	10 – R&D programmes
Public call for AI	20 – R&D programmes
Financial instruments – guarantees	68 – in preparation (SPS)
PONI	15 – implementation underway
Construction of open broadband networks	15 – in preparation
TOTAL	498

**Policy Objective 1 – A
smarter Europe**

What is financed under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027?

Content	Amount (EUR million)	Status
Co-financing investments in the smart electricity distribution grid	51	Call published
Purchase of smaller planes for aerial firefighting	15.5	Implementation
Reduction of flood risk in the Meža and Mislinja River basin	20	Implementation
Reduction of flood risk in the Dravinja and Polskava River basins	20	Implementation
Reduction of flood risk in the Savinja basin	22	Implementation
Rehabilitation and closure of the non-hazardous waste landfill – DRR	80	More projects
DRR – drinking water	80	More projects
DRR – green infrastructure	65	More projects
Supply of drinking water to Slovenian Istria and the Karst hinterland	52	In preparation
Natura 2000	40	More projects under implementation
Promotion of electricity generation from solar and wind - renewable energy sources	50	More projects under implementation
Financial instruments RES	43.5	Implementation
TOTAL	490	

What is financed under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027?

Content	Amount (EUR million)	Status
Upgrade of the railway line section Dobova–Zidani Most	190	Call for tenders repeated several times due to bid selection
Rehabilitation of Tunnel Karavanke	30	Implementation
Phase 1: Upgrade of Ljubljana Railway Station	190	Implementation
3rd development axis – North	30	Implementation
National cycling network – DRR	60	In preparation
Continuation of works on the 3rd development axis: Dramlje–Šentjur section	33	In preparation
CTN – Urban Transport	30	Urban projects in preparation (urban municipalities)
TOTAL	563	

**Policy Objective 3 – A
more connected
Europe**

What is financed under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027?

Content	Amount (EUR million)	Status
Health – dual use	45	in preparation
Housing	55	Public Call in preparation
TOTAL	100	

**Policy Objective 3 –
Dual-use
infrastructure**

What is financed under the Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027?

Content	Amount (EUR million)	Status
Training for unmanned technologies (DUBT Centre)	27.5	Completed
SE Prapretno	4	Implemented
Remote heating – restructuring to RES	27.5	Implementation
public call for productive investment SPIRIT	68	Implementation
Laboratory for research into biomass biorefining (LAB)	13	Implementation
Economic transformation ecosystem in the Savinjsko - Šaleško Coal Region	40	More projects under implementation
Just Transition Fund – RRI activities	14	Contracts concluded in October
SE Družimirsko lake	30	—
TOTAL	196.5	

**Policy Objective 6 –
JUST TRANSITION
FUND**

MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK 2028–2034



The MFF is a framework. Development objectives must be the starting point.

- Europe is entering a period of global competition, technological change, climate pressures and geopolitical uncertainty.
- Competitiveness, the green and digital transitions, strategic autonomy, resilience and social cohesion will be at the forefront.
- Development funding will be increasingly linked to results, reforms, investments, and predefined milestones and targets.

“Funding must follow objectives, not the other way around.”

A single plan requires a more integrated development policy

ONE PLAN

The proposed National and Regional Partnership Plan brings together several areas under shared management.

REFORMS + INVESTMENTS

The focus is not only on projects, but on a combination of reforms, investments, milestones and targets.

PARTNERSHIP

National, regional and local authorities, together with other stakeholders, must be involved from the preparation stage.

Country-specific recommendations

Slovenia

1. **Sustainable public finances and social systems** – more efficient public spending and a more growth-friendly tax system.
2. **Faster and more effective implementation of EU funds** – better use of Cohesion Policy funds, the RRF, STEP and InvestEU.
3. **Greater competitiveness and innovation** – fewer administrative barriers, more R&I, venture capital and support for high-growth companies
4. **Accelerating the green and energy transition** – renewables, energy grids, energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, and climate and water resilience.
5. **Skills and workforce development** – digital and green skills, lifelong learning and attracting skilled workers.

Slovenia is not a uniform development space

URBAN AREAS

Concentration of knowledge, services, businesses and innovation – alongside housing, transport and spatial pressures.

RURAL AREAS

Access to services, mobility, demographic trends, the local economy and links between functional areas.

BORDER AND VULNERABLE AREAS

Smaller critical mass, demographic challenges, accessibility and the need for tailored development approaches.

“Development policy must be tailored to the needs of each region.”

Regional Development Programmes are becoming more strategic

- Regional Development Programmes: development objectives, priority areas and result indicators.
- Action Programme for Balanced Regional Development: translating strategic priorities into measures.
- Development Agreements for Regions: an implementation framework for projects and measures identified by regions as development priorities.
- Territorial Development Dialogue: a process through which municipalities and regions articulate their development needs and interests.

Integrated measures instead of isolated projects

- Regional planning must be linked with spatial planning, transport, climate adaptation and other development policies.
- A single project will rarely change a region's development trajectory; impact comes from a combination of complementary investments and measures.
- Projects of common development importance that extend beyond the boundaries of a single municipality are particularly important.

“Only integrated measures can create lasting development impact.”

Smart Specialisation links regional potential with economic transformation

REGIONAL SIGNALS

Businesses, research organisations, regional development agencies, municipalities, skills, infrastructure and development needs.

S5 / EDP

Identifying areas with knowledge, entrepreneurial potential and opportunities for transformation.

PORTFOLIO OF MEASURES

R&I, skills, infrastructure, demonstration, investment and internationalisation.

Regions must also look beyond the national allocation

- The future framework increases the importance of centrally managed EU programmes in competitiveness, research and innovation.
- Success will depend more on the quality, ambition and competitiveness of projects than on a predefined national allocation.
- Municipalities and regions need partnerships with businesses, universities, research organisations and development organisations.
- Regional projects should be designed to connect with wider European networks and value chains.

What should our goal be for 2028?

PARTNERSHIP

Because no single actor has all the answers, and development is created across levels and sectors.

TRUST

Because local and regional levels need room to take development initiative.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Because every euro invested must translate into better services, jobs, resilience and quality of life.

“We must enter the new period prepared – with a clear vision and a portfolio of feasible, transformative development projects.”

THANK YOU!

