



# EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: proposals from the EU Commission *- research & innovation issues -*

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**Meeting of representatives of European Affairs**

**French Rectors Conference**

***(CPU, Conférence des Présidents d'Universités)***

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# Why do we need innovation?

Innovation is a cornerstone of the Europe 2020 strategy for meeting major challenges:

- Globalisation: more competition, new markets,
- Recovery from the crisis: investing in areas of high growth potential, boosting SMEs,
- Societal challenges: demographic changes, health and ageing; climate change, energy & resources management.

→ **The EU economy needs more innovation for smart, sustainable & inclusive growth**

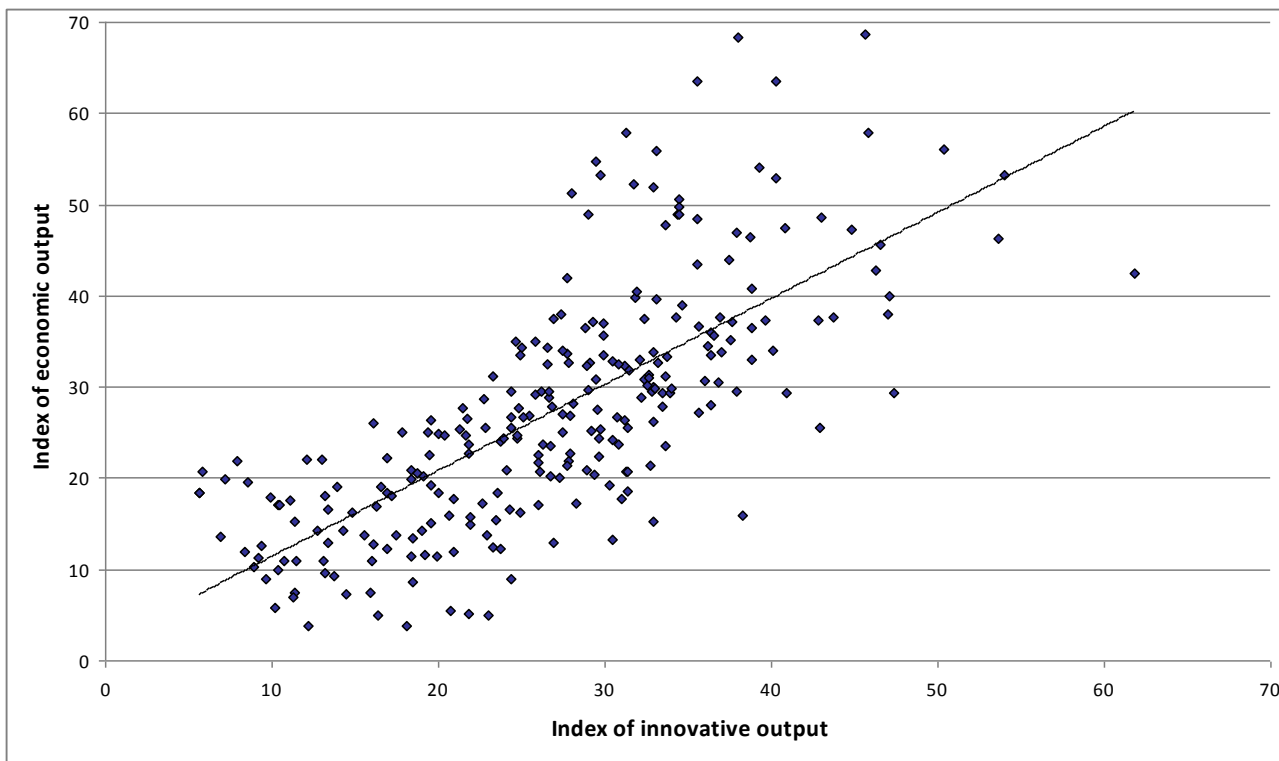


# Why is the regional level appropriate?

- **Innovation is an interactive process** between the stakeholders of the triple helix (universities / R&D centers, businesses, public sector):
  - regions offer enough proximity between the relevant partners,
  - regions are big enough to matter and small enough to take of the people working & living together,
- **We need to raise the innovation performance of all regions to avoid an "innovation divide"** (*illustrated by 2 maps*).
  - there is a link between innovation output and regional growth,
  - Regional Policy supports more and more research & innovation.

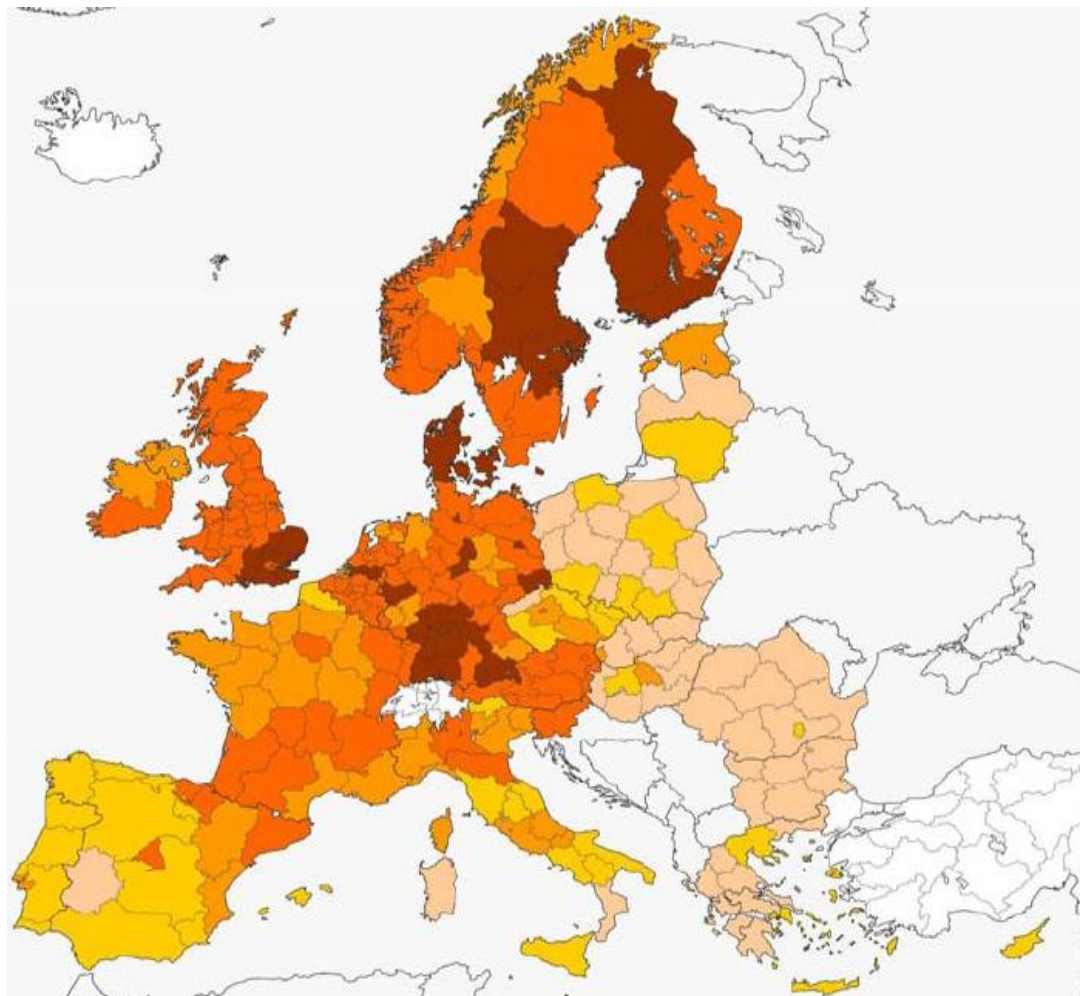


# Innovation & Regional growth



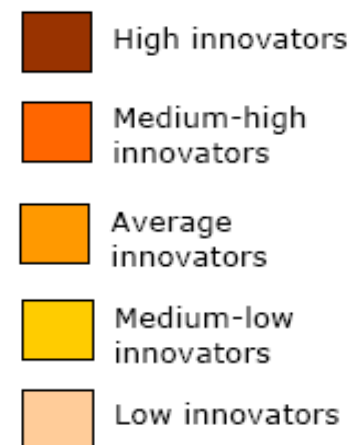
Source: Mikel Navarro et al, Basque Competitiveness Institute 2010.

Innovative output is measured by a set of indicators including innovative SMEs, patents, high-tech manufacturing, knowledge-intensive services...



## Regional Innovation Scoreboard - 2009

See: <http://www.proinno-europe.eu/page/regional-innovation-scoreboard>



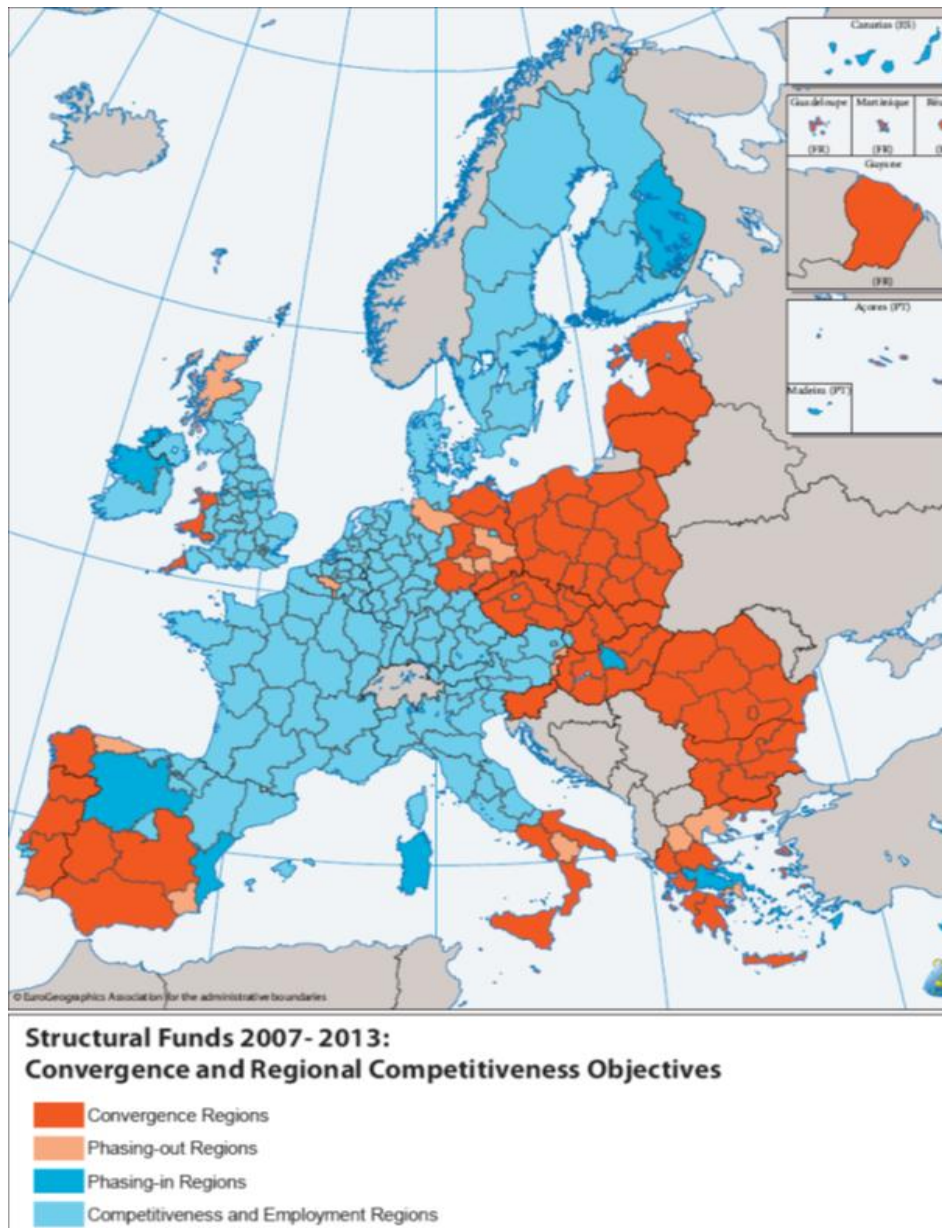


# Cohesion Policy Funding for RTD and innovation 2007-2013

Cohesion Policy  
support for Innovation:

- ❑ 4% in 89'-93'
- ❑ 7% in 94'-99'
- ❑ 11% in 00'-06'
- ❑ 25% in 07'-14'

(€ 86 billions out of 347)





# A fair system for all EU regions (eligibility simulation)

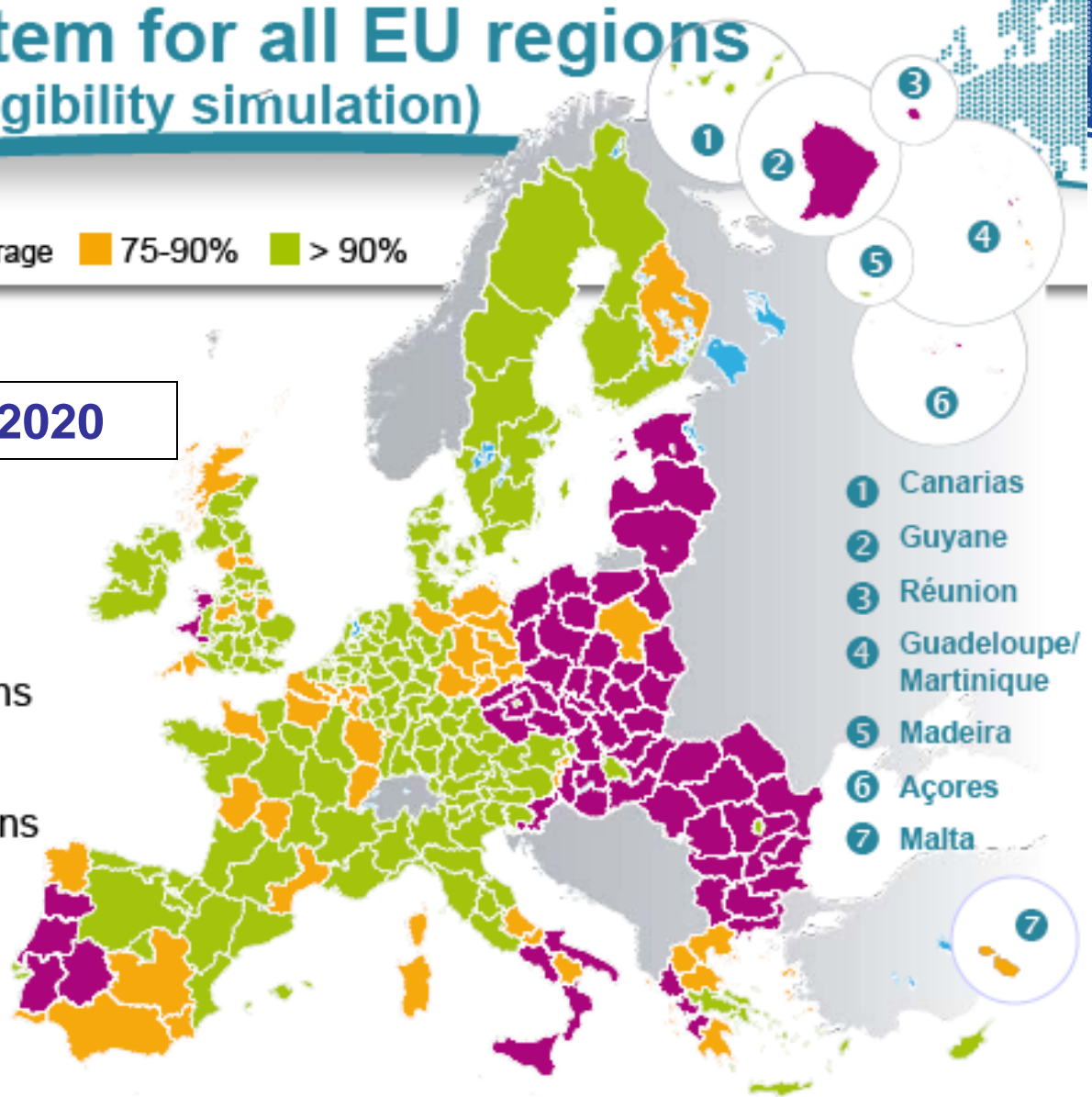
GDP/capita\* ■ < 75% of EU average ■ 75-90% ■ > 90%

\*index EU27=100

## Cohesion Policy 2014-2020

### 3 categories of regions

- Less developed regions
- Transition regions
- More developed regions



Regional GDP figures: 2006-07-08

GNI figures: 2007-08-09

© EuroGeographics Association for the administrative boundaries



# Thematic priorities / EU 2020 strategy

## Common menu for the CSF: ERDF, CF, ESF, EAFRD and EMFF

- 1) **Strengthening research, techn. development & innovation**
- 2) **Enhancing access to and use and quality of ICTs**
- 3) **Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, farms & fisheries**
- 4) **Shift towards a low-carbon economy (“energy”)**
- 5) **Climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management**
- 6) **Environmental protection and resource efficiency**
- 7) **Sustainable transport and key network infrastructures**
- 8) **Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility**
- 9) **Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty**
- 10) **Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning**
- 11) **Institutional capacity building & efficient public administrations**



# **ERDF investments priorities 2014-2020**

## **1) Strengthening RTD & Innovation (R&I)**

R&I infrastructure, capacities to develop R&I excellence

Business R&I investment, technology transfer, social innovation, clusters and open innovation in SMEs through smart specialisation

Supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, manufacturing capabilities in Key Enabling Technologies & diffusion of generic purpose technologies

## **2) Enhancing access to and use and quality of ICTs**

Broadband & high-speed networks ;

ICT products, services & applications: e-commerce, e-government, e-learning, e-inclusion and e-health (demand for ICTs)

## **3) Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs**

Entrepreneurship, exploitation of new ideas, creation of new firms

New business models for SMEs in particular for internationalisation

# ERDF thematic concentration 2014-2020

## Allocation from the total ERDF resources, at national level

### 1) In more developed regions (MDR) and transition regions (TR)

At least **80%** for priorities (1) R&I, (3) SMEs and (4) Energy (at least **20%**)

### 2) In less developed regions (LDR)

At least **50%** for priorities (1) R&I, (3) SMEs and (4) Energy (at least **6%**)

### 3) Derogation for regions with **GDP<75% EU-25 (2007-2013 period)**

At least **60%** for priorities (1) R&I, (3) SMEs and (4) Energy

2014-2020	Total (€)	ERDF(%maxi)	ERDF(€maxi)	(1)+(3)(±%)	(1)+(3)(±€)
LDR	162.6	75	122.0	44	53.7
TR	38.9	60	23.3	60	14.0
MDR	53.1	48	25.5	60	15.3
Sub-Total	254.6		170.8		83.0

Total Cohesion Policy = € 376 Billion, including ETC (11.7), Cohesion Fund (68.7), OMR-extra (1) & Connecting EU Facility (40) // ERDF estimations are maximums

# Synergies ERDF / Horizon 2020 (CSF-R&I)

- Proposals for Horizon 2020 not yet available (in November?)
- MFF “A Budget for Europe 2020”: CSF-R&I [Horizon 2020] will support **excellence** in R&I. Cohesion policy will support capacity building at regional level and provide a “**stairway to excellence**”
- **Cohesion Policy principle:** complementary to other EU policies
- **New eligibility rules for Structural Funds / Cohesion Policy**
  - a project may be supported by several funds (for ≠ expenditures)
  - a project outside of the programme area may be supported (<10%)
- **Ex-ante conditionality for priorities (1) R&I and (2) ICTs:**

Nat/Reg. Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation (RIS<sup>3</sup>), in line with NRP and well-performing Nat/Reg. R&I systems
- **Need for cooperation at national / regional level** between authorities/bodies implementing Structural Funds & Horizon 2020

# Regional Policy contribution to smart growth

- **Regional Policy can promote smart growth in all regions** through innovation, in line with EU 2020 priorities. It complements the ‘Innovation Union’ initiative (commitments 23 & 24).
- In line with territorial cohesion objective, Regional Policy can **mobilise all regions**, leading ones and others to design **‘Regional Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation’**.
- Due to regional diversity, **no “one size fits all”** strategy.
- For all regions, RIS<sup>3</sup> means focusing on **a few priorities based on competitive advantages and potential cooperation** with other regions (no duplication / imitation).
- RIS<sup>3</sup> is not an narrow approach. It is about **diversification towards specialised technologies & non technological fields**.



## Process for designing RIS<sup>3</sup>

- **RIS<sup>3</sup> is a discovery process.** It implies **cooperation** between partners in the same region, between regions, and **coordination** between the different levels of governance.
- RIS<sup>3</sup> can include **cutting edge research as well as exploitation** and adaptation of generic / basic technologies in specific areas and existing sectors (**leading regions and others**).
- **Making choices** and defining a regional vision: where regions wants to go in terms of competitiveness through innovation.
- Identify **factors of and obstacles** to competitiveness, support key enabling technologies, focus resources on key priorities.
- **Not about picking winners** but using activities that are embedded in the region to jump to others of higher value added
- Some only need **to adjust and up-date** their regional innovation strategies; others may need to **build one / rebuild a new one**.



# Smart Specialisation Platform (S<sup>3</sup>-P)

The Commission has launched a **Smart Specialisation Platform** for providing methodological **guidance** & practical **assistance** to nat./reg. policy makers preparing RIS<sup>3</sup> (JRC-IPTS, Sevilla). S<sup>3</sup>-P:

- is run by a **steering team** (DGs), with a **HLG of experts**,
- manages **website & database** of policy makers, experts, etc.
- provides **feed-back and information** to States and regions,
- **shares knowledge** & information with the stakeholders of RIS<sup>3</sup>,
- develops **economic analyses** on the concept of RIS<sup>3</sup> and elaborates a **peer review methodology** to assess RIS<sup>3</sup>,
- **addresses the needs of the regions** (Which support? How?),
- develops **practical guides** (a main guide & specific guides) and manages a toolbox of indicators and case studies,
- organises **working groups, conferences, training for trainers**.





# Connecting universities to regional growth

The Commission will publish a **practical guide** in this area. It will:

- provide an **analysis** of how universities can impact upon regions and how they can be mobilised for regional, economic, social and cultural development,
- illustrate, by **examples** from around the EU, some of the potential delivery mechanisms that can be used to maximize the contribution of universities to regional growth (e.g. consulting, S&T parks, spin-offs, involvement in clusters & networks),
- outline the **key success factors** in building university /regional partnerships, particularly the drivers and barriers on both sides and how these barriers may be overcome,
- Suggest **practical tools & processes** to overcome barriers and implement partnership & leadership to interconnect the actors in regional innovation systems.

The **RegioStars 2013 Awards** include a category in this area.



# Sources of advice & information

- Practical Guide on EU funding opportunities for research & innovation:  
[http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/home_en.html)
- FP7: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)
- CIP: [http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/cip/index_en.htm)
- ERDF: Managing Authorities for the Operational Programmes  
[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/atlas2007/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/atlas2007/index_en.htm)
- S3-Platform: <http://ipts.jrc.ec.europa.eu/activities/research-and-innovation/s3platform.cfm> (for all EU regions!)
- ESF: Managing Authorities for the Operational Programmes  
[http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/esf/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf/index_en.htm)

## Contact the information centres & the MAs in the MS

- EEN – Enterprise Europe Network: for FP7 and CIP
- NCP – National Contact points: for FP7; for CIP (energy & ICT)
- SF – Managing Authorities: contacts & OPs summaries in web-sites; funding depends on their budget planning, timing and procedures.

***Thank you for your attention !***