‘Prevention and preparedness’: policies and instruments of Cohesion Policy

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Cohesion Policy & the environment

• What is Cohesion Policy?

• ‘Risk Prevention’ in Cohesion Policy.

• Examples of projects.
Cohesion Policy aims to:

- reduce economic and social disparities
- show solidarity and keep Europe competitive
- meet the challenges of the 21st Century
‘Risk Prevention’ in Cohesion Policy
Risk Prevention in the Cohesion Policy

• ‘Risk Prevention’ is addressed under the environment header of Cohesion Policy

• € 105 billion allocated for the environment in 2007-2013 (30% of total Structural Funds)

• Three main areas:
  – Basic environmental infrastructures
  – Climate change
  – Eco-innovation / ‘Green technologies’
Contribution of Cohesion Policy to ‘Risk Prevention’
Regulations & guidelines

• Community Strategic Guidelines 2007-2013:
  – “…protection against certain environmental risks (e.g. desertification, droughts, fires and floods), should all have high priority”

• The Communication on the CSG insists on undertaking risk prevention through:
  – Improved management of natural resources
  – More targeted research
  – Better use of ICT
  – More innovative public management policies
Regulations & guidelines

- ‘Risk prevention’ is a reinforced priority in the current regulation on the ERDF

- The ESF can support capacity building on risk prevention and institutional capacity
Planned allocations

• Planned co-financing of €7.3 billion:
  – ‘Risk prevention’: €5.7 billion
  – ‘Other environmental and risk prevention measures’: €1.6 billion

• MS decide (principle of shared management) on their priorities and level to engage in risk prevention projects
Allocation (€) on ‘risk prevention’ per MS for 2007-2013

- Magyarország
- Polska
- España
- Portugal
- Ellada
- Cross-border coop.
- Italia
- Deutschland
- România
- Ceska Republika
- France
- Slovenska Republica
- Eesti
- Slovenija
- Malta
- Balgarja
- Latvija
- United Kingdom
- Finland
- Österreich
- Nederland
- Belgique
- Danmark
- Ireland
- Kypros
- Lietuva
- Luxembourg
- Sverige
Share of 'risk prevention' vs. total allocation per MS for 2007-2013

- Malta
- Cross-border coop.
- Magyarország
- Eesti
- Portugal
- Ellada
- Slovenija
- France
- Slovenska Republica
- España
- Deutschland
- România
- Italia
- Polska
- Ceska Republika
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- Sverige
Cross-border projects

• ‘Risk prevention’ is a strong priority of Territorial Cooperation programmes

• Focus on exchanges between regions and sharing of good practices (Inter-regional cooperation)

• Broad diversity of projects (EWS, floods, forest fires, mountain risks, earthquakes…)
Cross-border projects

- Analyses on 2000-2006 INTERREG programmes:
  - Feedback on 100 projects where the ERDF co-financed €145 million (2.53% of 2000-2006 Interreg budget) out of €284 million (rate of co-financing of 51%)
EXAMPLES
Flood prevention on the Tisza river (Hungary)

• Construction of 7 flood reservoirs and dikes along the river in 2007-2013 (Operation programme ‘Environment’ of Hungary)
• 1 flood plain already co-financed in 2000-2006
Flood protection project Austria-Hungary

- River Raab, frequent flooding
- 2008-2010 with EU co-financing €0.9 of €1.1 million
- Development of a flood prognosis model
- Harmonisation of technological solutions for flood risk assessment and the data collection

Better flood prognosis model
Better risk assessment and earlier flood warning
Sustainable Development of Floodplain (SDF) project

- 7 partners – Interreg IIIB
- January 2003-December 2008
- Reclamation of historical floodplains
- €35 million (€17.5 million from ERDF)
- 21 km² of new or reconstituted floodplains
- Extent of dike relocation: 5,900m
FLAPP project: 'Flood Awareness & Prevention Policy in border areas'

- EU-funded network of local and regional flood experts

- January 2005 until August 2007

- Inventory of existing flood policies, mapping and information systems

- Good practice book – Recommendations for actions
‘INCENDI’ project: forest fire prevention

- 9 Mediterranean regions - Interreg IIIC

- September 2005 until August 2008

- Assess and share expertise

- Local experimentation projects

- Capitalisation: mainstream results of local experimentations
• To support policy development in relation to the aim of territorial cohesion
• To provide comparable information, evidence, analyses and scenarios on framework conditions for the development of regions, cities and larger territories

ESPON 2013 Programme
(European observation network for territorial development and cohesion)
Conclusion

• Cohesion Policy clearly supports ‘risk prevention’ with:
  – Significant financial aid to projects;
  – Instruments for networking, cross-border cooperation and sharing of good practice on risk prevention

• ‘Risk prevention and preparedness’ is especially relevant in regional policies: integration in planning and regional development are key
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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