

A Guide to Funding Opportunities for 2014-2020

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1) EU Cohesion Policy



Cohesion Policy is the EU's main investment policy targeting all regions and cities in the European Union in order to support job creation, business competitiveness, economic growth, sustainable development and to improve citizens' quality of life. It aims to complement other EU policies such as education.

The Commission works with Member States and the regions to draw up Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes outlining investment priorities and development needs. These projects are managed and individual projects selected by Managing Authorities in Member states.

The Commission makes funding available at the beginning of each year to allow countries to start investing in projects. Programmes are monitored by both the Commission and Member State and if the project is over €50 million, it is subject to approval by the Commission.

The Policy is delivered by three main funds:

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Social Fund (ESF)
- Cohesion Fund

Together with the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund they make up the European Structural and Investment funds (ESI)

More information on this can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/funds_en.htm

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The fund aims to strengthen regional economic and social cohesion by investing in growth-enhancing sectors to improve competitiveness and create jobs. The ERDF also finances cross-border cooperation projects.

The UK government is seeking views on the draft European Regional Development Fund operational programme for England 2014 to 2020.

Updates should be announced in February 2015. Please continue to check:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/european-regional-development-fund-operational-programme-2014-to-2020>

European Social Fund (ESF)

The fund invests in people with a focus on improving employment and education opportunities; it also aims to help disadvantaged people at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The ESF is not an employment agency – it does not advertise jobs. Rather, it is funding tens of thousands of local, regional and national employment-related projects throughout Europe: from small projects run by local charities to help local disabled people find suitable work, to nationwide projects that promote vocational training among the whole population.

The 2014 to 2020 ESF programme is part of the new European Growth Programme in England, along with the European Regional Development Fund and part of the Rural Development Fund.

Partnership Agreement and Operational Programme projects, which are secured through procurement, for 2015 are still yet to be agreed upon by the Commission.

Updates should be announced in February 2015. Please continue to check:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-social-fund-2014-to-2020-plans/european-social-fund-2014-to-2020-plans>

More information on this can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-social-fund-2014-to-2020-plans/european-social-fund-2014-to-2020-plans>

Alternatively you can contact the UK ESF office by email: esf.feedback@dwpgsi.gov.uk

Cohesion Fund

The fund invests in green growth and sustainable development and improves connectivity in Member States with a GDP below 90% of the EU-27 average. For 2014-2020 the Cohesion Fund does not include the United Kingdom.

More information on this can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/cohesion/index_en.cfm

2. Agriculture and Fisheries

Common Agricultural Policy: CAP



Basic Payment Scheme

The basic payment scheme replaces the current 'single farm payment scheme. It is made up of three components:

- Basic payment
- Greening (Worth about 30% of your total payment)
- Young farmers (under 40)

To apply for BPS, you will need to:

- Be an 'active farmer'
- Have at least 5 hectares of 'eligible' land
- Have at least 5 BPS entitlements

Before you can log in to the CAP Information Service and apply for CAP schemes, Customers wanting to apply for the new Basic Payment Scheme will need to be registered on the service. [GOV.UK Verify](#) is the new way for people to prove who they are when using digital services. You will then be contacted directly by the Rural Payments Agency.

Farmers applying for entitlements in 2015 must apply by midnight on 15 May. Their supporting evidence must be received by RPA by the same deadline. Applications received after this, but before midnight on 9 June 2015, will have the value of any payments (relating to their entitlements from the national reserve) in that year reduced by 3% for each working day they are late.

Just like SPS, under BPS you will need to meet cross-compliance rules

Everyone who hasn't applied online before will receive a form called 'Extra help to use the CAP Information Service', which should be filled in by anyone who thinks they might need extra help. Once the form has been returned, the RPA will get in touch to discuss the options for help that are available for each applicant.

More information on this can be found: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/common-agricultural-policy-reform>

Rural Development Programme

Local Action Groups (LAGs) will be running the new RDP. These are run by volunteers who represent the public, private and voluntary sectors in their communities. LAGs are responsible for setting strategies for their areas and funding local projects. Funding could be granted for developing businesses and investing in renewable energy. Once local funding opportunities are announced in early 2015, people will be able to apply for funding through the RPA.

There will be 3 main areas of support:

- Managing the environment
- Increasing farming and forestry productivity
- Growing the rural economy

Prospective Local Action Groups in the South East are:

- Kent County Council (Kent Downs and Marshes)
- East Kent (Action with Communities in Rural Kent)
- West Sussex County Council (Sussex Downs & Low Weald)
- West Sussex County Council (Three Harbours & Coastal Plain)
- Hampshire County Council (Loddon and Eversley)
- Surrey County Council (Surrey Hills)

These can be contacted directly:

RDPE Delivery Team, AHVLA, Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey,
KT15 3NB

Tel: 01932 357429

E-mail: rdpedeliverysoutheast@defra.gsi.gov.uk

More information on this can be found: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/>

Countryside Stewardship

It will replace:

- Environmental Stewardship (ES)
- The English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS)
- Capital grants from the Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF) programme

The main priority for Countryside Stewardship is biodiversity. If you already have an ES agreement which runs into 2015 or beyond, this will carry on until it ends. This is similar for EWGS agreements, though these might have to change when the new regulations come into force. If you are affected by this, the Forestry Commission will contact you in January 2015.

Applications should reflect Countryside Stewardship priorities and show that they provide value for money and will be assessed and scored by a panel of representatives from Natural England, the Forestry Commission and the Environment Agency.

More information on this can be found: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-7GML72>

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/grantsfunding/default.aspx>

Information on the RDPE Network in the South East can be found at:

<http://www.rdpnetwork.org.uk/projects/south-east>

EFF: European Fisheries Fund



The European Fisheries Fund is intended to secure a sustainable and profitable fisheries industry. It will grant financial support with a view to helping the industry adapt to changing circumstances.

The EFF programme in England is funded by the EU and managed by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), an executive agency of DEFRA at the national level. Around £243.1 million is available through the European Fisheries Fund to help the fishing industry in the UK to adapt to changing needs for the period 2014-2020.

The EFF Grants Programme is open all year round for receipt of applications. Depending upon the type, size and cost of a project, a decision will either be considered by the selection panel (which meets about three times a year) for smaller projects by the Business Relations Team in the MFA on an ongoing basis.

Funding is provided through calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/contracts_and_funding/calls_for_proposals/index_en.htm

More information on this can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-a-european-fisheries-fund-grant>

<https://www.gov.uk/commercial-fishing-fisheries/funding>

marinemanagement.org.uk

3. Employment and Social Innovation



The Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) programme is a financing instrument at EU level to promote a high level of quality and sustainable employment, guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty and improving working conditions.

As of January 2014, these programmes form the three axes of EaSI. They support:

- The modernisation of employment and social policies with the [PROGRESS axis](#) (61% of the total budget)
- Job mobility with the [EURES axis](#) (18% of the total budget)
- Access to micro-finance and social entrepreneurship with the [Microfinance and Social Entrepreneurship axis](#) (21% of the total budget)

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

Calls for tender: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=624&langId=en>

Calls for proposals: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=629&langId=en>

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF)

The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) exists to support workers who lose their jobs as a result of changing global trade patterns so that they can find another job as quickly as possible.

The EGF can fund active labour market measures focused entirely on helping the workers made redundant as a result of globalisation, for example through:

- Job-search assistance, occupational guidance, tailor-made training and re-training including IT skills and certification of acquired experience, outplacement assistance and entrepreneurship promotion or aid for self-employment
- Special time-limited measures, such as job-search allowances, mobility allowances or allowances to individuals participating in lifelong learning and training activities.

Please note the EGF will not fund passive social protection measures such as retirement pensions or unemployment benefits, which are the competence of the Member States.

Structural Funds

The EU Structural Funds, in particular the European Social Fund (ESF), support the anticipation and management of change with activities, such as life-long learning, with a strategic and long-term perspective. The EGF, on the other hand, provides one-off, time-limited individual support geared to helping workers who have suffered redundancies as a result of globalisation.

EGF cases are managed and implemented by national or regional authorities. Each project runs for two years.

Individuals, representative organisations or companies affected by redundancies and wishing to benefit from the Fund should contact their national authorities directly:

EGF Contacts for the United Kingdom:

Mr Graham BREEZE, International Unit, Department for Work and Pensions,
Area 2C Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, UK-London, SW1H 9NA
Tel: +44 20 7340 4107
E-mail: graham.breeze@dpw.gsi.gov.uk

Ms Lindsey LEWIS, International Unit, Department for Work and Pensions
Area 2C Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, UK-London, SW1H 9NH
Tel: +44 207 340 4028
E-mail: lindsey.lewis@dpw.gsi.gov.uk

More information can be found at: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=326&langId=en>

4. Justice and Home Affairs



Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme 2014-2020

This programme shall contribute to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons, as enshrined in the Treaty, the Charter and international human rights conventions, are promoted and protected. This project has an overall budget of €439 million for the years 2014-2020.

Types of actions funded:

- Training activities (staff exchanges, workshops, development of training modules)
- Mutual learning, cooperation activities, exchange of good practices, peer reviews, development of ICT tools
- Awareness-raising activities, dissemination, conferences
- Support for main actors (key European NGOs and networks, Member States' authorities implementing Union law)
- Analytical activities (studies, data collection, development of common methodologies, indicators, surveys, preparation of guides)

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

Calls for proposals: http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/open-calls/index_en.htm

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

The funding for the AMIF will be divided in three ways:

- Shared management, EU States will implement their multiannual National Programmes, covering the whole period 2014-20 (around 88%)
- Specific actions, implemented under the national programmes of EU States, but responding to specific Union priorities (around 11%)
- Direct management, in the framework of annual work programmes (around 12%)

Allocations have yet to be announced for 2015. Please keep checking the website:

5. Environnent



LIFE Programme

The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects with European added value.

There are two sub-programmes:

- LIFE sub-programme for Environment, including as priorities areas environment and resource efficiency, nature and biodiversity, governance and information
- LIFE sub-programme for Climate Action, including as priorities areas adaptation, mitigation and governance and information

Activities under LIFE include:

- Developing and maintaining networks, databases and computer systems linked to implementation of EU environmental policy, especially when improving public access to environmental information
- Studies, surveys, modelling and scenario building
- Monitoring
- Capacity building, training, workshops, networking and best-practice forums
- Information and communication actions including awareness campaigns
- Demonstration of innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments

Specifically for the Nature and Biodiversity strand:

- Site and species management and site planning, including improvement of ecological coherence of Natura 2000 network
- Monitoring of conservation status
- Development and implementation of species and habitats conservation action plans

The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), is responsible for LIFE at the European Level. In England the Managing Authority is the Department for Farming, Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The national contact point carries out an eligibility check and makes comments on proposals before DEFRA collects the proposals and forwards them to the Commission.

A Committee made up of Member States' representatives examines and endorses (or rejects) the list of projects for co-financing proposed by the Commission.

Applications are made in response to an annual Call for Proposals published in the Official Journal of the European Union with a submission deadline in the Autumn of each year.

Calls for proposals can be found at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/ngos/index.htm>

All projects have to be submitted to the national contact point. The LIFE website holds a database which includes current projects and contact details which may be a useful source of information for those looking for potential partners or information exchange.

The national contact point for the UK is:

Beta Technology Ltd, Doncaster Carr, Doncaster, DN4 5HZ

Tel: +44 (0)1302 322633

Fax: +44 (0)1302 388800

life@betatechnology.co.uk

www.betaeurope.co.uk

6. Energy and Natural Resources



IEE: Intelligent Energy Europe

The Intelligent Energy – Europe II Programme (IEE) is the main community instrument to tackle non-technological barriers to the spread of efficient use of energy and greater use of new and renewable energy sources.

The objective of the IEE Programme Horizon 2020 Energy Challenge is designed to support the transition to a secure, clean and efficient energy system for Europe and the first Work Programme for 'Secure, clean and efficient energy' is split into three focus areas: Energy-efficiency; Low carbon technologies; and Smart Cities & Communities.

The programme consists of four action types:

- Coordination and support actions (CSA)
- Research and Innovation Actions (RIA)
- Project Development Assistance (PDA)
- Public-private partnership (PPP)

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

<http://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/energy>

National contacts (Energy Helpline UK) can assist with the preparation of an application for funding. This includes advice on technical and administrative questions on the Call for Proposals, partner search, national priorities, and matching national co-financing possibilities, where applicable.

The national contact point for the UK is:

Ms Helen Fairclough, Energy Helpline UK

Tel: +0161 874 3636

Fax: +0161 874 3644

energie@enviros.com

More information can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.htm

7. Culture



Creative Europe

Creative Europe is the new EU programme to support European cinema and the cultural and creative sectors, enabling them to increase their contribution to jobs and growth. It will support tens of thousands of artists, cultural and audio-visual professionals and organisations in the performing arts, fine arts, publishing, film, TV, music, interdisciplinary arts, heritage, and the video games industry.

- Culture sector initiatives, such as those promoting cross-border cooperation, platforms, networking, and literary translation
- Audiovisual sector initiatives, such as those promoting the development, distribution, or access to audiovisual work
- A cross-sectoral strand, including a Guarantee Facility and transnational policy cooperation.

The programme consists of two sub-programmes; the Culture sub-programme to promote the culture sector, and the MEDIA sub-programme to support the audiovisual sector.

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

Calls for proposals can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/calls/index_en.htm

Results of calls can be found: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe/selection-results_en

More information can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/index_en.htm

8. Education and Youth



About Erasmus+

The Erasmus+ programme runs from 2014-2020 and supports activities in education, training, youth and sport across all sectors of lifelong learning including higher education, further education, adult education, schools and youth activities.

Erasmus+ programme now covers five major areas of education and training:

- School education opportunities for staff and institutions;
- Vocational education and training opportunities for students, apprentices, trainees, staff, institutions, and business;
- Higher Education opportunities for students, staff, institutions, and businesses;
- Adult Education opportunities for staff, institutions, and businesses;
- European Integration opportunities for academic and research staff and institutions.

The programme guide for applications is now available. Please check to see what you might be interested in: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index_en.htm

Organisations are invited to submit applications for funding on-line to the National Agency.

The national contact point for the UK is:

British Council, in partnership with Ecorys UK – Ecorys UK
Albert House, Quay Place, 92-93 Edward Street
B1 2RA, Birmingham
United Kingdom
Tel: 0044 0845 199 2929
Web:
www.erasmusplus.org.uk

More information can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm

9. Business and Innovation



COSME

COSME is the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) running from 2014 to 2020.

It aims to support:

- Access to finance for SMEs
- Access to markets
- Entrepreneurs
- Business growth and creation

All businesses have access to the services of the Enterprise Europe Network, which delivers help locally to SME's.

The services offered include:

- Information on EU legislation and participation in EU
- Assistance to find a business partner abroad
- Advice on EU access to finance
- Support for innovation and technology transfer
- Obtaining SME's opinion on EU legislation

The point of contact for South East is:

Oxford Innovation Services Limited
Oxford Centre for Innovation, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1BY
+44 1865 261480
een@oxin.co.uk
<http://www.oxfordinnovationservices.co.uk>

If you want to go abroad with your company, this [portal](#) gathers all services provided by national authorities you might need.

Funding is provided through calls for proposals and calls for tenders. Please check the sites regularly.

Calls for proposals can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/contracts-grants/calls-for-proposals/index_en.htm?tpa=1029

Calls for tenders can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/contracts-grants/calls-for-tenders/index_en.htm?tpa=1029

More information can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/cosme/index_en.htm

Entrepreneurship 2020

The Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan is a call for joint action at European, national, regional, and local level.

The Action Plan includes three main improvements:

- Entrepreneurship education
- Improving the business environment so entrepreneurs can grow and flourish
- Role models and outreach to specific groups

Funding is provided through calls for proposals and calls for tenders. Please check the sites regularly.

Calls for proposals can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/contracts-grants/calls-for-proposals/index_en.htm

Calls for tenders can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/contracts-grants/calls-for-tenders/index_en.htm

More information can be found: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/entrepreneurship-2020/index_en.htm

Information & Communication Technologies in Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 (H2020) will provide funding for every stage of the innovation process from basic research to market uptake, in line with the EU's commitments under the "Innovation Union".

The EU's new Programme for research and innovation will bring together all funding currently provided through the Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development (FP), the Competitiveness & Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT).

The programme aims to address:

- The growing need for sustainable healthcare
- Improved security and privacy
- Lower carbon economy
- Intelligent transport

It will also support research and innovation that can best deliver new business breakthroughs, often on the basis of emerging technologies. In particular, ICT in Horizon 2020 will support the development of ICT in Science, ICT in industrial leadership and ICT in societal challenges.

Funding is provided through calls for proposals and calls for tenders. Please check the sites regularly.

http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/search/search_topics.html#c,topics=topicFileName,callIdentifier,callTitle,identifier,title,description,tags,flags/s/Space/1/1/0&+title/desc

More information can be found: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/find-your-area>

Excellent Science

As part of Horizon 2020, funding will be allocated to the area of excellent science with the aim of Europe producing world-class science, removing barriers to innovation and making it easier for public and private sectors to work together to deliver innovation.

To encourage small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to take advantage of the programme and bring their innovations to market a new funding scheme, the “SME Instrument” has been launched.

This SME instrument has been designed specifically for single or groups of highly innovative SMEs.

The instrument provides full-cycle business support from the stage of business idea conception and planning over business plan execution and demonstration to commercialisation. Participants will be able to call on business innovation coaching for the duration of their project.

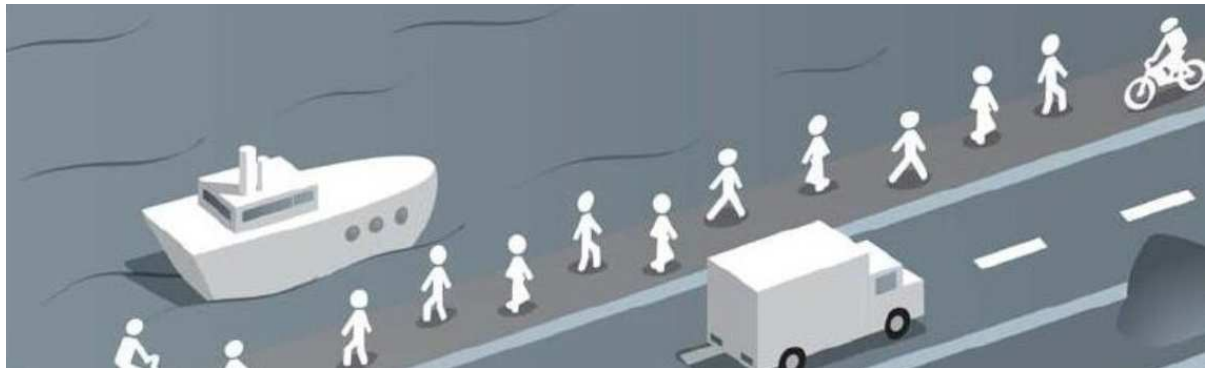
There are three phases to the programme:

- Phase I (proof-of-concept):
- Phase II (development & demonstration):
- Phase III (go-to-market): Take advantage of additional EU support to enter the market successfully (no grants)

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for [proposals](#). Please follow the hyperlink and check the site regularly for updates.

More information can be found at: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/h2020-section/excellent-science>

10. Transport



Connecting Europe is the new programme of funding for 2014-2020. The Connecting Europe Facility will invest €31.7 billion to upgrade Europe's transport infrastructure, build missing links and remove bottlenecks. By focusing on transport modes that are less polluting, the Connecting Europe Facility will push our transport system to become more sustainable. It will also give consumers more choice about how they want to travel.

To apply for funding you must first register on the online portal:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>

Funding is provided through calls for tender and calls for [proposals](#). Please follow the hyperlink and check the site regularly for updates.

More information can be found at: <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>

12. Health



The EU is required by its founding treaty to ensure that human health is protected as part of all its policies, and to work with the EU countries to improve public health, prevent human illness and eliminate sources of danger to physical and mental health.

The EU health strategy "Together for Health" supports the overall Europe 2020 strategy. Europe 2020 aims to turn the EU into a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy promoting growth for all – one prerequisite of which is a population in good health.

The programme aims to:

- Promote health, prevent diseases and foster supportive environments for healthy lifestyles taking into account the 'health in all policies' principle
- Protect Union citizens from serious cross-border health threats
- Contribute to innovative, efficient and sustainable health systems
- Facilitate access to better and safer healthcare for Union citizens.

Funding is provided through calls for proposals. Please check the sites regularly.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/3hp/>

More information is available with the UK point of contact:

United Kingdom
Ms Sarah COLLEN-GODMAN
NHS European Office
Rue Marie-Thérèse 21 BE-1000 Brussels
Phone: +32 2 227 6448
+44 20 7799 6666
Email: Sarah.Godman@nhsconfed.org

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