



**Interreg  
Europe**



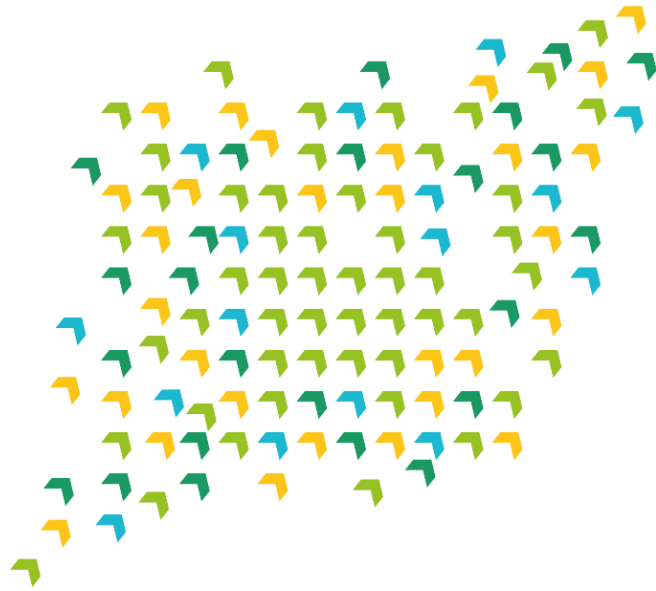
European Union | European Regional Development Fund

# **Tools and support services for regions available from the Policy Learning Platform**

**“Supporting the effective uptake of  
Cohesion Policy funds for energy”  
Budapest, 3-4 July 2019**



# A programme mainly for MAs with 2 types of actions



Interregional  
cooperation  
projects



Policy  
Learning  
Platform



# Why a platform for interregional policy learning?

Interreg Europe rationale: to capitalise on regional development practices for all EU regions

**To further  
exploit  
projects work**

**To offer  
services to  
any regions  
interested**

# #policylearning



# 4 services

**Knowledge hub**

**Good practice database**

**Community**

**Expert policy support**



Research  
and innovation



SME  
competitiveness



Low carbon  
economy



Environment  
and resource  
efficiency

# Read, learn, benefit



## Policy briefs

10-page publications full of inspiring examples from EU regions

**Demand-responsive transport**

A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Low-carbon economy

June 2018

**Renewable Energy Communities**

A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Low-carbon economy

August 2018

**E-mobility**

A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Low-carbon economy

January 2019

**Funding Energy Efficiency through Financial Instruments**

A Policy Brief from the Policy Learning Platform on Low-carbon economy

March 2019



# Good practice database

inspire and get inspired



**~ 700**

**Good practices**



<https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/>

# Be active in the community



More than 16,000 members

1,300+ from managing authorities

99% of NUTS2 regions

- Thematic online discussions
- Thematic workshops for approved projects
- Networking events reaching out to newcomers

**#PolicyLearning**



# Individualised policy support



- **Policy helpdesk**

ask the experts and receive policy advice online

- **Targeted matchmakings** (1.5 hour, during events)

get together with relevant partner regions to share your challenges and good practices

- **Peer reviews** (2 days onsite visit)

For MAs: get individual input and recommendations from other European regions on your regional challenge, organized by experts from the Policy Learning Platform

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/peer-review/>



# Peer reviews



**Tuning the OP for optimised absorption of Energy efficiency in building funding**  
October 2018 – Lille (FR)



**Governance of innovation processes**  
January 2019 – Gävleborg (SE)



**Governance of Multi-municipality Strategies for Energy and Climate, May 2019 – Eupen (BE)**

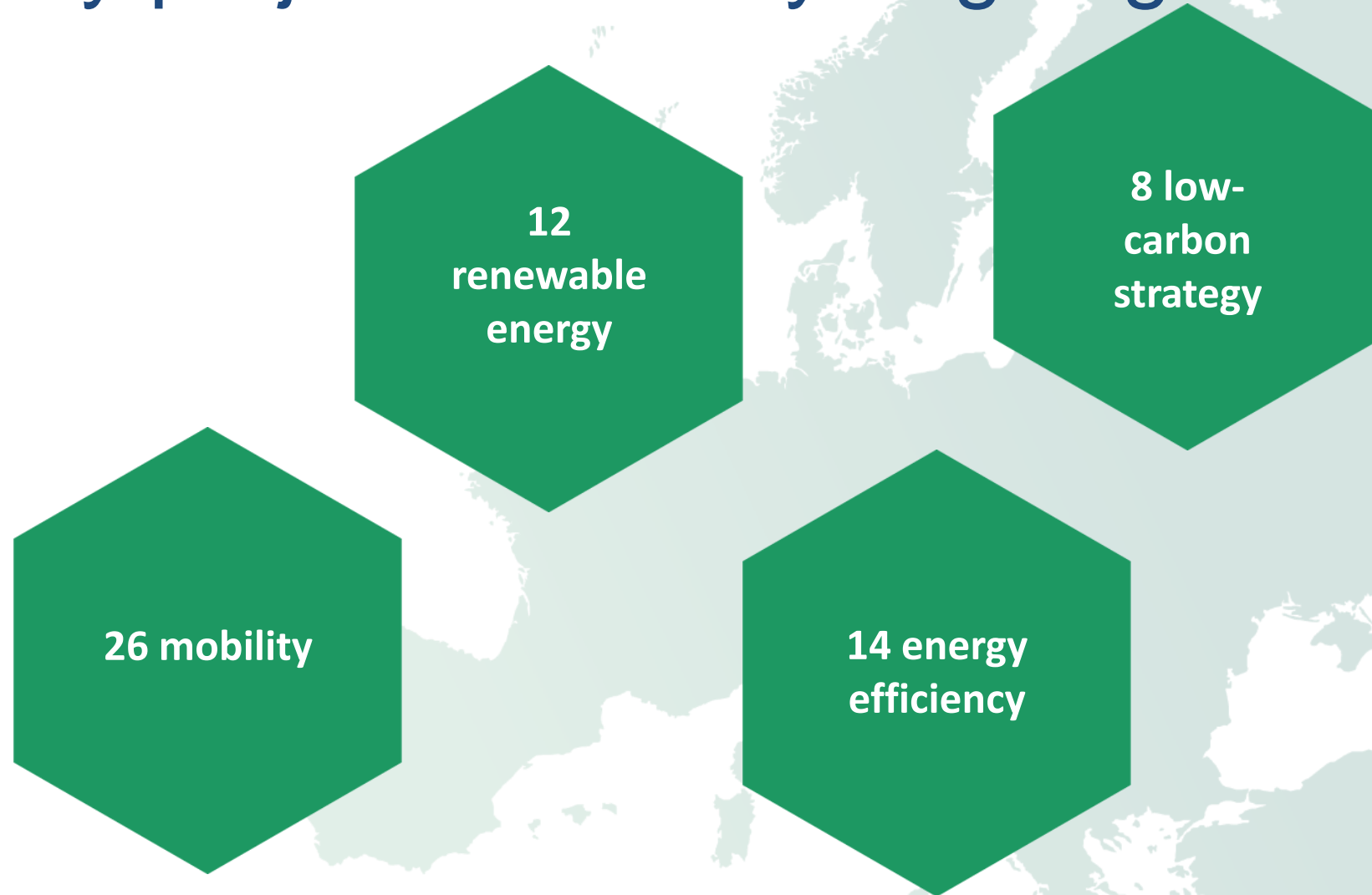


**Centre of Excellence & Competence**  
June 2019 – Sofia (BG)



**Some numbers**

# 60 INTERREG EUROPE low-carbon economy projects currently ongoing



# Participation of EU-13 in INTERREG EUROPE

Thematic objective	Origin of partners		Project funding for EU13 partners (ERDF contribution)	
	EU13	EU15	€	
TO1 – Research & innovation	163	384	€	22,256,487.60
TO3 – SME competitiveness	175	345	€	20,256,619.40
<b>TO4 – low-carbon economy</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>23,565,969.55</b>
TO6 – environment & resource efficiency	163	360	€	20,556,021.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>€</b>	<b>86,635,097.65</b>

≈ 2,6 EU13 partner / TO4 project



# Impact on Structural Funds / Policy Instruments

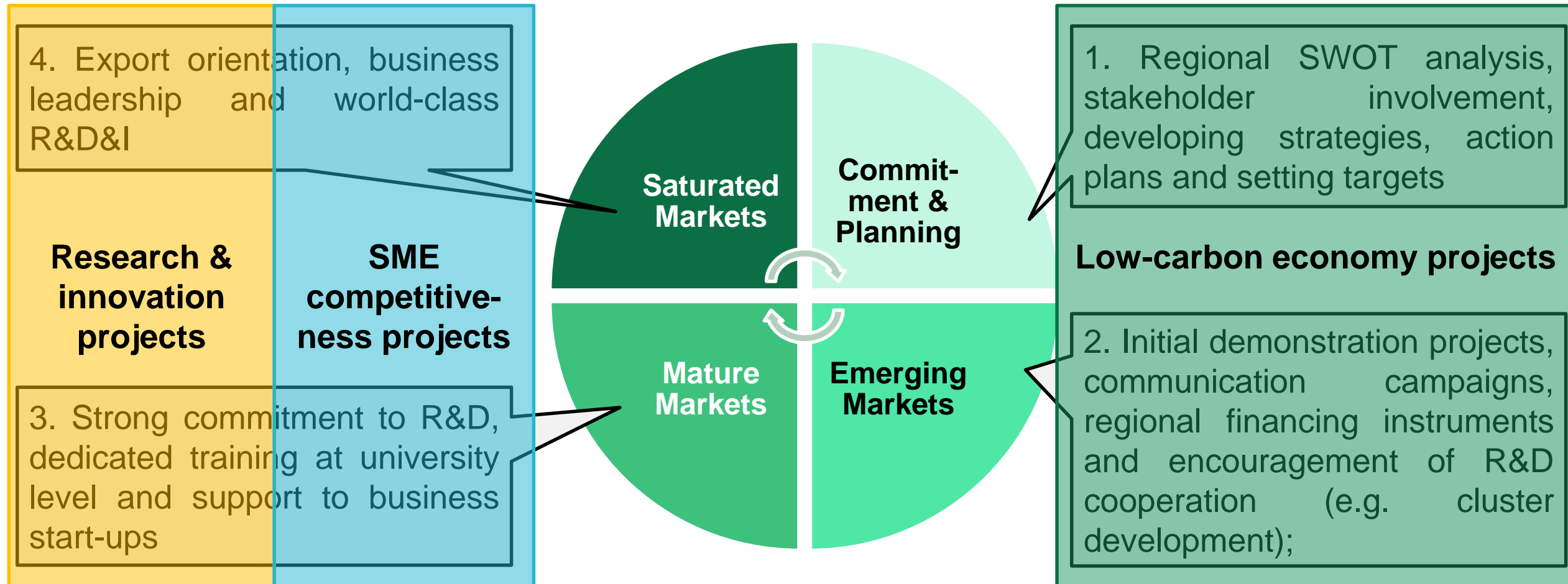
- Managing Authorities or intermediate bodies are direct partners responsible for improving Structural Funds in many projects
- Impacts start showing from 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call projects; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> call projects are expected to show results 2020.
- As of end of 2018:
  - 14 Structural Funds programmes influenced
  - Financial impact: +180 Mio EUR
  - 9 other policy instruments influenced

≈ 188 Million  
EURO of ERDF  
funding  
impacted

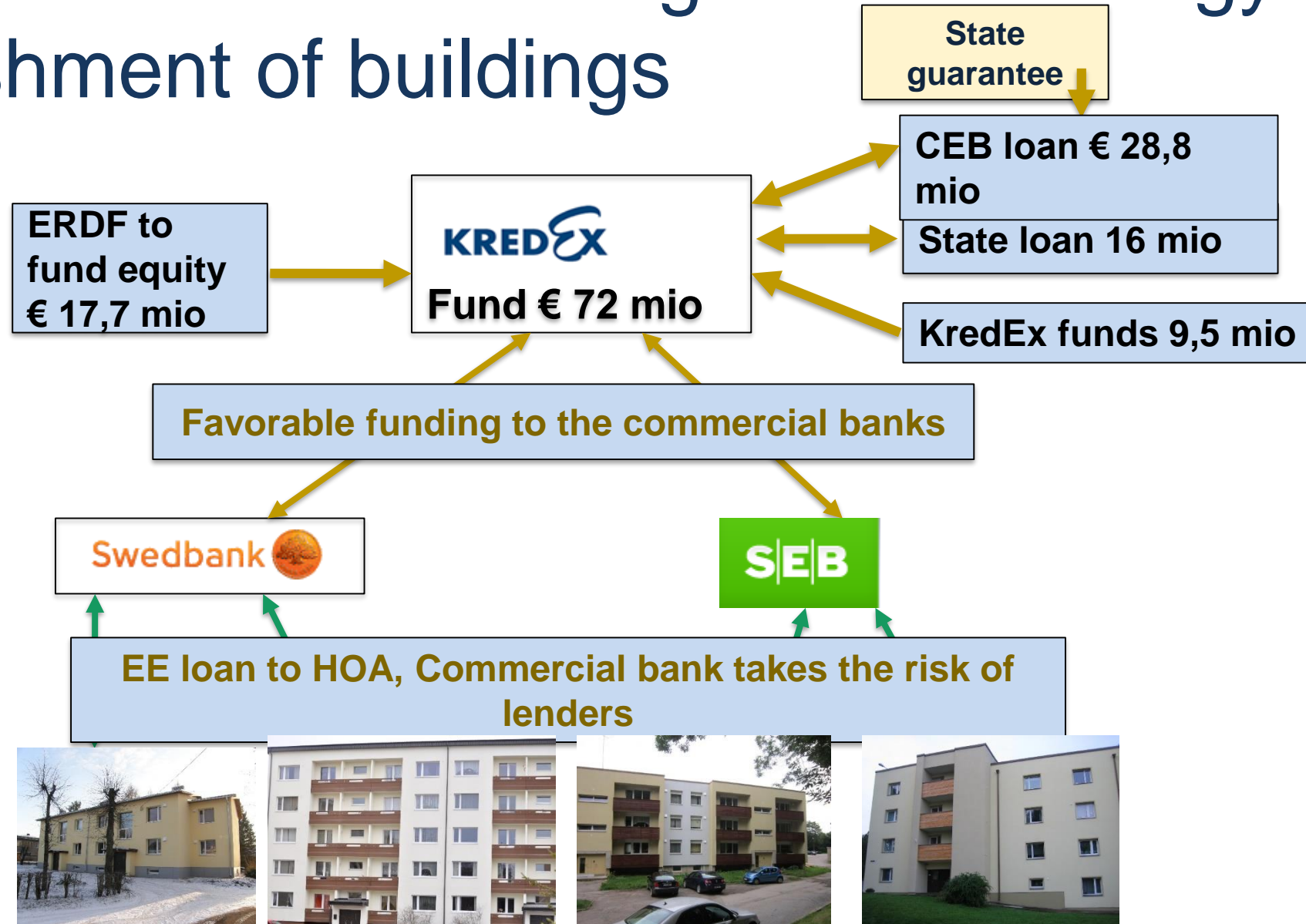


# Good Practices in the area of energy

# Development cycle to become a low-carbon economy innovation leader region



# Estonia: KredEx Revolving fund for energy refurbishment of buildings





# Reconversion of a former industrial coal site into an attractive urban zone, PL



This transformation affected the entire city, changing its picture of industrial and mining city into the business and cultural city.

- **Construction of the International Congress Center Katowice**

Fund: ERDF priority: VI Sustainable development of cities 6.1 Strengthening regional growth centers

- **Construction of the new seat of the Silesian Museum in Katowice"**

Fund: ERDF, Regional Operational Program of the Śląskie Voivodeship for the years 2007-2013.

- **Construction of the headquarters of the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice (NOSPR)**

Fund: ERDF Priority: XI Culture and cultural heritage 11.2. Development and improvement of cultural infrastructure of supra-regional importance

Main institution: City of Katowice

>50% EU funding; infrastructure investment excluded









**Examples of actions plans  
developed based on results of  
interregional learning**



# Action Plans

Produced by each region, the action plan is a document providing details on how the lessons learnt from the cooperation will be exploited in order to improve the policy instrument tackled within that region.

It specifies:

- the nature of the actions to be implemented
- their timeframe
- the players involved
- the costs (if any)
- and funding sources (if any).





# BIO4ECO => Latvia's Action Plan

Aim: improve Priority 4 of ERDF OP of Latvia via the development of a National Bioeconomy Strategy

- Action 1: Promotion of production in the bioeconomy, developing long-term land use policy
- Action 2: Effective and sustainable resource management in forestry
- Action 3: Development of knowledge and innovation in bioeconomy sectors, contributing to the excellence and effective transfer of knowledge of traditional bioeconomy research
  - Inspired by: North Karelia (Finland), Natural Resource Institute of Finland LUKE. LUKE institute concentrates mainly on forest bioeconomy, but also manages Innovative Food System programme and has established nicely operating knowledge and innovation transfer system in bioeconomy sectors – science/practice connection platform.
  - Activities planned & timeframe:
    - *Project proposals for State research programme 2019-2022: yearly 2019-2022*
    - *Research projects under MoA research support: yearly*
    - *Knowledge transfer under post 2020 Rural Development Program: continuously*
    - *Knowledge sharing on bioeconomy development in Latvia (including on Latvian Bioeconomy Strategy): continuously*
  - Funding sources: Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture and other responsible ministries; post 2020 Common Agricultural Policy

# BIO4ECO => RDA Centru's Action Plan (RO)



Aim: improve Priority Axis 3 / Investment Priority 3.1 of the Regional OP 2014-2020 - "Supporting energy efficiency, intelligent energy management and use renewable energy in public infrastructure, including in public buildings and in the housing sector."

- Action 1: Quality improvement of the projects submitted & minimization of the projects rejection rate by **simplifying** the funding accessing criteria and **by improving the clarity of the ROP 2014-2020, PA 3.1**
- Action 2: Increase of the public organizations and **institutions capacity** to access funding programs for energy efficiency and RES
  - *Creation/activation of a permanent, regional-level working group on energy or energy in a built environment that functions as a thematic group, with advisory role, bringing together specialists, representatives of public authorities, architects, building specialists, university representatives etc.*
  - *Organization of training events for public administration staff, related to topics such as preparing and implementing projects as well as implementing existing regulations on energy efficiency, RES, NZEB.*
- Action 3: Easier access for local and regional actors to up-to-date **technical solutions** in the field of RES use in general, and biomass in particular and **knowledge improvement**
- Action 4: Support given to the growth of RES energy production by encouraging the deployment of alternative RES systems, including biomass, in future **financing schemes**



# LOCARBO => Hungary Action Plan (Mi6)

## Aim:

- To improve the Hungarian policy instrument for SME level energy efficiency support (Economic Development and Innovation Operational Programme 2014-20, Priority 4)
- To increase the energy saving in the SME sector and realize 100,000 GJ actual energy saving

## The policy change has already been delivered in Phase 1:

- *Review of the scheme to better meet market demand based on lessons from transnational policy learning and consultation within LOCARBO*
  - *Strategic proposals (better balance between EE and RES, split of schemes), conditions (IRR, factors) finance and procedure issues.*
- Successful influencing the policy instrument related scheme conditions and the renewal and re-issuing of the EDIOP-4 schemes. Value: 170 Mio EUR.

MA in charge: MA for Economic Development Programmes, Ministry for National Economy

# Thank you!



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