



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Regional Policy

Role of public authorities in cooperation between the research sector and enterprises

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Structure of Presentation

- EU2020 strategy
- Regional dimension of innovation/research
- Role of EU cohesion policy
- Role of public authorities



EU2020 strategy and its objectives

➤ Smart growth

➤ Flagship initiatives:

- Innovation: Innovation Union
- Education: Youth on the move
- Digital society: A digital agenda for Europe

➤ Targets:

- 3% of GDP invested in R&D with special attention for private R&D
- New indicator to track innovation
- Employment rate aged 20-64 to at least 75%

➤ Sustainable growth

➤ Inclusive growth



EU needs excellent research and innovation to stay competitive in a globalised world



Source: OECD

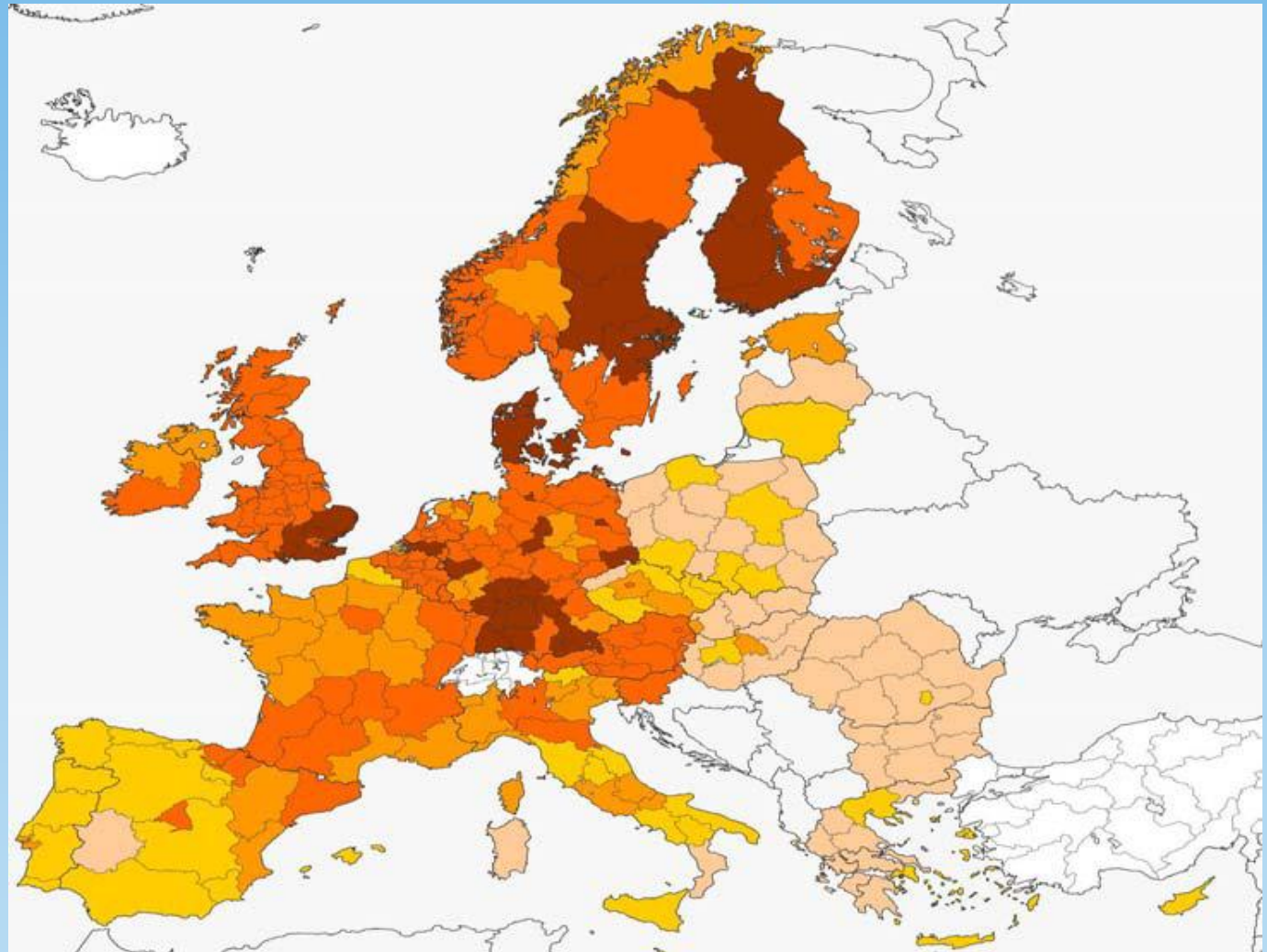


Regional Dimension of Research Policy

Strong regional disparities and strong concentration:

- 50 EU regions have R&D intensity of more than 2% GDP, but 110 regions invest less than 1% GDP into R&D
- 8 European regions account for 25% of expenditure in R&D. 31 regions account for 50%
- 10 regions account for 32% of the EU business expenditure on R&D as a % of GDP
- Half of the high technology patent applications concentrated in only 13 central regions

Regional Innovation Performance





Research and Innovation and Cohesion Policy 2007-2013

- **3 Priorities Community Strategic Guidelines:**
 - Improving the attractiveness of Member States, regions and cities
 - **Encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship and the growth of the knowledge economy**
 - Investment in RTD
 - Innovation and entrepreneurship
 - Information society for all
 - Access to finance
 - Creating more and better jobs



...and the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund are the financial tools

- **Above €85 billion for investment in improving knowledge and innovation for growth: almost 25% of EU cohesion policy**
- **Of this amount:**
 - €49.7 bn for innovation and RTD in core innovation and research priorities
 - 28.5% of budget already allocated to selected operations
- **Massive increase compared to 2000-2006 period: €26 billion (= 11% of the total SF budget) were invested in research and innovation**



Only regional actors can translate research and innovation dimension of regional policy into practice

- Competitiveness no longer derives from costs or natural or geographical advantages but from the capacity of local enterprises to innovate and universities to conduct applied research
- Local and regional authorities have the best understanding of capacity and are well positioned to address problems
- Regional research cultures and specialisations are a vital element for the regional competitiveness and development strategies
- Globally outstanding universities and businesses should also be key regional players and involved in regional development



Challenges and suggestions for policy mix

- Ensure effective governance of innovation policy: balance between national and regional priorities
- Reinforce the regional dimension of RTDI without excessive local vision, while promoting transregional cooperation
- Combine support for RTDI (ERDF) with support for human capital development (ESF)
- Avoid fragmentation of support and duplication of activities due to large number of initiatives
- Integrate services and the support provided by different bodies (universities, technology transfer agencies, research centres etc) in line with local needs



Challenges and suggestions for policy mix

Objective: increase intensity of investment in demand oriented research and innovation (EU2020 road to 3% GERD) and mobilise BERD

- Secure effective cooperation between public and private actors
- Build stronger private-public partnerships for research and innovation with a strategic focus on key areas of regional competence
- Enlarge the number of SME's involved in RTDI policy
- Improve management and exploitation of intellectual potential
- Boost availability of innovation finance for young innovative enterprises



Thank you for your attention !

Dziękuję Państwu za uwagę!

See for further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.htm