



# EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

**Background – 6<sup>th</sup> Cohesion Report  
State of Programming 2014-20  
State of execution 2007-13**

**European Parliament  
Committee on Regional Development  
23 July 2014, Brussels**

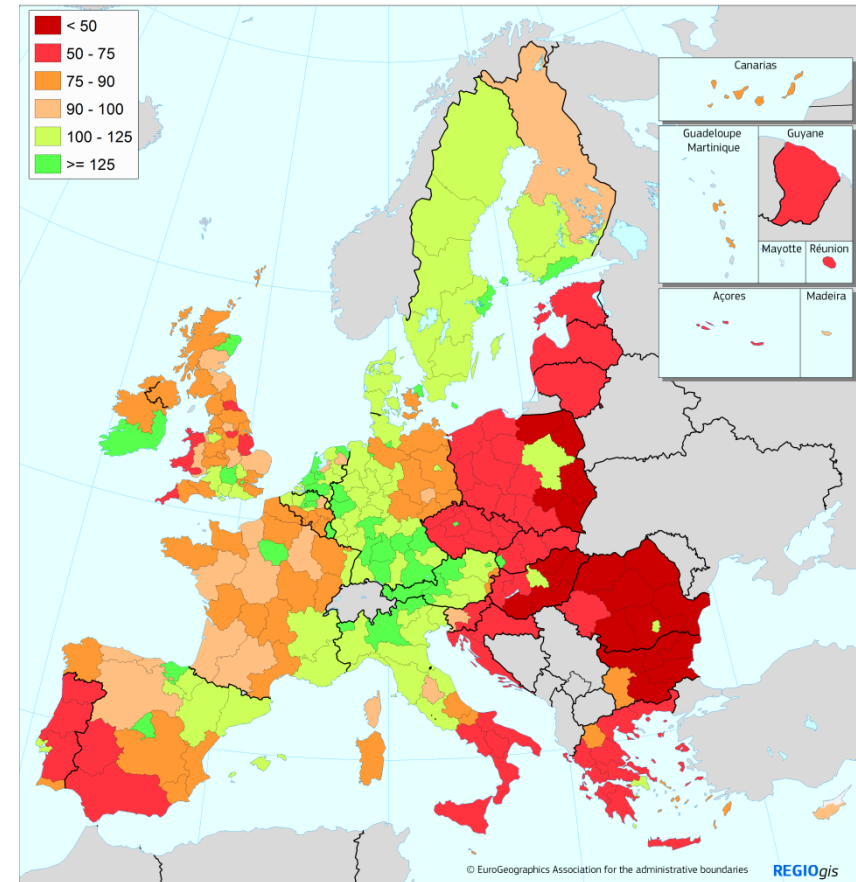
# 1. Background – 6<sup>th</sup> Cohesion Report

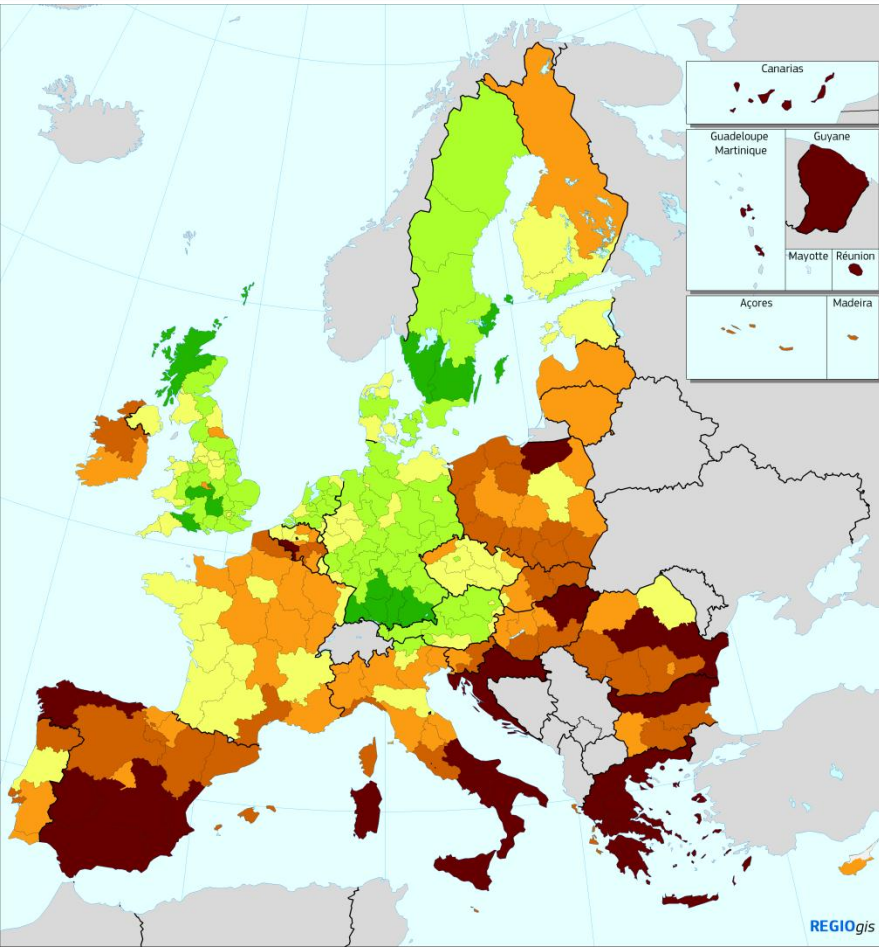
# Regional disparities

- *Crisis halted regional economic convergence*
- *National GDP projections show slow convergence post-crisis*

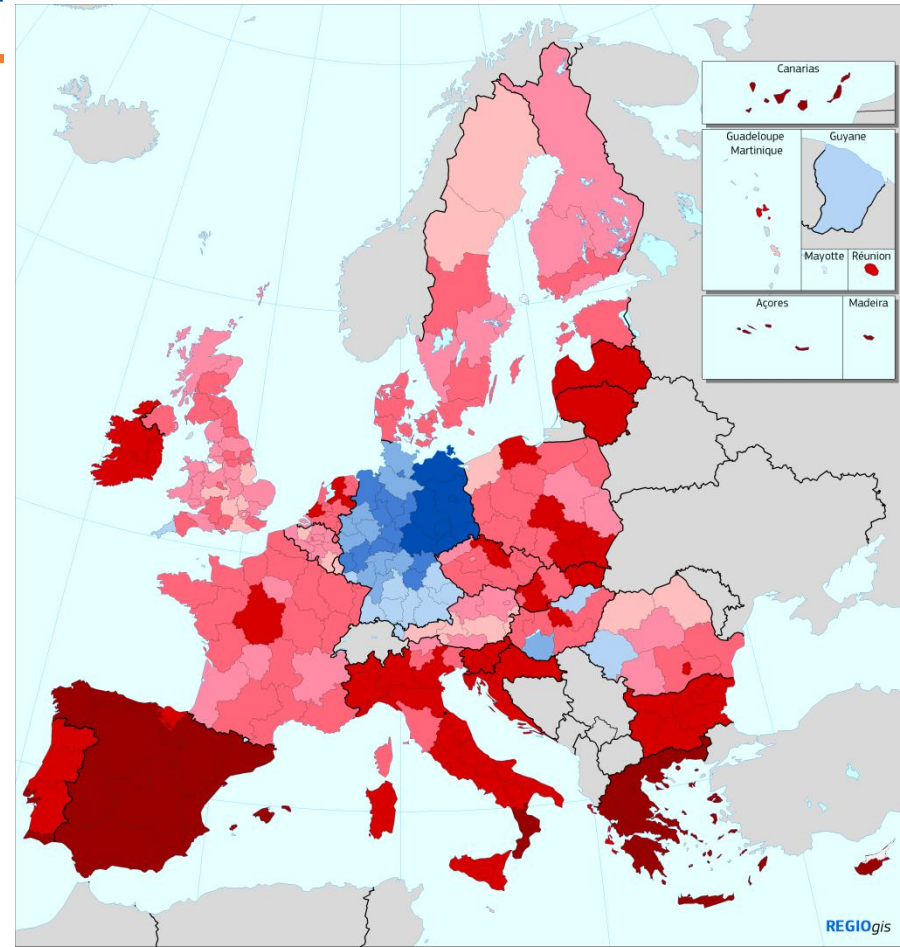
## GDP per head (pps), 2011

Index, EU28 = 100





European Commission



### Employment rate, (ages 20-64), 2013

% of population, aged 20-64

- < 60
- 60 - 65
- 65 - 70
- 70 - 75
- 75 - 80
- > 80

EU-28 = 68.3

The Europe 2020 employment rate target is 75%.

Source: Eurostat

0 500 Km

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Regional & Urban Policy

### Change in unemployment rate, 2008-2013

Percentage point change

- < -4
- 4 - -2
- 2 - -1
- 1 - 0
- 0 - 1
- 1 - 2
- 2 - 4
- 4 - 10
- > 10
- no data

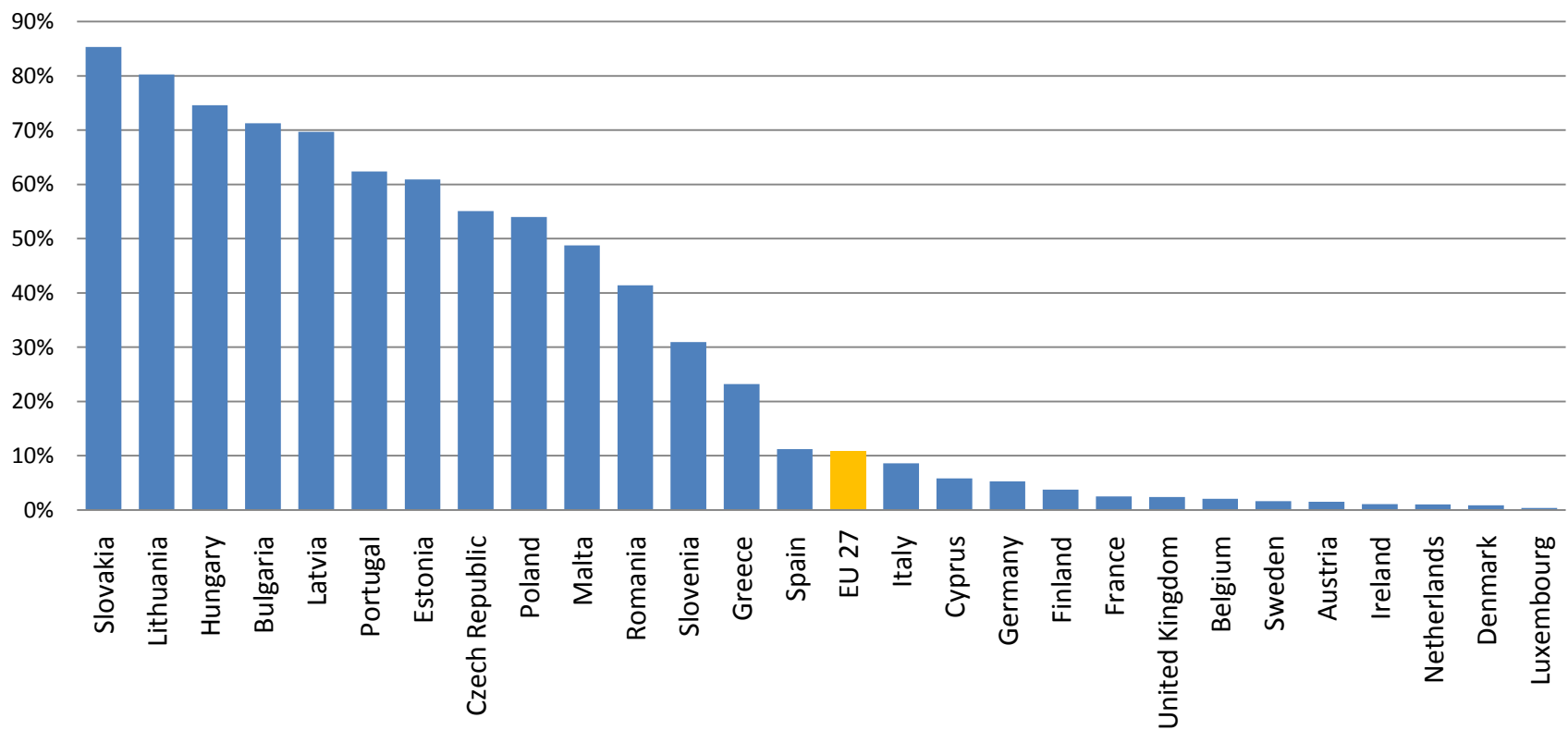
EU-28 = 3.8

Source: Eurostat, DG REGIO

0 500 Km

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## SF and CF (and national co-financing) as % of total public investment (GFCF and capital transfers), average 2011-13



# Tangible benefits of cohesion policy in 2007-2013

- 594 000 jobs created – at least 262 000 in SMEs
- 77 800 start-up companies supported
- 2 700 KM of new or reconstructed railways
- 25 800 KM of new or reconstructed roads
- Broadband access for 5 million citizens
- Access to clean drinking water for 3.2 million citizens
- ESF: 15 million participants per year
- 940 financial instruments in 25 Member States rising EUR 12.6 billion € OP funding (including EUR 8.36 billion Structural Funds) for equity, loans and guarantees

# Conclusions

- *Real challenges*
  - **Regional economic disparities**
  - **Increasing unemployment, poverty and exclusion**
- *Real impact*
  - **Growth and jobs, innovation, networks, sustainable development**
- *Real change*
  - **Linked to Europe 2020 and the European Semester**
  - **Concentrated on EU growth/jobs priorities**

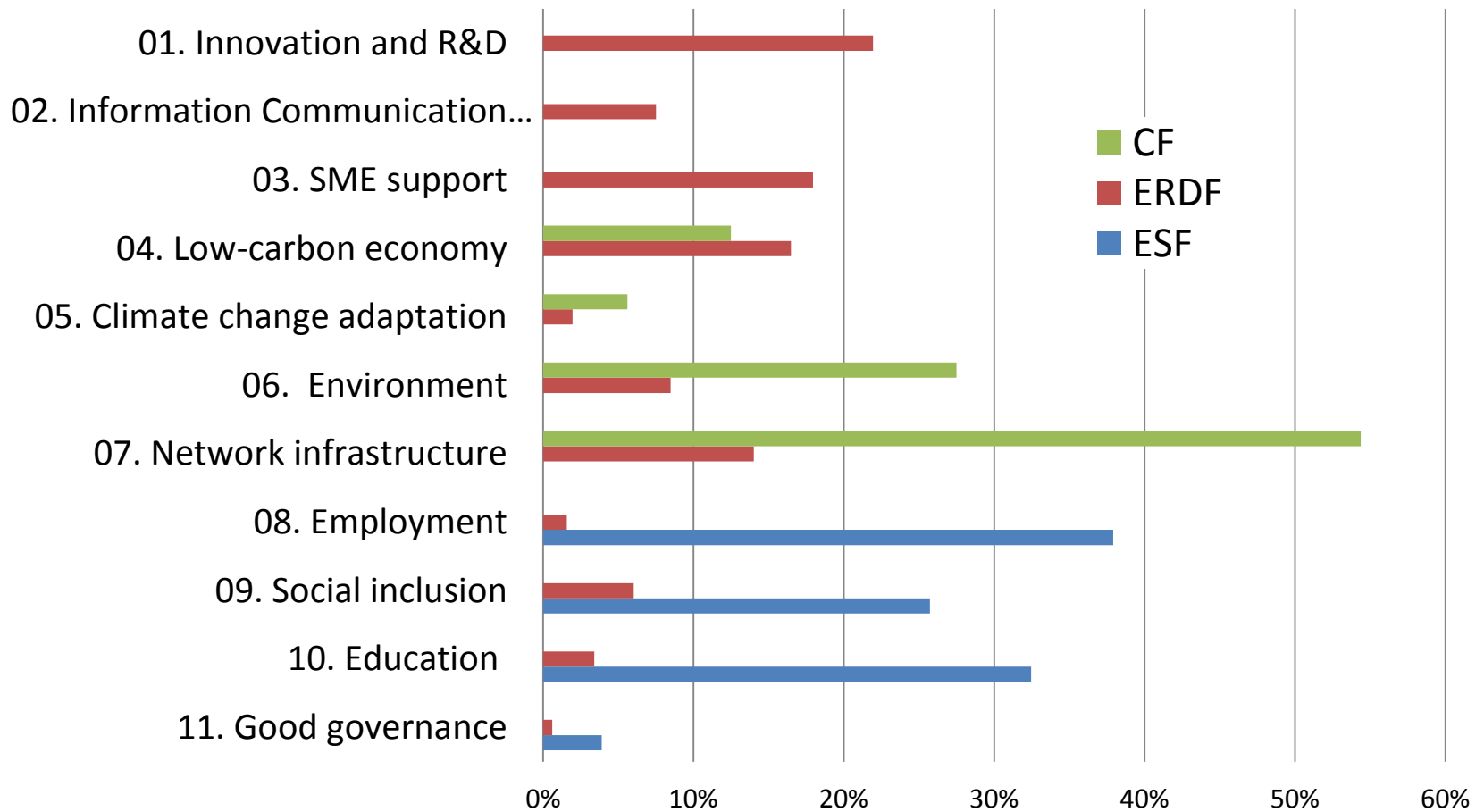
## 2. State of Programming 2014-20



# State of play of negotiations

- **9 Partnership Agreements-PAs** adopted so far  
(DK, DE, PL, EL, SK, CY, EE, LV and LT)
- More than half of REGIO-led **Operational Programmes-OPs** (Investment for Growth and Jobs) arrived (118 of the 204);
- 100 OPs approximately forecasted for adoption in 2014

## Concentration: priorities by fund 2014-2020 (in % of fund total, excluding technical assistance)



# A stronger link with EU economic governance

- Programming linked to the EU economic governance process and to the 'European semester'
- DG REGIO ensures that Country-Specific Recommendations (77 relevant CSRs) of the European Semester process are taken into account in PAs and OPs

# Ex-ante conditionalities

- Ensuring that all institutional and strategic policy arrangements are in place for effective investment
- EAC relate to 3 types of framework conditions:
  - regulatory framework
  - policies/ strategies with clear policy objectives
  - administrative/institutional capacity
- If not fulfilled: Action Plans until 2016

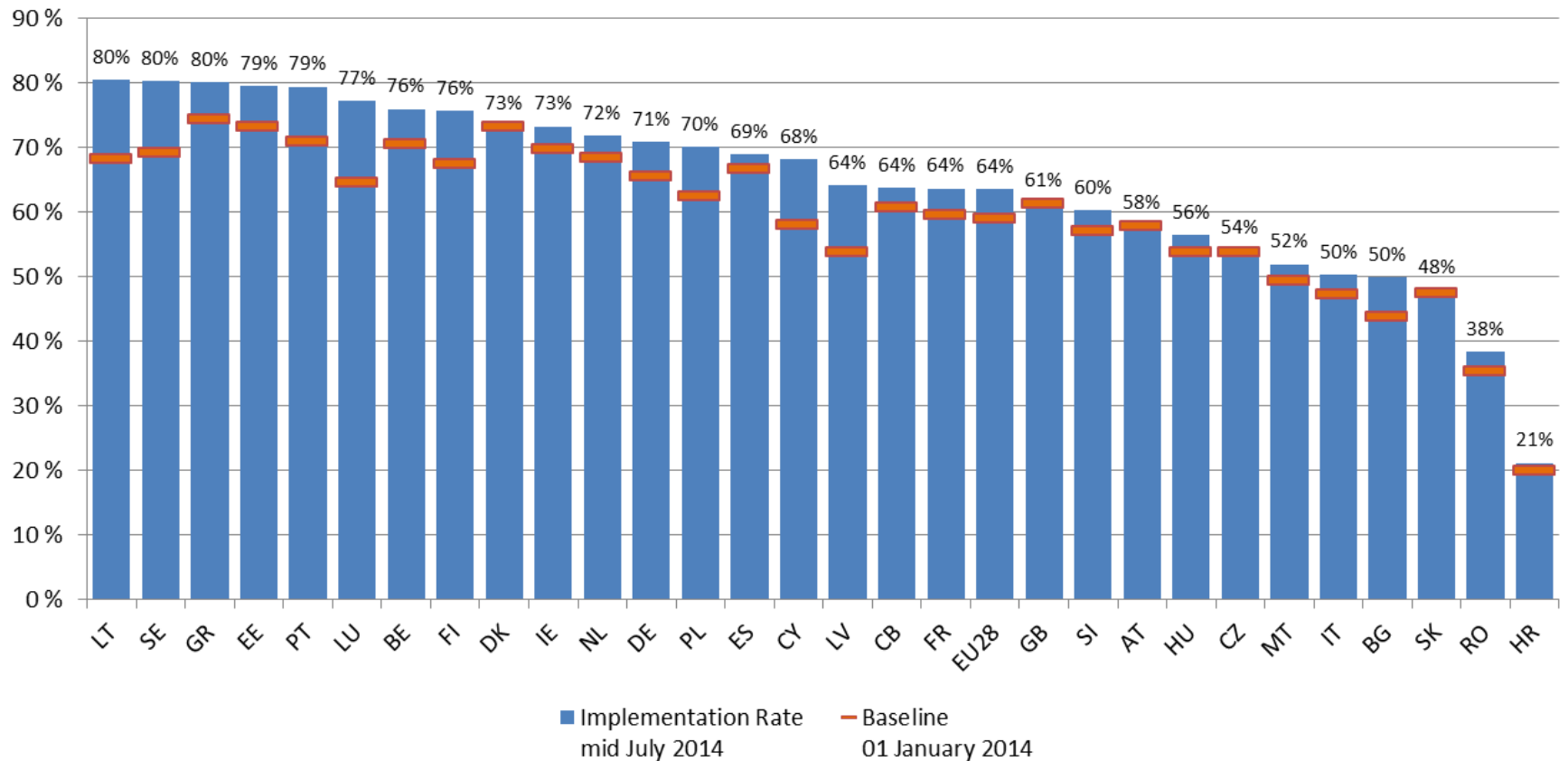
# A greater focus on results

- Result orientation through better performance indicators, reporting and evaluation
- Ensure that programmes must have clear baselines and realistic targets to measure progress

# 3. State of Execution 2007-2013

## Implementation Rate per MS

as of 22 July 2014



# Budgetary execution 2007-2013

*Backlog (unpaid claims at the end of the year to be forwarded to next year's budget)*

- 2013/2014: EUR 23.4 billion all SF (REGIO: EUR 19.4 billion/ EUR 15.1 billion ERDF, EUR 4.3 billion CF)
- 2012/2013: EUR 16.2 billion all SF (REGIO EUR 12.1 billion/ EUR 10.1 billion for ERDF, EUR 2 billion for CF).
- 2011/2012: EUR 10.7 billion all SF (REGIO: EUR 7.8 billion for ERDF and CF)



# Perspectives

- REGI Committee will be regularly informed on the programming and implementation of the policy
- COM will present report on outcome of the negotiations by the end of 2015
- Regular strategic reporting requirements from 2016 onwards.



European  
Commission

**Thank you for your attention!**