

SCOTTISH STRUCTURAL FUNDS

Good Practice Awards and  
Priority 5 Announcement

FIFTH COHESION REPORT

Foundations of Structural Funds  
Post 2013

EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY

A new strategy for Europe

# LINK-UP

THE LOWLANDS AND UPLANDS SCOTLAND PROGRAMMES NEWSLETTER ISSUE SEVEN

## Europe 2020 Strategy

*A strategy based on  
'smart', sustainable  
and inclusive growth  
which focuses on  
high employment  
and social and  
territorial cohesion*



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# EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY – A NEW STRATEGY FOR A NEW EUROPE

At the LUPS Programme Monitoring Committee on 27 October 2010, Dimtcho Tourdanov, Desk Officer, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, presented an outline of the Europe 2020 Strategy, which was endorsed by the Spring European Council on 25 March 2010

Mr Tourdanov highlighted that the current economic crisis has exposed Europe's structural weaknesses – lower growth potential, productivity gap, high and rising unemployment, ageing, poverty, limited fiscal flexibility. At the same time global challenges facing the EU have intensified, challenges such as; competition from developed and emerging economies, global finance, climate change and pressure on resources.

Europe 2020 was developed in response to what was seen as the failure of the previous Lisbon Strategy to address critical issues. The Strategy faced criticism on a range of areas, including uneven progress between Member States; failure to reach key targets on Research & Development and employment; lack of ownership of the strategy; the regions not being sufficiently involved; and an EU which was perceived as too inward looking.

*As a response to the economic crisis, Europe 2020 proposes a strategy based on 'smart', sustainable and inclusive growth which focuses on high employment and social and territorial cohesion*

## THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY IS MADE UP OF:

### 3 THEMATIC PRIORITIES

- Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation
- Sustainable growth: promoting a more efficient, greener and more competitive economy
- Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion

### 5 EU HEADLINE TARGETS TO BE TRANSLATED INTO MEMBER STATE TARGETS IN DIALOGUE WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

By 2020:

- 75% employment rate (% of population aged 20-64 years)
- 3% investment in R&D (% of EU's GDP)
- "20/20/20" climate/energy targets met (includes 30% emissions reduction if conditions are right)
- Less than 10% early school leavers and minimum 40% hold tertiary degree
- 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty

### 7 FLAGSHIP INITIATIVES

to be actioned at EU and member state levels



Focus on sustainable growth

## Integrated Guidelines

To enable delivery of the Europe 2020 Strategy, the European Commission has produced new Integrated Guidelines for the economic and employment policies of member states. These Guidelines serve as a basis for Country Specific Recommendations and policy priorities.

The European Commission is committed to ensuring that future EU spending will give stronger prioritisation to the Europe 2020 Strategy, and identify Cohesion Policy and structural funds as key delivery mechanisms for achieving the priorities of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

### STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

A full contact list, with email addresses and contact telephone numbers for all ESEP staff can be downloaded from the About ESEP pages on the ESEP website.



### GOT A QUESTION? GET IN TOUCH

If you would like further information on the 2007–2013 Lowlands and Uplands Scotland Programme, please contact a member of ESEP in Glasgow (0141 241 6150) or Inverkeithing (01383 413141)

For information on the Highlands and Islands Programmes, please contact HIPP on 01463 279500 or visit their website at [www.hipp.org.uk](http://www.hipp.org.uk)



# Scottish Structural Funds Good Practice Awards

There was an excellent response to the call for projects to apply for the 2010 European Structural Funds' Best Practice Awards. The Awards Ceremony was held in Glasgow School of Art on Tuesday 23 November 2010.

## CATEGORY 1: BEST CONTRIBUTIONS TO A 'WEALTHIER AND FAIRER' SCOTLAND THROUGH THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	EDTC Technology Gateway, Edinburgh Napier University	National Technology Centre
Shortlisted	Fairbridge in Scotland	Bridging the Gap
Shortlisted	West Fife Enterprises	Quest for Employment

## CATEGORY 2 – BEST CONTRIBUTION TO A 'GREENER' SCOTLAND THROUGH THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	New Start Highland	Towards Equality
Shortlisted	Glasgow Caledonian University	CIC Start Online
Shortlisted	Scottish Intellectual Asset Management Ltd	Project VIA (Valuing Intellectual Assets)

## CATEGORY 3 – BEST CONTRIBUTION TO A "SMARTER" SCOTLAND THROUGH THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	University of Edinburgh	Informatics Ventures
Shortlisted	Fairbridge in Scotland	Bridging the Gap
Shortlisted	North Lanarkshire Council	Learning Pathways to Employment

## CATEGORY 4 – BEST CONTRIBUTION TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN SCOTLAND THROUGH THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	UHI Millennium Institute	UHI Knowledge Transfer Project – UHI HI Links
Shortlisted	Culag Community Woodland Trust Ltd	Little Assynt Access Improvement and Training
Shortlisted	Social Enterprise Academy	Developing Leaders for Sustainable Communities

## CATEGORY 5 – BEST CONTRIBUTION TO URBAN REGENERATION THROUGH THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	Maryhill Burgh Halls Trust	Maryhill Burgh Halls
Shortlisted	Regenerate Glasgow	Enterprise Development in Glasgow's Communities

## CATEGORY 6 – BEST PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN THE USE OF EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS

	Organisation	Project
Winner	Scottish Government	ISLES (Irish-Scottish Links on Energy Study)
Shortlisted	Glasgow Caledonian University	CIC Start Online
Shortlisted	Skillnet Edinburgh	Black Community Skills Project

## CATEGORY 7 – BEST PUBLICITY OF A EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS PROJECT IN SCOTLAND

	Organisation	Project
Winner	Scottish Qualifications Authority	S4 Skills for Scotland
Shortlisted	University of Dundee	Scottish Construction Centre
Shortlisted	University of Strathclyde	Strathclyde Entrepreneurial Network



Winners of Best Practice Awards

## 5TH COHESION REPORT –

# Foundations of Structural Funds Post-2013

The European Commission DG Regional Policy recently published the 5th Report on social, economic and territorial cohesion, 'Investing in Europe's Future'

This report recognises the challenges facing the European Union, and the need to exit from a deep economic crisis, reduce unemployment and poverty, while switching to a low-carbon economy. The report acknowledges the critical role that Cohesion Policy has to play in delivering the Europe 2020 Strategy's goals of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, while reducing regional disparities across the EU.

The Commission believe that linking Cohesion Policy with Europe 2020 will provide a real opportunity to continue helping the poorer regions of the EU catch up, to facilitate coordination between EU policies, and to develop Cohesion Policy into a leading enabler of growth for the whole of the EU, while addressing societal challenges such as poverty, social exclusion, ageing and climate change.

The European Commission has opened a public consultation on the future of Cohesion Policy for funding post-2013, organised around a series of questions on the main ideas for its reform:

**How can Cohesion Policy be made more effective and its impact improved so as to enhance the European added value?**  
Commission Proposals include:

- Reinforcing strategic programming – translating the Europe 2020 objectives into investment priorities
- Focus resources on limited number of key priorities
- Introduce stronger incentives and conditionality
- Focus on delivery by improving evaluation, performance and results
- Stronger emphasis on more innovative financial instruments, eg financial engineering

**How can the governance of Cohesion Policy be further strengthened?**  
Commission Proposals include:

- Reinforcing partnership by improving the involvement of local and regional stakeholders, social partners, civil society

- Introducing a new dimension: territorial cohesion

- Reinforcing territorial co-operation, also co-operation between regions within a country, macro-regional strategies

- Developing an ambitious urban agenda

- Addressing areas with specific geographical or demographic features

**How can the delivery system be streamlined and made simpler?**  
Commission Proposals include:

- Improving financial management and monitoring
- Reducing the administrative burden
- Simplifying financial discipline
- Reviewing financial control

**What should be the architecture of Cohesion Policy?**  
Commission Proposals include:

Full geographical coverage distinguishing between:

- Less developed regions
- More developed regions
- Transition regions
- Simpler system: replacing current phasing-out and phasing-in system

In line with the Budget Review:

- Focus Structural Funds on securing the Europe 2020 targets
- Greater visibility and predictable funding volumes for Structural Funds
- Contribution to European Employment Initiative

## THE PROPOSED

# Timeline

19 October 2010  
Budget Review  
(COM(2010)700)

10 November 2010  
Fifth Cohesion Report

11 November 2010 –  
31 January 2011  
public consultation on  
draft Cohesion Report

31 January/1 February  
2011 Cohesion Forum

Spring 2011  
Proposal on future  
financial perspectives

Summer 2011  
Legislative proposals

End 2012  
Adoption of new  
legislative package and  
expected agreement on  
new budget post-2013

2013  
Finalisation of new  
programming documents

2014  
Entry into force

## Have your say

The consultation on the future of Cohesion Policy is open until 31 January 2011. All stakeholders are invited to make their views heard. The consultation documents and process are available from DG Regio's website. [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/consultation/5scr/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/consultation/5scr/index_en.cfm)