



# How complementarity and synergies between Horizon 2020 and ESIF can be optimised

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EU R&D Policy – future Horizon 2020	ESIF
<b>Differences</b>	
<p><b>Non-territorial approach based solely on excellence</b></p>	<p><b>Place-based approach supporting economic and social cohesion</b></p>
<p><b>Mainly individual R&amp;D Projects</b> tackling the whole cycle of innovation, although some programme co-funding in domain of partnering (ERA-NETs, etc.)</p>	<p><b>Multiannual Programmes</b> largely focused on capacity building and close(r) to the market R&amp;D and innovation support</p>
<p><b>Centrally managed</b> (DG RTD) and <b>awarded directly to final beneficiaries</b> (public and private R&amp;D centres, universities or research funding organisations)</p>	<p><b>Shared management</b> with national and regional public intermediaries (managing authorities and implementing agencies) <b>which allocate funding to final beneficiaries</b></p>
<p><b>Competitive calls for proposals</b> addressed to international groupings (European Research Council and Marie Skłodowska-Curie also address individuals) <b>through peer-review based on excellence criteria</b></p>	<p><b>Frequent use of competitive attribution</b> but flexibility for more policy-related prioritisation based on cohesion considerations</p>
<b>Complementarities</b>	
<p><b>Horizon 2020</b> will focus on tackling major societal challenges, maximising the competitiveness impact of research and innovation and raising and spreading levels of excellence.</p>	<p><b>Cohesion policy</b> will act as a capacity building instrument via smart specialisation in regions and Member States. Staircase to Excellence = increasing capacity to participate in Horizon 2020.</p>

## So, how to optimise complementarity and synergies?

- Develop and implement Smart Specialisation Strategies
- Thematic concentration: R&I, SME, low carbon economy, ICT.
- Practical coordination & synergy: combined funding (but not same cost item); harmonisation of cost rules; investment outside region covered by Operational Programme; and enhanced territorial cooperation building on Regions of Knowledge and Research Potential.
- Closing the innovation divide under Horizon 2020

○ *Thank you for your attention*

○ *Find out more:*

- <http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020>
- [http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/index\\_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm)