



# EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS:

## Making the difference, everyday

2019 STATE OF PLAY ON IMPLEMENTATION



### EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

So far, ERDF projects in Bulgaria have helped over 4,600 SMEs to become more competitive and better geared towards the low-carbon economy. On the social front, it is worth mentioning a project thanks to which close to 240 emergency care facilities are being supported and 400 new ambulances purchased.



### COHESION FUND (CF)

The Cohesion Fund helps Bulgaria address its development needs in the areas of environment and transport. For example, thanks to projects implemented so far, over 95,000 people benefit from improved water supply and 24 km of roads were built under the Trans-European Transport Network.



### EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)

ESF funded projects have helped 70,000 unemployed and inactive people find a job, 50,000 additional people were trained to enhance their employment opportunities, and 320,000 Bulgarian students were supported in improving their educational outcomes. Besides, 70,000 disadvantaged people benefitted from social and health services, while over 20,000 children received care and early childhood education.



### EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)

Close to 5,500 young farmers and projects have been supported so far, and over 930,000 hectares of land (nearly 25% of Bulgaria's total agricultural area), are now managed under contracts preserving natural resources. Besides, about 1.6 million people are benefitting from local development strategies.

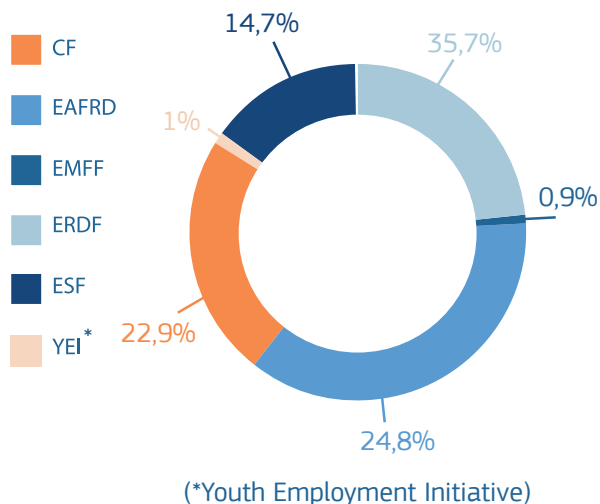


### EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)

By the end of 2018, 44.2% of the EMFF budget was allocated to more than 130 projects. These projects will help enhance the competitiveness of the fishery, aquaculture and processing sectors, in particular by modernising and diversifying production, renovating fishing ports and improving processing facilities.

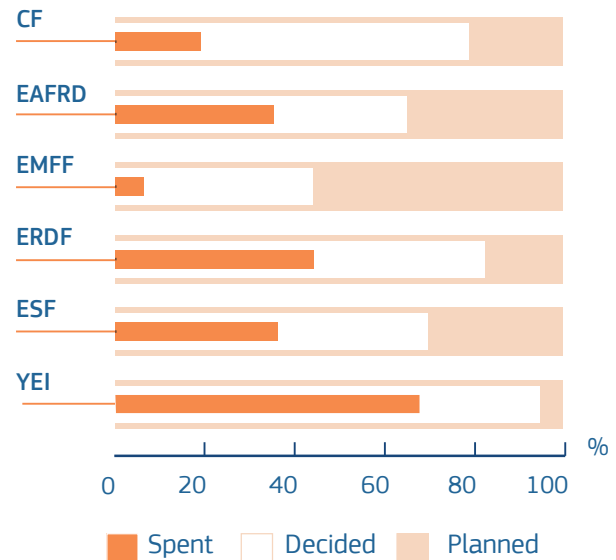
## OVERALL FUNDING & IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Budget by Fund



Implementation by Fund for Bulgaria

(total cost % of planned)



## EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS



### EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)

#### Sofia metro: a much needed expansion

The ERDF is co-financing the third line of Sofia metro. With 12 new stations added, the line will relieve traffic congestion and allow people to move around more quickly and comfortably. Nearly 170,000 people will use it every day. The new metro will also reduce harmful emissions and lead to the creation of 600 permanent jobs following completion. The total cost amounts to €520 million, with an ERDF contribution of over €368 million.

<https://www.metropolitan.bg/bg/trans>



### EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND (ESF)

#### Preparing young people for the job market

To support employability of young people under 29 years of age, the ESF and the Youth Employment Initiative are funding entirely four projects under the Human Resources Development Operational Programme. These projects have benefited close to 55,000 young people through measures for activation, professional guidance, career consultation, motivational training or direct integration into the labour market by offering quality proposals for jobs or training. Total budget amounts to €121 million.



### EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)

#### Replanting organic orchards

„Krasen Agro“ Ltd is a company in North East Bulgaria, investing in the production of organic walnuts. Their project includes replanting of organic walnut orchard using an innovative planting technology, reconstruction of existing facilities for fighting erosion and purchase of necessary machinery and equipment. Total investment amounts to over €995,000, including €486,000 from the EAFRD

<http://krasenagro.com>



### EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)

#### Indoor Innovative Aquaculture System

Bilyana Ltd built an innovative salt-water closed recirculation system for whiteleg shrimp – a first for both Bulgaria and for the EU. The facility covers the entire breeding cycle using renewable solar and geothermal energy sources. It will supply the EU market with high quality marine crustaceans, while maintaining low production costs. Total investment amounts to €724,000, including €271,500 from the EMFF.

<http://www.bilyana.bg/skaridi/>