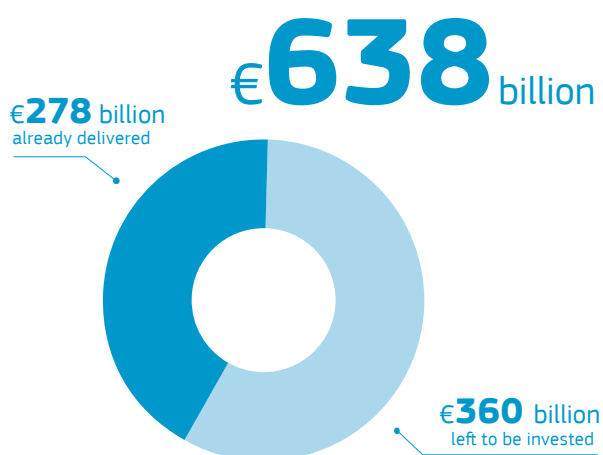


# THE EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS AT WORK

ALREADY €278 BILLION DELIVERED IN THE EU REAL ECONOMY SINCE 2014



4 years into the 2014-2020 funding period, the implementation of European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds programmes has reached **full speed**, with **€278 billion** already delivered to the EU real economy by October 2017, which is 44% of the Funds' total envelope. **€360 billion** is left to be invested over the next 6 years, as the funding period will close in 2023.

The 2014-2020 framework is more ambitious, with new preconditions to fulfil before receiving money under the ESI Funds ("ex-ante conditionality"), which tangibly helped **improve the investment environment in Europe**. Nonetheless, the 2017 Strategic report shows that implementation is on the right track, with broadly the same pace as during the 2007-2013 funding period.

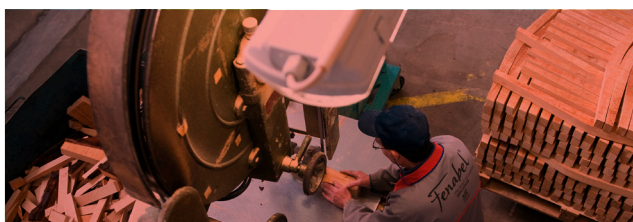
## MAIN RESULTS BY THE END OF 2016



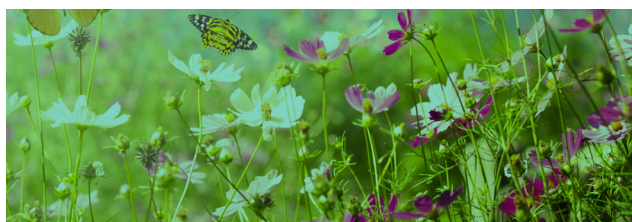
**2 million projects** creating growth, jobs, protecting our environment and improving citizens' everyday lives were seeing the light of day; that is 1 million more than the year before.



**793,490 businesses** have already been supported under the 2014-2020 programmes, compared to 274,000 at the end of 2015. **This is supposed to lead to the direct creation of 154,000 new jobs so far.**



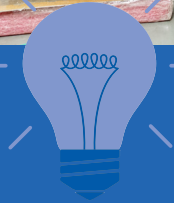
**7.8 million people** have received assistance in finding a job or developing new skills, up from 2.7 million the year before.



The biodiversity of **23.5 million hectares of agricultural land** have been improved, up from 11 million hectares in 2015.

# INVESTMENTS IN RESEARCH, INNOVATION, DIGITAL PROJECTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

€15 billion



Already invested in **research and innovation projects**, leading to **29,000 researchers** benefiting from improved research infrastructure.

€3.5 billion



Invested in **digital projects**, which should lead to better access to broadband for **915,000 additional households** and to **over 1.2 million inhabitants of rural areas** benefitting from improved digital services.

€26.3 billion



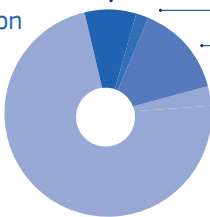
Invested to **boost the competitiveness of small businesses**. **196,000 companies** received advisory assistance and **10 900 businesses** received support to launch new products.

€9 billion



Invested in **helping farms holdings modernise their infrastructures** and improve their productivity.

€50.3 billion already delivered



€131.1 billion left to be invested

€181.4 billion

Out of an envelope of €181.4 billion, €50.3 billion were already invested in research, innovation, digital services and infrastructures as well as in small businesses by the end of 2016. €131.1 billion is left to be invested.

# INVESTMENTS IN EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EDUCATION

€17.4 billion



Already invested in projects supporting **quality and lasting employment and labour mobility**, reaching **4.2 million unemployed people**.

€16.5 billion



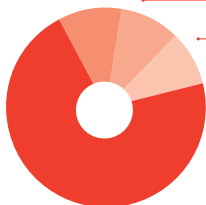
Invested in **social inclusion projects**, leading to a stronger **integration of 1.2 million vulnerable people, including migrants**.

€14.6 billion



Invested in **education and vocational training**, to tackle early-school leaving and offer training opportunities. Investments so far led to an additional capacity equivalent to **4.4 million people in childcare and school infrastructure**.

€48.7 billion  
already  
delivered



€119.6 billion  
left to be  
invested

€168.3 billion

By the end of 2016, **787,000 people have found a job and 820,000 people have gained qualification after participating in EU-funded training projects**. 634,000 people with disabilities have also been supported under ESI Funds programmes.

# INVESTMENTS IN THE LOW-CARBON ECONOMY, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS AND TRANSPORT

€11 billion



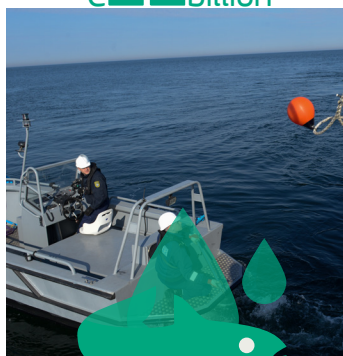
Already invested in **actions supporting a low-carbon economy**, such as energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, leading to **energy savings for 148,000 households**.

€16.5 billion



Invested in **climate change adaptation and risk prevention projects**. As a result, **4.6 million people now benefit from new or improved protection against floods**.

€22 billion



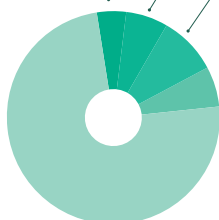
Invested in **the protection of the environment**. 60,000 km<sup>2</sup> of Natura 2000 areas and 1.5 million km<sup>2</sup> of Marine Protected Areas are now being managed better. **3.5 million people should now enjoy improved water supplies**.

€15.5 billion



Invested in **transport and energy networks**. As a result **687 km of TEN-T railway lines are being reconstructed or upgraded**.

€73.2 billion  
already delivered



€189 billion  
left to be invested

€262.2 billion

**More than 25% of the total ESI Funds envelope is dedicated to climate related projects**, in line with the EU objective of spending at least 20% of its budget on climate action. **Already €29.6 billion have been invested in climate change actions**. These investments are powerful tools for the EU to lead the fight for climate change prevention and adaptation and for meeting the Paris Agreement objectives.

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PDF  
ISBN 978-92-79-76893-4  
doi: 10.2776/679986  
KN-05-17-231-EN-N

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