

# AMIF



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) aims to strengthen national capacities and improve procedures for migration management. It does this by enhancing solidarity and responsibility-sharing between EU Member States.

EU countries implement the largest share of the AMIF budget through multiannual national programmes. In addition, the European Commission implements Union Actions - transnational grants that are awarded to public and private partners, including local and regional authorities, civil society and other non-governmental organisations.

For municipalities, AMIF offers opportunities to obtain funding for projects related to reception, social inclusion, language training, access to employment, awareness-raising, and intercultural coexistence.

## KEY WORDS

- Migration
- Integration
- Refugees
- Asylum seekers
- Reception and accommodation

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local and regional authorities, public administrations, civil society organisations, NGOs, international organisations, municipalities, etc.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## PROJECT SIZE

Depending on the call, avg 1-3 million

## CO-FUNDING

Standard co-financing rate of 75%, up to 90%. Up to 100% for emergency assistance.

# CEF

## Connecting Europe Facility



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CEF a key o promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through

CEF is the EU funding instrument targeted infrastructure investment at European level. It supports the development of high-performing, sustainable, and efficiently interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy, and digital services.

**CEF Energy:** focuses on linking the energy infrastructure of EU countries to address energy infrastructure needs at both regional and European levels.

**CEF Transport:** 9 multimodal Core Network Corridors. It also supports innovation in the transport system to improve infrastructure use, reduce the environmental impact of transport, enhance energy efficiency, and increase safety.

**CEF Digital:** supports investments in digital connectivity infrastructures of common interest.

For municipalities, it is an opportunity to obtain financing for projects such as improving public transport, developing charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, modernizing energy networks, or expanding access to high-speed internet.

### KEY WORDS

- Trans-European networks
- Hard infrastructure
- Transport
- Digital
- Energy
- Building
- Large scale

### WHO CAN APPLY

Public and private sector promoters, Companies, SMEs and association, NGOs

### TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, Financial instrument (equity, bonds, loans and/ or guarantees)

### PROJECT SIZE

Depending on the calls

### CO-FUNDING

Varies according to the call and sector from 15% to 60% for project feasibility studies

# CERV

## Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values



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The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme aims to promote and protect European fundamental rights, the rule of law, and democracy within the EU.

The programme is based on four pillars:

1. EU Values
2. Equality, Rights, and Gender Equality
3. Citizen Engagement and Participation
4. Daphne for Preventing and Combating Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Children

It funds activities such as training activities, workshops, conferences, mutual learning and cooperation, capacity building, city twinning and city networks, media campaigns, awareness-raising, and dissemination.

For municipalities, it is an opportunity to obtain funding for initiatives related to historical memory, combating discrimination, gender equality, citizen participation, town twinning, and strengthening the civil society.

### KEY WORDS

- Open society
- Equality
- Democratic, civic & social participation
- Diversity & inclusion
- Fight against violence
- EU values

### WHO CAN APPLY

Association & NGO, EU & International Orgs, Research centres & universities  
Training organisation & schools, Local authorities

### TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

### PROJECT SIZE

Depending on the pillar, an average of €75,000 to €4 million.  
€30,000 for city networks (lump sum)

### CO-FUNDING

Up to 90% or lump sum depending on calls

# COHESION FUND



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



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The Cohesion Fund (CF) supports investments in the field of environmental and trans-European networks in transport infrastructure (TEN-T). It is one of four funds to support the EU Cohesion Policy.

The CF provides support to Member States with a gross national income (GNI) per capita below 90% of the EU27 average, to support the economic, social and territorial cohesion of the EU.

For the 2021-2027 period, the CF will support Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

37% of the overall financial allocation of the Cohesion Fund is expected to contribute to climate objectives.

## KEY WORDS

- Buildings
- Transport
- Energy
- Waste
- Environment
- Civil protection and emergency

## WHO CAN APPLY

All public entities, mostly including national, regional and local authorities and designated public agencies – companies for environment transport and energy.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, financial instruments, technical assistance

## PROJECT SIZE

Project size varies according to the regions and the operational programme

## CO-FUNDING

UP TO 80%



# CREA



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



Creative Europe is the European Commission's programme to support the culture and audio-visual sectors by providing funding for cultural and creative organisations, cinemas and films, individual artists or cultural professionals.

The programme has 3 strands: CULTURE, MEDIA and a CROSS-SECTORAL strand that aims to reinforce collaboration between different cultural and creative sectors.

For municipalities, Creative Europe represents an opportunity to obtain funding for projects in art, heritage, cinema, music, literature, and digital media, as well as to promote international cultural cooperation. This allows for the revitalisation of local cultural life, the attraction of tourism, and the strengthening of the community's identity and creativity with European support.

## KEY WORDS

- Art
- Creativity
- Culture
- Heritage
- Communication

## WHO CAN APPLY

Cultural and creative organisations, established individual artists (residency and individual mobility), cultural professionals (individual mobility).

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## PROJECT SIZE

S Max. 200.000- M Max 1.000.000 -L Max 2.000.000

## CO-FUNDING

Variable 50%-80% depending on call and project size

# DIGITAL EUROPE



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



The Digital Europe Programme is the EU initiative that funds projects to drive Europe's digital transformation.

Its goal is to strengthen cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, data access, digital skills, and the digitalisation of public services and businesses.

For municipalities, Digital Europe offers opportunities to obtain funding for projects such as modernising e-government, improving internet access, training in digital skills, or using advanced technologies to enhance public services.

This helps cities and towns become more innovative, efficient, and connected with European support.

## KEY WORDS

- Cybersecurity
- Artificial intelligence
- Data
- Digital skills

## WHO CAN APPLY

Public sector bodies, private sector organisations, research and academic institutions, NGOs

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## PROJECT SIZE

Large scale

## CO-FUNDING

Typically 50%, up to 100%

# ERASMUS+



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Erasmus+ is the European Union's programme for education, training, youth and sport.

It has 4 overarching priorities: Inclusion & diversity, Environment & climate change, Digital transformation, Democratic participation

Erasmus+ funds 4 types of actions:

- **Key Action 1:** Learning mobility grants in Europe (and worldwide) for individuals (students and education professionals) to study, train, gain professional experience, or volunteer abroad.
- **Key Action 2:** Grants for transnational partnerships between education, training, and youth institutions and organizations to foster cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.
- **Key Action 3:** - Grants for actions aimed at stimulating innovative policy development, policy dialogue and implementation, and knowledge exchange in the fields of education, training, and youth.
- **Jean Monnet Actions:** Promoting European Citizenship

For municipalities, Erasmus+ offers inter-student financial opportunities, educational and professional training, non-formal education projects for young people and inclusive sports activities.

## KEY WORDS

- Education
- Training
- Youth
- Equal opportunities
- Sports
- Democracy & European citizenship

## WHO CAN APPLY

Association & NGO, EU & International Orgs, Research centres & universities  
Training organisation & schools, Local authorities

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant + cofinancing

## PROJECT SIZE

Variable - €

## CO-FUNDING

variable - depending on Key Action and projects

# EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)



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As one of the four funds delivering on the EU's Cohesion policy, the ERDF helps reduce territorial disparities between European regions. This is intended to strengthen EU Member States' economic, social and territorial cohesion.

The ERDF supports investments in job creation, business competitiveness, smart and sustainable growth, sustainable development, and improving citizens' quality of life. It is available in all EU regions through dedicated national or regional programmes.

The ERDF supports EU regions so that they become:

- **more competitive and smarter**, through innovation, digitisation, economic transformation and support to small and medium-sized businesses.
- **greener, carbon free**, implementing the Paris Agreement, and investing in energy transition, renewables and the fight against climate change.
- **more connected**, with strategic transport and digital networks.
- **more social**, delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights and supporting quality employment, education, skills, social inclusion and equal access to healthcare.
- **closer to citizens**, fostering locally-led development and sustainable urban development across the EU.

## KEY WORDS

- Economic and digital transformation
- Social inclusion
- Innovation
- Green transition
- Energy transition
- Connectivity
- Education and skills
- Integrated local development

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local communities/NGOs, businesses, local, regional and national authorities, universities, research institutes, etc.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, financial instruments, technical assistance

## PROJECT SIZE

Project size varies according to the regions and the operational programme

## CO-FUNDING

40% in EU financing for 'more developed' regions, 55% for 'transition' regions and 85% for 'less developed' regions



# EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND PLUS (ESF+)



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The ESF+ programme finances activities in the areas of employment, education, skills, and social inclusion.

Entities eligible for funding include public authorities, NGOs, educational institutions, social partners, and other public or private organizations engaged in social and employment-related activities. The criteria and application process of specific programmes could vary across different countries and regions.

ESF+ funding is focused on the following objectives:

- **Social inclusion:** the active inclusion and socio-economic integration of non-EU nationals and marginalised communities, people at risk of poverty and social exclusion, equal access to quality services, modernising social protection systems.
- **Education and skills:** equal access to better quality education and training systems at all levels, upskilling, Reskilling and lifelong learning for all.
- **Employment:** access to quality employment for all, modernising labour market institutions and services.

## KEY WORDS

- Social inclusion
- Education and skills
- Employment

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local communities/NGOs, businesses, local, regional and national authorities, universities, research institutes, etc.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, financial instruments, technical assistance

## PROJECT SIZE

Project size varies according to the regions and the operational programme

## CO-FUNDING

40% in EU financing for 'more developed' regions, 55% for 'transition' regions and 85% for 'less developed' regions. Exceptions up to 95%

# EUI-IA

## European Urban Initiative - Innovative Actions



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EUI-IA aims to foster the deployment of proof-tested urban innovations across the EU and to provide opportunities for cities, as enablers of innovation, to take the risk to turn ambitious and creative ideas into pilot projects that can be tested in real urban settings

EUI promotes a methodology based on local experimentation with a multitude of local delivery partners and stakeholders, and transfer activities to other EU partner cities.

Specific themes are identified for each call for projects.

In addition, EUI provides technical assistance, expert guidance and capacity-building, improving urban planning and ensuring efficient project implementation.

It also ensures knowledge capacitalisation and knowledge exchange between cities and/or their stakeholders.

### KEY WORDS

- Green transition
- Digital transition
- Sustainable mobility
- Energy
- Housing
- Social inclusion
- etc.

### WHO CAN APPLY

Urban authorities - or a grouping of urban authorities - classified as cities, towns, or suburbs, with a total population of a least 50 000 inhabitants,

### TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

### PROJECT SIZE

Up to €5 million

### CO-FUNDING

Up to 80%

# HORIZON



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**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation.

It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth.

Under its Pillar II, Horizon Europe is divided in 6 clusters:

1. Health
2. Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
3. Civil Security for Society
4. Digital, Industry and Space
5. Climate, Energy and Mobility
6. Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

Horizon Europe introduced sets of measures to achieve bold, inspirational and measurable goals within a set timeframe: the Missions. Among them there is one dedicated to Climate-Neutral and Smart cities.

For municipalities, Horizon means an opportunity to obtain European funding that allows them to improve public services, modernise infrastructure, promote sustainable mobility, or develop innovative projects for the benefit of their citizens.

## KEY WORDS

- Innovation
- Health
- Culture
- Society
- Digital transition
- Climate, energy, mobility
- Environment

## WHO CAN APPLY

Cultural and creative organisations, established individual artists (residency and individual mobility), cultural professionals (individual mobility).

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## PROJECT SIZE

< 1.5 million €, 1.5-5 million €, 5-15 million €

## CO-FUNDING

Variable 70%-100% depending on type of action



# INTERREG



SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE



HARD INFRASTRUCTURE



Interreg funds strengthen cooperation between EU regions and countries, helping them tackle common challenges and find shared solutions in fields such as health, environment, research, education, transport, sustainable energy and more.

Public authorities and bodies, NGOs, associations, academic institutions, business organisations (in some cases also individual enterprises) are invited to answer to calls for projects along the line defined by the operational programme of their region.

For the 2021-2027 period, Interreg is focused on current challenges like climate change, digital transformation, and social inclusion.

It is organised under multiple strands:

- **cross-border** (Interreg A): turning border obstacles into opportunities (64 programmes)
- **trans-national** (Interreg B): supporting larger scale initiatives (13 programmes)
- **interregional** (Interreg C): enhancing the effectiveness of the EU's Cohesion Policy. (4 programmes)
- **outermost regions' cooperation** (Interreg D) (5 regions)

## KEY WORDS

- Climate Change
- Digital transformation
- Social inclusion
- Innovation
- Environment
- Governance

## WHO CAN APPLY

Public authorities, public bodies, NGOs, associations, academic institutions, business organisations (in some cases also individual enterprises)

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, financial instruments

## PROJECT SIZE

< 1.5 million €, 1.5-5 million €, 5-10 million €

## CO-FUNDING

Up to 80%



# JUST TRANSITION FUND (JTF)



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



The Just Transition Fund (JTF) supports regions facing serious socio-economic challenges due to the transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral economy.

As part of their cohesion policy programmes, EU countries must prepare strategic plans where they identify the types of operations envisaged for the transition and specify governance mechanisms. Once those plans have been adopted, national or regional authorities are responsible for selecting the projects to be funded.

Project funding initiatives:

- productive investments in small and medium-sized enterprises
- creation of new firms
- Environmental rehabilitation
- investments in clean energy
- Upskilling and Reskilling of workers
- job-search assistance
- programmes for the inclusion of job-seekers
- transformation of existing carbon-intensive installations, when these investments lead to substantial emission cuts and job protection.

In addition to the JTF, a dedicated Just Transition Scheme under InvestEU is focused on attracting private investments, while a public sector Loan facility backed by the EU budget offers preferential lending conditions to support public investments.

## KEY WORDS

- Economic transformation
- Energy
- Skills
- Employment
- Low carbon economy

## WHO CAN APPLY

All public entities, mostly including national, regional and local authorities and designated public agencies – companies for environment transport and energy.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant, financial instruments, technical assistance

## PROJECT SIZE

Project size varies according to the regions and the operational programme

## CO-FUNDING

50% in EU financing for 'more developed' regions, 70% for 'transition' regions and 85% for 'less developed' regions.

# LIFE



SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE



HARD INFRASTRUCTURE



The LIFE programme aims to protect, restore and improve the quality of the environment (air, water and soil), at halting and reversing biodiversity loss and at tackling the degradation of ecosystems.

Projects are distributed in four sub-programmes:

**1. Nature and biodiversity:** Projects to restore natural habitats, to help the conservation of wild species and to support the Natura 2000 network.

**2. Circular economy and quality of life:** Projects to improve circularity in production processes by reducing waste and increasing efficiency in the use of the resources. Projects that improve the quality of air and soils and waters, and that reduce dangerous chemicals and noise.

**3. Climate change mitigation and adaptation:** Projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and our vulnerability to climate change.

**4. Clean energy transition:** Projects to break market barriers that hamper the socio-economic transition to energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources.

For municipalities, LIFE offers funding for initiatives such as improving waste management, energy efficiency in buildings, the protection of natural areas, or climate change adaptation. It is an opportunity to develop sustainable projects with European support, promoting a greener and healthier future for their citizens.

## KEY WORDS

- Nature
- Climate Change
- Circular Economy
- Green transition

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local authorities, Local agencies (city's stakeholders), NGOs

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## PROJECT SIZE

< 1.5 million €, 1.5-5 million €, 5-10 million €

## CO-FUNDING

Yes, 60% (By way of exception, a co-financing rate of up to 75% of the total eligible costs may be granted to LIFE Nature and Biodiversity proposals)

# NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



The New European Bauhaus (NEB) Prizes aim to recognize and give visibility to projects and concepts that exemplify the core values of the initiative: sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusion.

The prizes celebrate innovative projects that promote the transformation of our cities and communities, highlighting those that integrate design, creativity, and citizen participation to build more sustainable and accessible spaces.

For municipalities, they represent an opportunity to showcase their local initiatives and sustainable urban projects, as well as to become part of a European network of innovation and good practices

In addition, the recognition can serve as an incentive to attract further funding and strengthen local identity through pioneering projects.

## KEY WORDS

- Sustainability
- Aesthetics
- Inclusion
- Innovation
- Participation

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local authorities, NGOs, academic institutions, individuals, collectives, private enterprises.

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Prize - Lump-sum award

## PROJECT SIZE

max. 15.000 EUR max. 30.000 EUR depending on the call

## CO-FUNDING

100%



# URBACT



**SOFT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**HARD INFRASTRUCTURE**



The URBACT Programme enables cities to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges, by networking, learning from one another's experiences, drawing lessons and identifying good practices to improve urban policies.

URBACT's objective is to help cities find innovative and sustainable solutions to improve the lives of their inhabitants, their infrastructure, services, and quality of life. It focuses on topics such as sustainability, social inclusion, urban regeneration, and employment.

3 types of networks are funded:

- Action Planning Networks
- Innovation Transfer Networks
- Transfer Networks

URBACT also provides extensive programme-level knowledge sharing and capacity-building support for cities.

## KEY WORDS

- Transnational exchange & learning
- Environment & Biodiversity
- Governance
- Economy
- Employment & skills
- Inclusion
- Integrated urban development
- Green transition
- Mobility
- Energy
- Digital transition

## WHO CAN APPLY

Local authorities, Infra-municipal tiers of government such as city districts, Metropolitan authorities and organised agglomerations

## TYPE OF FUNDING

Grant

## CO-FUNDING

85% for partners from less developed regions  
70% for partners from regions in transition  
60% for partners from more developed regions  
50% for partners from NO and CH

## PROJECT SIZE

avg. max. 750,000 €