



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Regional Policy

Community Strategic Guidelines for cohesion 2007 - 2013



Community
Strategic
Guidelines
for
Cohesion
2007-2013

TIMETABLE

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1. **July 2004:** Commission proposal on 2007-2013 cohesion policy
2. **November 2004:** Mid-term review of the Lisbon process: Kok report
3. **February 2005:** Commission proposals for re-launch of Lisbon Agenda
4. **March 2005:** European Council
5. **April 2005:** Commission publishes Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs
6. **May/June 2005:** Informal Ministerial Meeting, Luxembourg
Beginning of tour of capitals on National Lisbon Programmes
7. **July 2005** Draft Community Strategic Guidelines adopted by Commission; launch of public consultation
8. **Autumn 2005:**
 - (i) Adoption of the regulation?
 - (ii) Submission of National Strategic Reference Frameworks



Commission's proposal of 14 July 2004

Article 23 of draft General Regulation:

"...Council establishes a Community strategic guidelines on economic, social and territorial cohesion defining a framework for the intervention of the Funds..."

...these guidelines shall in particular give effect to the priorities of the Community"

Concentration: a more strategic approach

- **strategic document for cohesion policy** adopted by the Council ;
- link between cohesion policy and **Lisbon & Gothenburg strategies;**

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1. Commission
proposal



2. Mid-term review of Lisbon: Kok report

Key recommendations:

1. The need for a **spending instrument at EU level**
2. The need for **increased ownership** involving the regions and social partners
3. The need for a more **strategic approach**



3. Commission proposals for the re-launch of Lisbon Agenda

Growth and Jobs Agenda :

- Make Europe more attractive place to invest and work
- Knowledge and innovation will be the beating heart of European growth
- Policies to allow our businesses to create more and better jobs

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3. Re-launch
of Lisbon
Agenda



4. Spring European Council – March 2005

Explicit endorsement of importance of cohesion policy as an instrument for achieving the Lisbon strategy.

Key recommendations:

1. Community resources, including cohesion policy, should be mobilised for 3 dimensions of the strategy – economic, social and environmental.
2. Regional and local actors should take greater ownership of the strategy
3. Greater synergies between Community funds and the EIB in R&D



4. Spring European Council – March 2005 (cont.)

Key recommendations (continued):

4.Reduction in the general level of state aid

5.Investment in infrastructure

6.Create more jobs with more active employment policies.

7.Integrated guidelines to be issued at Community-level;

- MS to establish national reform programmes on growth and jobs



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5. Integrated
Guidelines

5. Integrated Guidelines

Staff Working Document SEC (2005) 622 of
2 May 2005

1. provides guidance to MS in drawing up national reform programmes
 - new reporting structure to include cohesion policy
2. Community Lisbon Programme (what can be done at EU level)



5. Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs (cont.): new reporting structure

1

October 2005:
National Reform Programmes
submission by Member States

2

January 2006:
first Annual Progress Report
*submitted by the Commission on the basis
of analysis of national reform programmes*

3

March 2006:
Spring European Council
adoption by European Council of updated recommendations

4

October 2006:
*submission by Member States of implementation reports
Includes chapter on national strategic reference frameworks
and new OPs*



6. Next steps: Tour of capitals

Objective: Assist the Member States in preparing Lisbon programmes

Services present: SG/ECFIN/ENTR/EMPL/REGIO

DG REGIO contribution: Recognition of EU cohesion programmes as lever in the Lisbon process:

- **quantity** (absorption) and **quality** (Community Strategic Guidelines) of expenditures
- evaluation of past performance
- complementary sources of investment finance (EIB)



Community Strategic Guidelines: objectives

1. **Strategic dimension of cohesion policy strengthened** to ensure community priorities are better integrated in national and regional development programmes.
2. Efforts to ensure **greater ownership of cohesion policy** on the ground
 - reinforced dialogue between Commission, MS and the regions
 - clearer, more decentralised sharing of responsibilities such as financial management and control while promoting PPPs



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Priorities

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The new Strategic guidelines: building in the Lisbon agenda (1)

1) Making Europe and its regions a more attractive place to invest and work

- expand and improve transport infrastructures
- improve the environmental contribution to growth and jobs
- address the intensive use of traditional energy sources

2) Improving knowledge and innovation for growth

- increase and improve investment in RTD
- facilitate innovation and promote entrepreneurship
- promote the information society for all
- improve access to finance



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Priorities

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The new Strategic guidelines: building in the Lisbon agenda (2)

3) More and better jobs

- Attracting and retaining more people in employment and modernising social protection systems
- Improving adaptability of workers and enterprises and the flexibility of the labour market
- Increasing investment in human capital through better education and skills

Part IV) Territorial Cohesion and co-operation

- The contribution of cities to growth and jobs
- Supporting the economic diversification of rural areas
- Cooperation: cross-border/trans-national/interregional



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a more
attractive
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I) Expanding and improving transport Infrastructures

- Giving priority to projects of European interest
- Complementary investment in secondary connections
- Better access to rail infrastructure
- "Motorways of the sea"
- Improving connectivity (TENs)
- Promoting environmentally sustainable transport and urban transport systems



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a more
attractive
place...

II) Improve the environmental contribution to growth and jobs

- Convergence: investment in infrastructure to comply with environmental legislation (especially new MS)
- Ensure attractive conditions for business and staff by planning and rehabilitation, natural and cultural assets
- Develop innovative and job creating businesses
- Promote investments that contribute to EU Kyoto commitments
- Undertake risk prevention measures through:
 - improved management of natural resources
 - more targeted research
 - better use of ICTs
 - more innovative public management policies



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III) Address Europe's intensive use of traditional energy sources

- improving energy efficiency and diffusion of low energy intensity development models
- supporting development of renewable and alternative technologies
- Convergence regions: concentrating investment in traditional sources by:
 - overcoming market failure
 - developing networks



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Knowledge and
innovation for
growth

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IV) Increase and improve investment in RTD

- Strengthen co-operation between businesses and public-private ventures:
 - supporting regional and trans-regional clusters of excellence
 - setting up trans-national European technology initiatives
- Support RTD activities in SMEs
- Complement 7th Framework Programme for RTD
- Support for regional cross-border and transnational initiatives



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V) Facilitate innovation and promote entrepreneurship

- Make regional RTD innovation and education supply more efficient and accessible to firms with poles of excellence/regional clusters
- Ensure business support services to enable enterprises to increase competitiveness
- Fully exploit European strengths in eco-innovations,
- Promote entrepreneurship and facilitate creation/development of new firms



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VI) Promote the information society for all **VII) Improve access to finance**

- Ensure ICT uptake by firms and households
- Ensuring availability of ICT infrastructure in regions with market failure

Access to finance:

- Financial engineering schemes
- Outreach to special groups



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More
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VIII) Attract and retain more people in employment, and modernise social protection systems

- Implement employment policies aiming at achieving full employment improving quality and productivity at work and strengthening social and territorial cohesion
- Promote a lifecycle approach to work
- Ensure inclusive labour markets for job seekers and disadvantaged people
- improve matching of labour market needs



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IX) Improve adaptability of workers and the flexibility of the labour market

X) Increase investment in human capital through better education and skills

- Promote flexibility combined with employment security; reduce labour market segmentation
- Ensure employment-friendly wage and other labour cost developments

Investment in human capital:

- Expand and improve investment in human capital
- Adapt education and training systems in response to new competence requirements



XI) Administrative capacity XII) Health and the labour force

- Support good policy and programme design
- Enhance capacity-building

Health and the labour force:

- preventing health risks
- Convergence regions: filling the gaps in health infrastructure

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More
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**Territorial
cohesion and
cooperation**

The contribution of cities to growth and jobs

- Improving competitiveness in urban areas
- Rehabilitate physical environment
- Promote entrepreneurship, local employment and community development
- Strengthen security, economic social and cultural integration
- Fight discrimination
- Prepare medium to long term development plan for urban regeneration



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**Territorial
cohesion and
co-operation**

Supporting the economic diversification of rural areas

- Ensure synergy with new rural development instrument
- Ensure minimum level of access to services of general economic interest
- Develop integrated approach to Tourism focusing on economic social, environmental aspects of sustainable development
- Invest in development poles, economic clusters based on local assets



Cross border /Trans-national / Inter-regional Co-operation

closer cooperation should focus on Growth
and Jobs Agenda

actions that contribute to economic and social
integration, esp. where there are wide
cross-border disparities

improve existing transport and communication
infrastructure

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**Territorial
cohesion and
co-operation**



Timetable

July 2005: Commission proposal on 2007-2013 Strategic Guidelines; launch of public consultation

Autumn 2005: - Preparation of National Strategic Reference Frameworks
- Decision by Council on Financial Perspectives (?)

2006: Preparation of programmes for period 2007-2013

1 Jan 2007: Implementation begins