



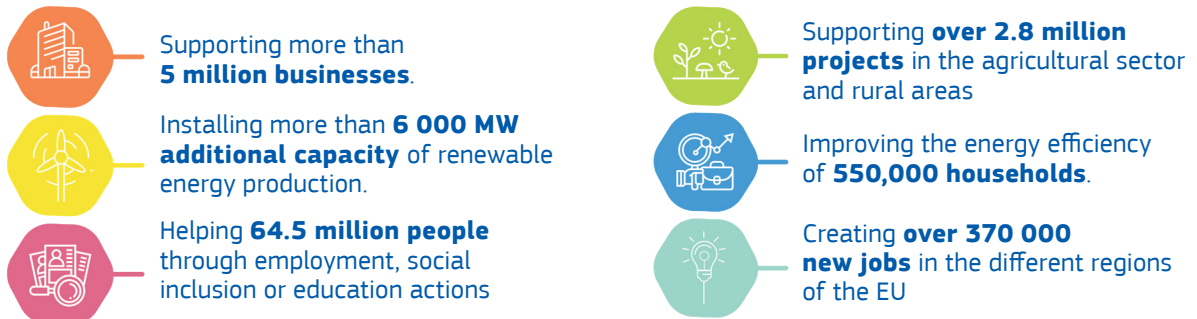
# The European Structural and Investment Funds

5 million businesses supported so far

The largest investment toolbox under the EU budget, the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) have been stable drivers of investment in the EU. With their long-term span and thematic focus, they have channelled resources towards strengthening the economic, social and territorial cohesion of the EU regions.

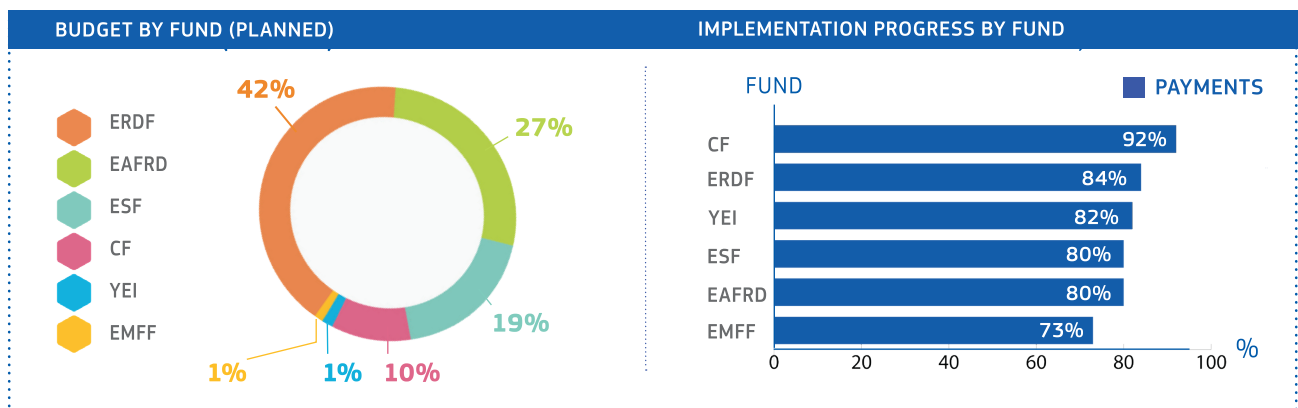
In addition to focusing on long-term competitiveness and social goals, the ESI Funds were the face of the EU's solidarity and togetherness. They helped Member States to care for refugees, provide support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and vulnerable households, and alleviate the pressure on national budgets. They provided a lifeline for SMEs and vulnerable households through the COVID-19 and the energy crises.

## Main achievements of the ESI Funds by end-2022



A total of €460 billion was paid from the EU budget to the Member States by the end of September 2023, of which €210 billion since the beginning of the pandemic. This support to vulnerable households and enterprises has been key to increase resilience and boost social and regional convergence.

## Overall funding & implementation progress by end-September 2023





## Response to health crisis

In 2022, the second tranche of REACT-EU, worth EUR 11 billion, was made available.







Financing has gone to medical institutions, researchers, business owners, employees and vulnerable people, enabling the purchase of 3.7 billion items of personal protective equipment and around 12 500 ventilators as well as supporting more than 920 000 enterprises



## Response to energy crisis

The ESI Funds have financed energy efficiency through building renovation, the development of renewables and energy networks. This has enabled several Member States to set up large-scale renovation programmes for residential buildings, so that thousands of households are now benefiting from reduced energy bills and increased comfort. SMEs have also received support in improving their energy efficiency, cutting their energy costs and improving their competitiveness.

Cohesion Policy has contributed to reducing the annual primary energy consumption of public buildings by 3.5 terawatt hours/year (equivalent to the amount of electricity consumed of around 1 million households for a whole year).

| SMART GROWTH   | SUSTAINABLE GROWTH   | INCLUSIVE GROWTH   | ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY   | TERRITORIAL AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT   | TERRITORIAL COOPERATION   |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |               |  |  |
| <b>€166 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022  | <b>€217 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022  | <b>€142 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022  | <b>€4.9 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022   | <b>€17 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022                                      | <b>€10 billion</b> spent by projects by end-2022.                                     |
| <b>More than 75 000 enterprises</b> cooperated with research institutions, <b>over 7.8 million households</b> are benefitting from improved broadband access | <b>Renewable energy production capacity enlarged already by 6 000 MW; 550 000 households</b> already benefitting from the improved energy performance conditions | <b>7.4 million people</b> had found a job thanks to the support available and <b>10.2 million</b> had gained a qualification | <b>840 000 participants</b> have been supported through capacity building and training activities | <b>28 000 renovated housing units</b>   | <b>178 000 people</b> have benefitted from cross-border mobility initiatives          |