



Ex post evaluation of Urban Development and Social Infrastructures

SEMINAR PAPER Work Package 10

*Ex post evaluation of Cohesion Policy programmes
2007-2013, focusing on the European Regional
Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund (CF)*

Contract: 2014CE16BAT035

DATE:

July 2015

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	4
2	OVERVIEW OF ERDF SUPPORT	5
3	URBAN DEVELOPMENT	7
3.1	Strategies	7
3.2	Activities and target groups.....	8
3.3	Financial resources.....	8
3.4	Implementation	9
3.5	Output, results and achievements	10
3.6	Preliminary conclusions.....	10
3.7	Open questions – for discussion:.....	10
4	SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE	11
4.1	Strategies	11
4.2	Activities and target groups.....	12
4.3	Financial resources.....	12
4.4	Implementation	13
4.5	Output, results and achievements	13
4.6	Preliminary conclusions.....	14
4.7	Open questions – for discussion:.....	14
5	GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION.....	14
5.1	Strategic approach	14
5.2	Open questions.....	15
5.3	Achievements and contribution to growth and jobs.....	15
5.4	Open questions - for discussion	16
	Annex 1: Evaluation Questions	17
	Annex 2 - ERDF allocation to 'integrated projects for urban and rural regeneration'	19
	Annex 3 - ERDF allocation to social infrastructure.....	20

1 INTRODUCTION

This study forms part of the *ex post* evaluation of cohesion policy programmes financed by the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund during the period 2007-2013. It covers the policy areas of **urban development** and **social infrastructure**, in all Member States, supported by the ERDF under the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment, and European Territorial Cooperation objectives.

The **aim of the evaluation** is to “establish the nature and objectives of co-financed investments in the fields of urban development and social infrastructures and assess the extent to which they were delivered through integrated strategies or not”. The study addresses a wide range of **evaluation questions** which are presented in **Annex1**.

The **scope of the study** has been defined in the Specifications where the starting point was based on six codes under the ‘priority theme’ dimension of the categorisation system¹. That initial analysis was complemented with analysis of the programme texts, annual reports and surveys of managing authorities and beneficiaries.

The categorisation codes are assigned to every project when selected for ERDF support. The 6 priority theme codes that are directly linked to the two policy areas of this study and which all have a very high incidence of investments in urban areas are:

- Code 61 Integrated projects for urban and rural regeneration
- Code 75 Education infrastructure
- Code 76 Health infrastructure
- Code 77 Childcare infrastructure
- Code 78 Housing infrastructure
- Code 79 Other social infrastructures.

The study comprises four tasks:

- **Task 1: Distribution of investments and reported outputs** - Analysis of financial data and core indicators using the categorisation system, covering 322 OPs, and in more detail 115 OPs with the highest ERDF allocations (over EUR 22 million) to the priority theme codes identified as the starting point of the study (February – March 2015).
- **Task 2: Analysis of Operational Programmes and Annual Implementation Reports and Survey of Managing Authorities** - Screening of key documents of the 115 OPs and telephone interviews with the respective MAs (February – May 2015).
- **Task 3: Survey of project implementation bodies** - Web survey carried out in May/June 2015; 210 responses obtained; preliminary analysis in progress).
- Task 4: Cross-task analysis-including a stakeholder seminar -and presentation of the final report (September 2015).

The **stakeholder seminar** will discuss the findings of the evaluation, contribute to the deepening of the analysis and to the drawing of conclusions. **This paper** presents the main findings and preliminary conclusions and raises key outstanding issues for discussion at the seminar.

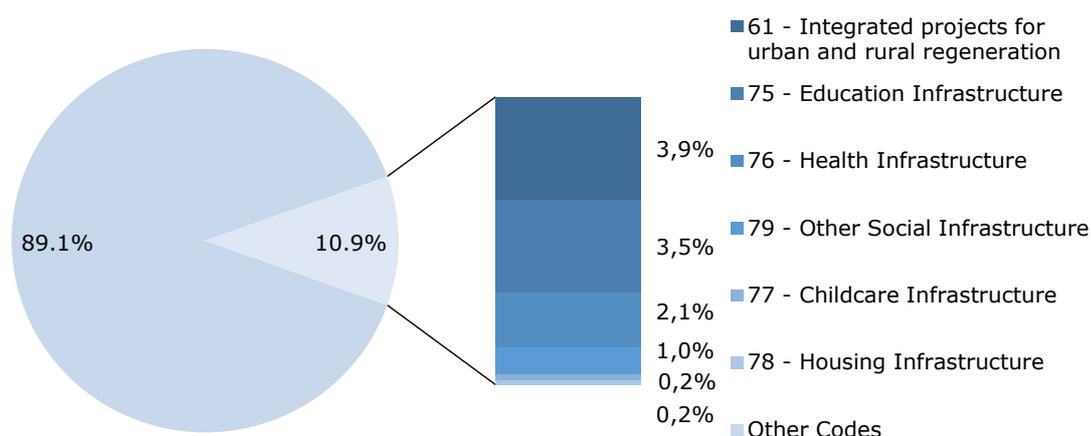
¹ Defined in Annex II of Regulation 1828/2006

2 OVERVIEW OF ERDF SUPPORT

The total amount of ERDF funding allocated to integrated urban and rural development and social infrastructure is substantial, standing at EUR 29 billion or 11% in 2013.

The allocation to integrated urban and rural development (Code 61) is EUR 10 billion (or 4% of the total ERDF allocation) and to social infrastructure (Codes 75-79) 19 billion (7%). Within the latter, education infrastructure with 3.5% has the largest share, followed by health infrastructure (2%) – see Figure 1.

Figure 1: ERDF shares of urban development and social infrastructure



The 115 OPs identified in the Terms of References represent the vast majority of the total allocation to the 322 ERDF programmes: 98% and 94%, respectively, for social infrastructure and urban development. The total allocation to the 115 OPs amounts to EUR 149,490 million of which EUR 18,350 million for social infrastructures and EUR 9,778 million for urban development project. Nine countries account for 80% of the total allocation to these two policy areas. Overall, there are huge variations in the allocations by country, both in absolute and relative terms – see Annex.

Among the 115 programmes a large majority (80 OPs) concern convergence regions, while in terms of territorial level, there is a preponderance of Regional OPs – see Figure 2 and Figure 3.

Figure 2: Number of OPs in Member States by Structural Funds objective

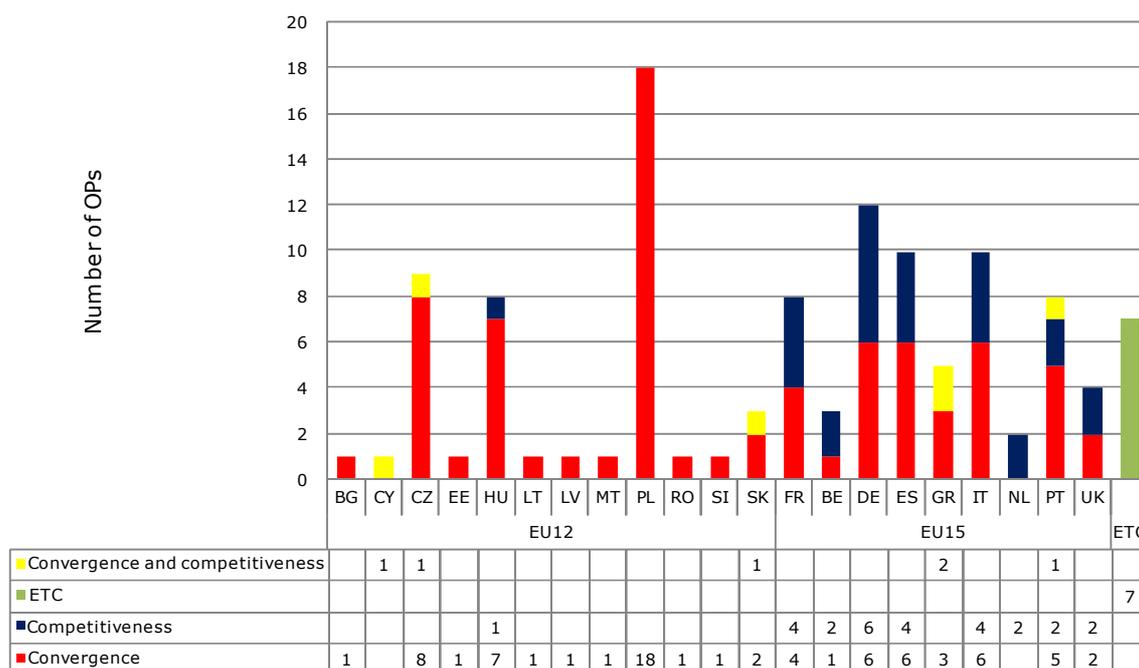
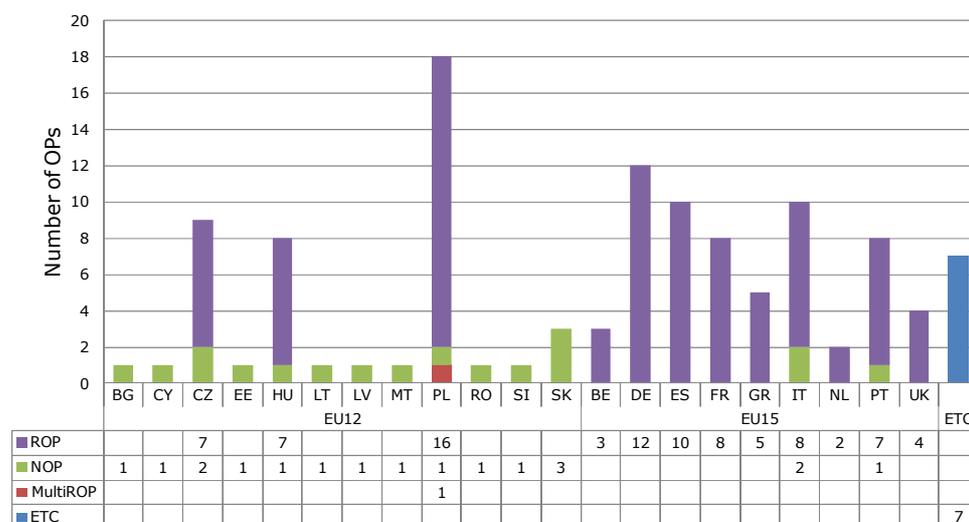


Figure 3: Spatial level of OPs



There is a big diversity in the place of urban development and social infrastructures in programme structures. In some cases there is a dedicated priority axis for both or separate axes for each of them. However, the most common arrangement is for these policy areas to be covered by one or more priority axes of a broader thematic scope.

While providing a starting point for analysis, there are limitations in the quality and reliability of the data reported through the categorisation system and of the level of detail (the codes are only available at the level of the OP and not at the level of priority axes).

3 URBAN DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Strategies

In order to understand the strategy pursued by the OPs, the needs and objectives of the programmes have been distilled and their coherence assessed.

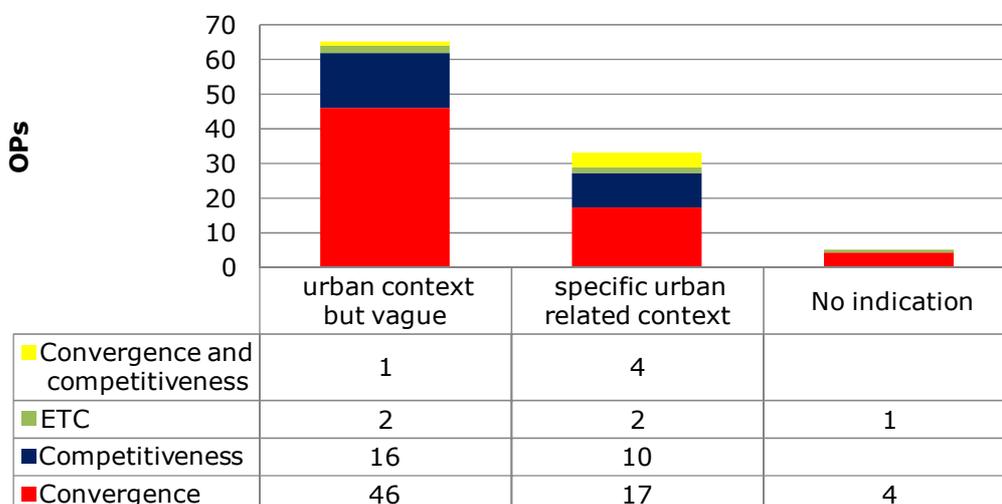
A wide spectrum of **needs** is defined in the OPs. The most frequently mentioned concern improving the physical infrastructure (42 OPs), investing in rural areas (27 OPs), environmental protection and energy efficiency (26 OPs), and improving the economic and business environment (22 OPs).

The stated **objectives** of the programmes tend to be vague. General formulations prevail, such as “sustainable development and improvement of cities and urban areas” (74 OPs). The most frequently mentioned objectives of a more specific nature are “infrastructure development” and “environmental protection”.

The programmes cover different **types of action**, ranging from ‘hard’ road and rail infrastructure, through environmental, cultural heritage and energy efficiency projects, to economic and business environment enhancement and social inclusion.

Although a third of programmes (33 of 115 OPs) can be linked to **integrated urban development strategies**, few unambiguously target integrated urban development supported by dedicated strategies and plans. The majority of programmes are vague and generic when referring to urban development. In a minority of programmes (5 OPs) no integrated approach is mentioned (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: Types of activities listed in OPs in relation to ‘integrated urban development’



The key limitation in evaluating the strategy of the OP in relation to urban development is the fact that the integrated urban development approach refers to external local strategies which are not included in the OPs. Without an in-depth analysis of the development and use of the underlying integrated urban development strategies the added value of urban development interventions is only partly assessable.

Although the definition of needs and objectives and in some cases also activities, intends to demonstrate an integrated approach there is a lack of a coherent 'thread' running throughout the programme. Even those OPs where the strategy systematically supports integrated approaches, the actual implementation fails to be integrated and follows, in most cases, a rather sectoral approach.

3.2 Activities and target groups

A broad set of activities are named in the programmes to serve the objectives including: cooperation and networking projects; investment in deprived areas; accessibility; economic growth support; employment; protection/rehabilitation of cultural heritage; strategy development; social integration/inclusion actions; investment/improvement in the natural environment; financial engineering instruments; cultural projects and creative industries.

Regarding territorial targeting, it is striking that there is a common lack of reference to specific urban areas and instead most programmes mention generally all cities and/or towns in rural areas within the programme area.

Target groups are similarly broadly defined in the programmes. Most of the OPs are vague in defining of target groups in relation to integrated urban development. The most popular definition is the 'population in the (undefined) area' followed by 'general population in the city or agglomeration'.

However, early feedback from the project implementing bodies presents a more nuanced approach from the projects' perspective. Just under 23% define the main target group(s) as "all population city-wide or in local area" while another 48% combine this with specific target groups such as young people, children, marginalised groups, small businesses, etc.

3.3 Financial resources

The ERDF resources underpinning investment in urban regeneration are unevenly distributed with more than 45% of the funds allocated to just four countries: Italy, Poland, Greece and Germany.

The resources allocated to urban development are often smaller than for other priorities. Ten Member States allocate more than 10% the highest being in the case of the Netherlands (22%). Only three countries allocate at national level more than EUR 100 per capita (LV, CY, LT), see Annex.

At OP level, the convergence programme 'Por Campania FESR', Italy, stands out with an allocation of nearly EUR 700 million. However, most of the OPs (92 out of 115) allocate less than EUR 183 million each. 12 OPs do not allocate any funds to urban development.

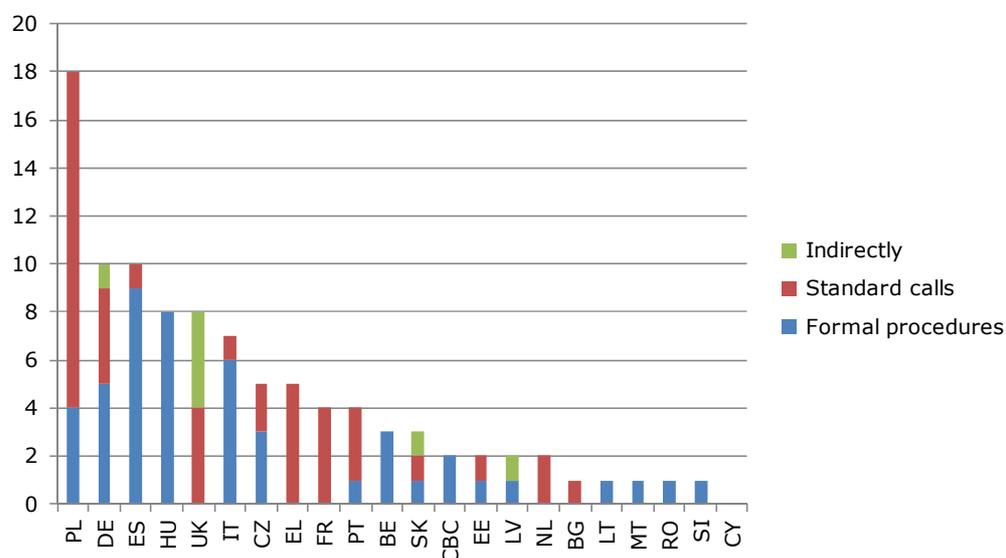
The large majority of the allocation is spent as non-repayable aid (94%). Aid, venture capital, and other forms of investment are clearly the exception.

3.4 Implementation

The majority of the implementing bodies in urban development are regional and local authorities and agencies. Their involvement can be seen in three ways:

- Formal procedures: in formal procedures, such as fulfilling their institutional role in urban planning, e.g. in granting an approval;
- Standard calls: in calls for proposals through participation in project appraisal and selection;
- Indirectly: where a prerequisite for projects is their inclusion into an 'integrated urban development strategy' and the project implementation bodies are engaged and/or consulted in the formulation and implementation of the strategy itself.

Figure 5: Nature of involvement of project implementation bodies per Member State



Different levels of **delegation** are encountered, depending on the administrative culture of the country and the capacity of the project implementation bodies. As a general trend, a stronger role is foreseen for urban authorities in urban development actions, reflecting to some extent the intentions of the integrated urban development strategies. However, the majority of Managing Authorities did not delegate formally any management tasks to project implementation bodies.

Financial sustainability of projects supported is not treated in depth in most of the programmes. In the programmes where sustainability is covered the examination is done on a *pro forma* way and *ex-ante* only. Cost-benefit analysis is only applied exceptionally. The issue of sustainability is sometimes indirectly covered by more broad considerations like 'project maturity'.

This "light" approach to sustainability is sometimes rationalised through statements that "*projects are not revenue generating*" and/or "*have low operation and maintenance costs*", and hence financial sustainability is not considered to be an issue. The main exceptions are measures to enhance the local economy, where the beneficiaries can be private entities. Hence stricter rules apply in order to guarantee the longevity of the investment, as well as to provide for the recovery of the funds should the need arise.

However, the responses from the perspective of the project implementation bodies paint a different picture, with a significant proportion stating that the financial sustainability of the project has been addressed, mostly at design and implementation stages. Moreover, the majority of responses state that the sustainability of the project is fully or partly secure (and explain that the necessary budget for the operation, maintenance, etc of the project after completion is secure).

3.5 Output, results and achievements

The programmes generally include output indicators but not all of them include result indicators, set targets and report achievements. Sometimes no values are specified.

In the case of urban development 79 out of 103 OPs named at least one result indicator. The most common topics were related to 'promoting businesses' (72 indicators with 38 cases of 'high or exceptional achievement'² and 17 cases of no values reported), followed by 'sustainable development' and 'improvement of cities and urban areas', 'revitalisation of urban areas including brownfields' and 'integrated urban development'. Vague indicators such as 'sustainable development' report the highest share of successful achievements beside indicators related to 'integrated urban development strategies and plans'.

Result indicators are rather broad and it is worth noting the low number (8) of indicators related to 'integrated urban development', in whatever way this might have been defined. In general it can be said that output and result indicators are more precise when the activities address concrete infrastructure investments and objectives focus on improvements in particular sectors. Examples in this case are: improvement of cultural sites, infrastructure investments, social infrastructure investments, housing investments.

Overall, the system of the output and result indicators is weak: output indicators tend to lack a specific reference to the activities and result indicators are missing or in some OPs are the same as the output indicators.

3.6 Preliminary conclusions

The vague presentation of integrated development strategies and the fact that objectives are often very general and targeting ambiguous points to weak or inadequate strategies underpinning urban development investments. In many cases it seems that strategies have been kept flexible on purpose to make it easier for ERDF funds to be drawn down.

Programmes might achieve good results on local or regional level. But only a limited number of countries and programmes give 'integrated projects for urban and rural regeneration' enough weight to expect visible results at national level.

Based on weak indicator systems, the reported achievements do not capture either the basic outputs or allow judgement on the success or failure of a programme.

3.7 Open questions – for discussion:

1. What in your country/region/experience are the typical urban development projects (including objectives, actions, target groups)? Which of these for you have the greatest and least value (and why)?

² EXPLAIN: i.e. "Achievement" relates to the achieved performance compared to the target set.

2. Does the limited involvement of urban authorities that has been noted at programme level reflect a lack of effort by programme authorities to actively engage stakeholders on the ground? Or, are the local stakeholders actually involved but are simply not visible at OP level? What is the ideal role of local stakeholders in the high value projects you identified earlier?
3. Is the financial sustainability of projects taken seriously? Is there a significant risk of completed projects remaining unused or grossly underutilised?
4. The character of output and result indicators in many operational programmes is unclear. Given that "what gets measured, gets done", how could we better measure the results of integrated urban development?

4 SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

4.1 Strategies

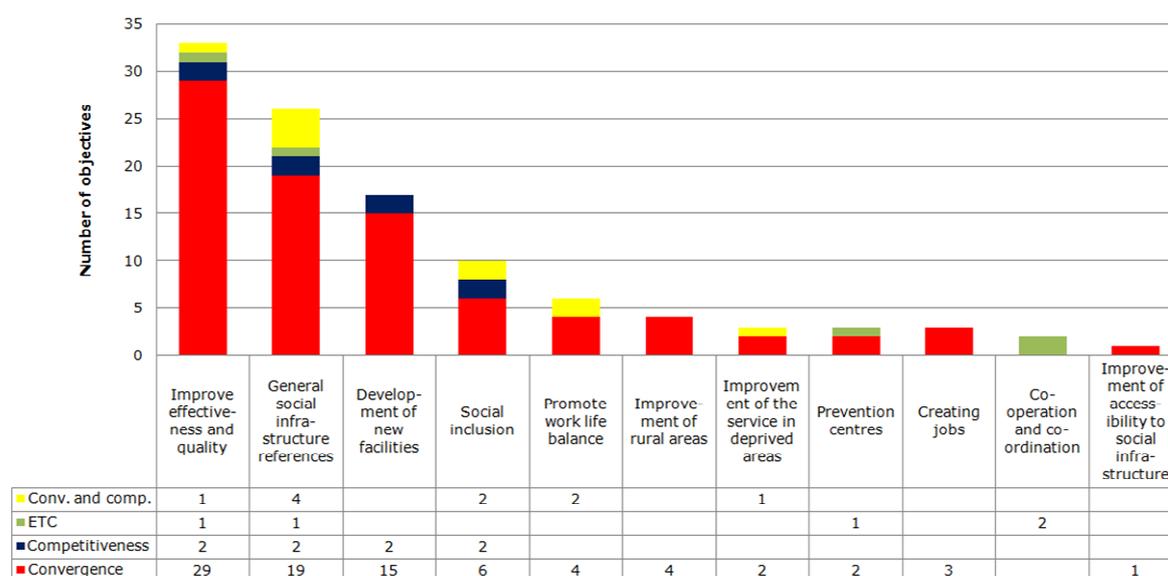
Social infrastructure interventions cover five different thematic areas with separate financial allocations: health, education, childcare, housing and other social infrastructures. These intervention areas differ in terms of strategies as well as in the implementation approaches.

As regards health and education, programmes clearly mention the **need** for renovation of infrastructure and for addressing insufficient systems in place. Programmes also refer, albeit to a lesser extent, to the mismatch between the needs and the existing provision. In terms of education infrastructure there is also a small number of OPs mentioning the need for improving the education system, while in the field of health the strategic development of health system cannot be identified as a need.

A different strategic approach has been noted in the OPs regarding childcare, housing and other social infrastructures. While housing and childcare are in almost all programmes combined with other thematic areas under one priority axis, 'other social infrastructures' is used as an all-purpose category for all kinds of interventions; sometimes combined with integrated urban development, sometimes separately focusing on Roma, the unemployed, the disabled or families.

Objectives follow the same logic as needs. The most frequently encountered objective is an 'improvement' of the respective system or its effectiveness and quality. Only a minority of OPs define more concrete objectives like improvement of health services in deprived areas and prevention centres (drug, crime, racism, etc.), or identify specific target groups (e.g. the elderly) (see Figure 6).

Figure 6: Objectives related to social infrastructure



4.2 Activities and target groups

The programmes have used very broad definitions of targeted areas and also of corresponding activities, encompassing a wide range of types of areas.

Regarding activities and target groups two approaches can be identified. In education, health, childcare and housing infrastructure the approach focuses strongly on 'hard' infrastructures and equipment targeting at the corresponding target group (students, patients, children, families, etc.). In the case of 'other social infrastructures' the approach covers a broad and diverse range of activities (community based services, social inclusion centres, networking, etc.) and specific target groups for each of the activities.

4.3 Financial resources

Most of ERDF support to investment in social infrastructures (nearly 75%) goes to seven countries (HU, PT, PL, EL, IT, SK, CZ) each with an allocation of between EUR 1 and 2 billion.

The relative importance of ERDF resources allocated to social infrastructures is greater than in the case of urban development reaching 41% for Slovakia. In seven countries (EE, HU, PT, LV, MT, SK, LT) per capita allocations exceed EUR 200, the highest being nearly EUR 430 in Estonia.

In **education infrastructure**, Portugal has the largest share with 24% of the allocation for all 115 programmes. At programme level, there are some OPs with large allocations: The convergence programme PO Territorial Enhancement, Portugal, has an allocation of EUR 1,091 million. Three other convergence programmes the Hungarian 'Social Infrastructure', the Slovakian 'Western Slovakia, Central Slovakia and Eastern Slovakia' OP and the Portuguese OP 'Norte' have allocated more than EUR 500 million.

The **health infrastructure** allocation is dominated by Hungary and Poland, with these two countries accounting for more than 40% of the total allocation. The Hungarian convergence OP for Social Infrastructure stands out with the highest allocation (EUR 977 million).

The pattern of the geographical distribution is generally more concentrated, with 85 out of 115 programmes supporting education infrastructures and 69 OPs health infrastructures. Much fewer OPs allocate ERDF resources to other types of social infrastructures.

In other types of social infrastructure the distribution tends to be dominated by individual programmes. This is particularly the case for **housing infrastructure**, where the Italian Convergence programme 'pro Sicilia' with EUR 281 million accounts for more than 70% of the total allocation. Investment in **childcare infrastructure** is concentrated in Greece and Hungary and is dominated by one Greek convergence programme Attica with EUR 87 million.

With isolated exceptions, the dominant form of finance is non-repayable aid. More than 95% of the allocation is spent in this form.

4.4 Implementation

Direct delegation by Managing Authorities (to municipalities or sectoral ministries) in the field of social infrastructures is very uncommon, and, generally, the involvement of other actors in the implementation is very limited.

Regarding project selection, social infrastructures mostly fall under standard calls, where the project implementation bodies might either be involved directly or through their national umbrella organisation or higher authority (e.g. Ministry of Health rather than individual hospitals).

Financial sustainability is often taken for granted. The project owners and operators tend to be public bodies or public equivalent bodies which are assumed to cover the operation and maintenance costs of the projects 'ad infinitum'.

4.5 Output, results and achievements

Although the programmes generally include output indicators a significant minority lack result indicators or many of the result indicators used are 'reformulated' output indicators. Education and health infrastructures are relatively well covered by the indicators systems used by the programmes, while in the case of housing, childcare and other infrastructures there is a general lack of specific / directly relevant indicators. This is partly due to the fact that they usually come under priority axes which cover a wider range of fields of intervention.

Regarding **education infrastructure**, the majority of the OPs addressed the indicator 'benefitting students and pupils' (43 OPs with 25 cases of 'high or exceptional achievement' and three cases of no values reported), followed well behind by 'renovated surface/facilities' and 'vocational infrastructure supported'.

Result indicators used for **health infrastructures** were more widespread covering: 'number of available beds and number of patients served', 'number of care services newly equipped' and 'level of equipment', 'number of benefitting patients', etc.

4.6 Preliminary conclusions

The strategic rationale of ERDF intervention in social infrastructure is dominated by making funds available to address perceived infrastructure deficits and general improvement of the existing national systems. A more specific targeting is often missing.

OPs with a distinct priority axis(es) on social infrastructure investments are much more sharply defined in comparison to mixed priority axes. The latter can be interpreted as a deliberate choice for keeping the OP flexible and able to react to 'bottom up' demand.

Indicators for education, health and to some extent childcare are more precisely defined in the sense that the intervention logic - e.g. the link between improved facility and increased number of people benefiting/improved level of service offered - is direct and comprehensible. Thus, they provide a sounder basis for assessing achievement.

4.7 Open questions – for discussion:

1. Concrete strategies showing that the national systems should be further developed or changed appear to be rare. Are they simply insufficiently visible at OP level? Are ERDF investments guided by regional or nation reform strategies outside the programmes?
2. Are we missing national or regional evaluations of the impacts and benefits of ERDF support to social infrastructures? Are national / regional evaluations planned?
3. There is little evidence of programmes using ERDF to target the needs of disadvantaged groups with specific needs. Does this happen? How is it achieved, top down, bottom up?
4. Is it an oversimplification to state that the financial sustainability of the investments is not seriously assessed?

5 GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

This section seeks to address briefly the overarching issues of the strategic approach in the context of ERDF programmes, and the rational and achievements of ERDF supported investments in the fields of urban development and social infrastructure.

5.1 Strategic approach

A central issue in this study is the extent to which ERDF co-financed investments in the fields of urban development and social infrastructures are delivered through strategies, and the type and nature of these strategies.

The general evidence from programmes suggests that strategies are treated in a contextual way where the OP refers to external local strategies which are not included in the OPs. Once the OPs have been adopted, the external strategies are subsumed into the programme structure and procedures.

Much of the evidence obtained from the programme level supports this observation in the case of urban development, where the integrated nature of the strategy is of crucial interest. Integrated urban development has been defined by the Commission in the study terms of references to comprise three key elements: integration across two or more policy areas; a leading role for urban authorities; and involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, including the benefiting communities.

OPs are split 50/50 between those proclaiming an integrated approach and those failing to do so, although the former tend to be ambiguous in the way they convert this intention into practice and obviously do not fully meet the above criteria, notably the lead role of urban authorities and the active involvement of local communities. Nevertheless, the feedback from the project level shows a more nuanced situation, with a majority (73%) claiming that their projects form part of a broader strategy, integrated or sectoral. This is further supported by the multi-faceted nature of the change that the majority of ERDF supported projects are attempting to achieve, typically a combination of urban regeneration, social cohesion, better skills, etc.

5.2 Open questions

1. What has been achieved in your programmes in relation to such investments?
2. The evidence so far raises the question as to whether relevant "strategies" are simply not visible enough at OP level? Are they 'lost' in the melting pot of the OP? Are fine points subsumed under the MA priorities when absorbing the funds and administering efficiently the implementation of the programme?
3. Are 'integrated' approaches sufficiently meaningful to practitioners at both programme and project level if they are expressed principally in procedural or governance terms? Would integrated approaches be more meaningful if described in terms of their socio-economic orientation (e.g. an integrated strategy for regeneration (with physical/environmental emphasis) or an integrated strategy for the diversification of the local economy through tourism, media, new economy)?
4. It could be argued that integrated approaches to urban development require a highly sophisticated institutional and economic development context. Are integrated approaches more of a niche approach for the most developed of EU-15 countries rather than a mainstream approach?

5.3 Achievements and contribution to growth and jobs

The evidence of achievement is overall 'shaky' largely due to the widespread vagueness in the strategies and lack of internal consistency in the intervention logic(s) of the majority of programmes, as well as the shortcomings of the indicators systems used by the programmes. This is particularly the case in urban development, where these limitations are compounded by relatively low absolute financial allocations in some programmes.

However, achievements are easier to establish in the case of social infrastructures due to the greater "sectoral" targeting of resources and more direct links from needs to activities, outputs and results.

The study seeks inter alia to establish the potential contribution to achievements of a number of factors.

First, the influence of integrated or sectoral strategies is difficult to pinpoint for the reasons presented above. Nevertheless the integrated approach, although more complex, is seen as a driver of success, particularly the involvement of local and regional stakeholders is necessary to assure a successful implementation and sustainability.

Second, a number of other drivers of success (or otherwise) stand out, including:

1. Project maturity and viability are important success factors. While this seems to be an obvious remark experience shows that merit is not unidirectional; mature projects might fail due to immature implementation tools.
2. The balance in the focus of Managing Authorities between, on the one hand, on administrative compliance and quantitative performance, and, on the other, on support to beneficiaries during project selection and implementation, can be an important influence.

Third, potential links with other EU or national policies and instruments could play an important role. In this context the links between ERDF and ESF are of particular interest. They could be through financial engineering instruments, simple cross-financing of individual projects, Article 8 or parallel implementation.

As a general conclusion, the ESF involvement was at least included in the OPs as an option. This was more often the case in EU-15 countries, which might feel more confident in developing and implementing multi-faceted projects. In practice the application was limited mainly due to timing problems, complexity, and a prevalent orientation towards 'hard' infrastructure (only 21 OPs mentioned links with the ESF, and only 28% of implementing bodies said the their project benefited from ESF).

Finally, moving to a higher level, the study needs to address the question of what is the rationale that guides ERDF investments in urban development and social infrastructure. On this issue the evidence points to a significant divergence according to the type of region, with OPs in Competitiveness regions focusing on economic and business environment, while Convergence regions prioritising improvements to hard infrastructure.

5.4 Open questions - for discussion

1. Do participants have good examples of parallel or coordinated use of ERDF and ESF in relation to social infrastructure? How is this organised?
2. Did the ERDF investments in urban development and social infrastructure contribute to growth and jobs? Again, the limitations mentioned above would make it difficult to reach any firm conclusions but this is a fundamental issue to be debated and explored further. An early indication from the project implementation bodies shows that 75% see their project contributing through improved skills, expansion of local businesses, improved health outcomes, etc.
3. Do such investments have other, more important, primary objectives? If so which?

ANNEX 1: EVALUATION QUESTIONS

Strategy	Activities and Target Groups	Financial Resources	Implementation	Results, Outcomes, and Achievements
EQ2-2 What is the programme trying to achieve in the areas of urban development and social infrastructures (also in relation to addressing the needs of different population groups)?	EQ1-2 What are the economic sectors benefiting most from investments that can be associated with urban development and social infrastructures?	EQ1-1 What is the distribution of investment in urban development and social infrastructure across programmes?	EQ2-4 What is the nature of the relation between Managing Authorities and the main project implementation bodies (e.g. urban authorities) in terms of delegation of tasks and involvement in the selection of operation?	EQ2-5 What are the main drivers of success and failure associated with these strategies and projects?
EQ2-3 What is the strategy to promote investments and justify actions in these specific sectors? And how can the demand side in the investigated sectors be characterised?	EQ1-3 Are there specific target groups that can be identified as beneficiaries of the support? (e.g. deprived or marginalised groups)	EQ1-4 What is the 'geographical' and 'territorial' distribution across investments?	EQ2-8 Are there linkages between ERDF support and ESF support in the areas of urban development and social infrastructures?	EQ2-6 What is the relationship between investments for integrated urban development strategies and investments in the different fields of social infrastructures?
EQ2-11 (1) What are the main changes (objectives) that programmes are attempting to achieve?	EQ2-1 Identify the nature of the activities and main beneficiaries of the financial support (e.g. services vs. infrastructure, public vs. private, etc.)	EQ1-5 Identify the nature of the financial support (use of grants vs. financial engineering instruments)	EQ2-9 What are the measures put in place to ensure financial sustainability of projects? And do selection criteria and processes take into account the future financial sustainability of projects?	EQ2-10 How are achievements captured and reported on (quantitatively or qualitatively)?
EQ3-1 (1) What is the project trying to achieve and in what way? What are the main changes (objectives) that interventions are attempting to?	EQ3-2 (2) Which are the identifiable targets groups (e.g. deprived or marginalised groups)?	EQ1-6 Identify – where possible – other investments included as part of 'integrated urban development strategies';	EQ3-4 Do projects in the areas of urban development and social infrastructures benefit from simultaneous ERDF and ESF co-financing. What is the nature of the linkage between ERDF and ESF in these cases?	EQ2-11 (2) what results have been achieved (or are likely to be achieved) via the support to specific projects?
EQ3-2 (1) What is the socio economic objective focus of the project and the logic of intervention at the basis of the interventions carried out?	EQ3-3 Do projects in the areas of urban development and social infrastructures address identified market failures?	EQ2-7 What is the role of ERDF support in supporting strategies for integrated urban development in comparison to other possible co-funding? And how much of the ERDF is supporting integrated urban development strategies?	EQ3-6 Is financial sustainability addressed? What are the measures put in place to ensure financial sustainability of projects?	EQ3-1 (2) what results have been achieved (or are likely to be achieved) via the support to specific projects?

Strategy	Activities and Target Groups	Financial Resources	Implementation	Results, Outcomes, and Achievements
EQ4-1 To what extent was the ERDF allocated to urban development investments through integrated strategies for urban development?	EQ3-5 In each of the sub sectors what are the most common measures of project output used by the projects?			EQ3-7 Are the supported projects contributing to economic growth and creating jobs? And in what ways? Can beneficiaries point to objective evidence in this regard?
EQ4-2 How was integrated urban development organised in the programmes during 2007-2013 programming period? Are there "types" of strategies that can be detested?	EQ4-3 (2) Is it concentrated on identifiable target groups?			EQ4-5 What evidence is there of achievements of investments in sustainable urban development and social infrastructures?
EQ4-3 (1) How was "social infrastructure" organized in Operational Programmes – and within strategies for urban development?				
EQ4-4 What are the main rationales to justify public investment in integrated urban strategies and social infrastructures?				

ANNEX 2 - ERDF ALLOCATION TO 'INTEGRATED PROJECTS FOR URBAN AND RURAL REGENERATION'

Country Cd	Allocation 13 - Code 61		
	in € Million	in % (Share of total ERDF allocation)	Allocation per capita
IT	1,368.765	10.3%	22.5
PL	1,100.778	2.4%	28.6
EL	1,051.999	8.5%	95.7
DE	1,024.498	8.2%	12.7
HU	837.824	10.6%	84.8
ES	774.460	6.5%	16.7
CZ	759.662	10.2%	72.3
PT	717.209	6.6%	68.8
LV	326.354	10.5%	163.1
UK	302.366	11.8%	4.7
LT	302.339	11.4%	102.7
SK	301.189	9.8%	55.6
FR	232.153	6.6%	3.5
BG	187.630	14.0%	25.9
BE	131.881	14.0%	11.8
CY	111.689	18.5%	130.2
NL	108.000	21.6%	6.4
CB	95.334	6.9%	
SI	36.510	2.1%	17.7
MT	6.174	0.9%	14.5
EE	1.254	0.1%	1.0
AT	0.000		
DK	0.000		
FI	0.000		
HR	0.000		
IE	0.000		
LU	0.000		
RO	0.000		
SE	0.000		
EU Total	9,778.068	6.5%	19.3

ANNEX 3 - ERDF ALLOCATION TO SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Country Cd	Allocation 13 - Code 75-79		
	in € Million	in % (Share of total ERDF allocation)	Allocation per capita
HU	2,880.984	36.5%	291.6
PT	2,851.181	26.1%	273.4
PL	2,562.628	5.7%	66.6
EL	1,708.105	13.8%	155.4
IT	1,390.527	10.4%	22.9
SK	1,254.250	40.8%	231.6
CZ	1,027.679	13.7%	97.8
RO	728.899	17.6%	36.5
ES	714.169	6.0%	15.4
LT	637.949	24.1%	216.7
EE	564.793	38.9%	429.2
LV	517.982	16.6%	258.8
DE	413.640	3.3%	5.1
BG	273.403	20.4%	37.7
CB	265.370	19.3%	
FR	237.341	6.8%	3.6
SI	155.399	8.9%	75.4
MT	101.906	14.4%	239.6
UK	48.875	1.9%	0.8
CY	10.172	1.7%	11.9
NL	5.141	1.0%	0.3
AT	0.000		
BE	0.000		
DK	0.000		
FI	0.000		
HR	0.000		
IE	0.000		
LU	0.000		
SE	0.000		
EU Total	18,350.393	12.3%	36.2