



The European Green Deal, circular economy and EU cohesion policy

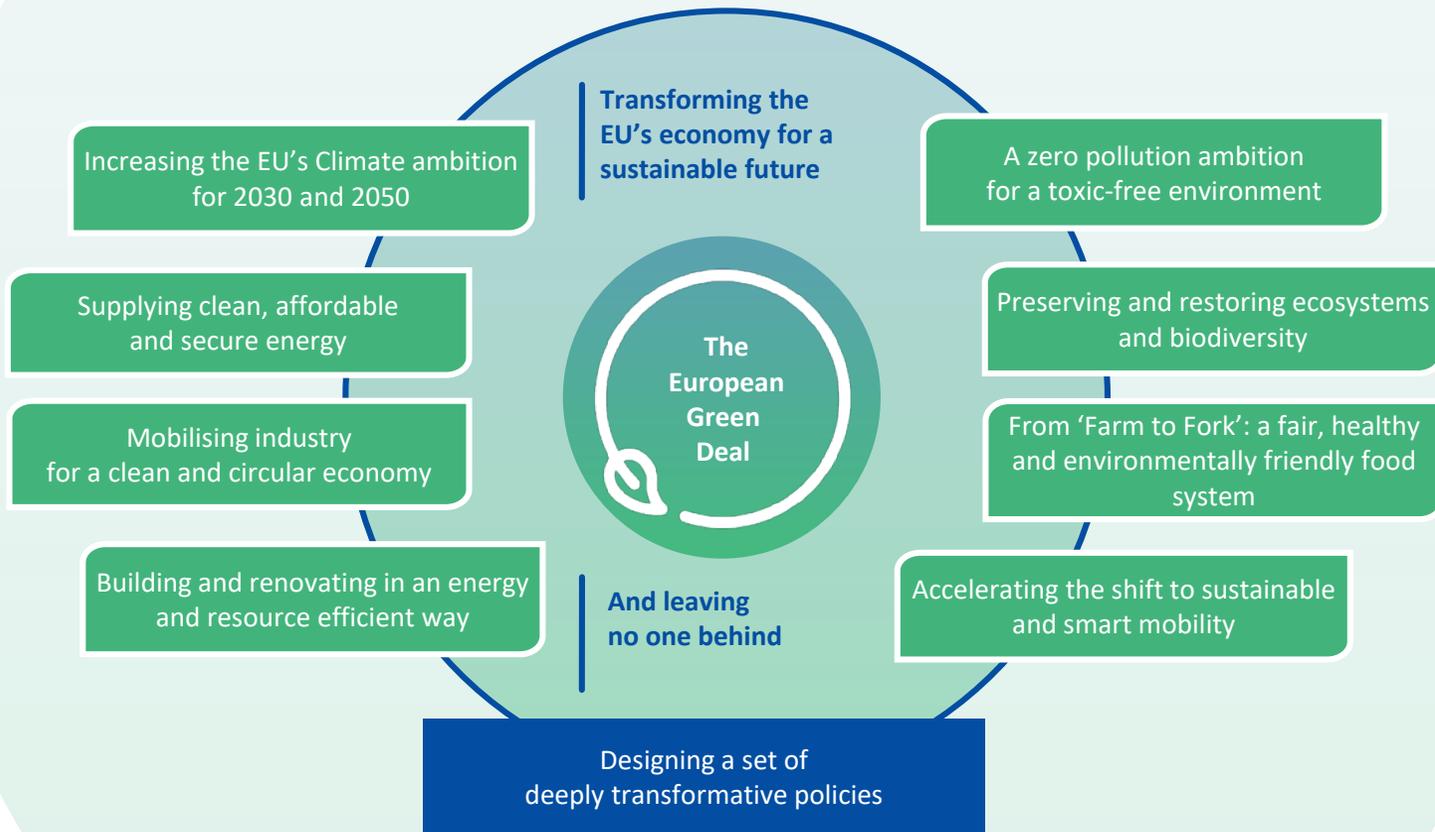
Máté Tas

European Commission

DG Regional and Urban Policy, Sustainable growth team

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European Green Deal



LEADING THE TRANSITION TO A HEALTHY PLANET

- A **Climate Law** to lock in commitments and raise ambition
- **Earmarking** 30% of the EU budget for climate
- Greening the **European Semester**
- Comprehensive programme of legislation
- **Green investment needs** of around €470 billion per year

Circular economy in the European Green Deal



35 actions along the entire life cycle of products, to:

- Make **sustainable products** the norm in the EU
- **Empower** consumers and public buyers
- **Focus also on key product value chains:** electronics and ICT; batteries and vehicles; packaging; plastics; textiles; construction and buildings; food; water and nutrients
- Ensure **less waste**
- Make circularity work for **people, regions** and **cities**
- **Lead global efforts** on circular economy

CEAP for people, regions and cities

A joint agenda, a transition where no one is left behind



Main actions:

- Revision of the Skills Agenda
- A new Pact for Skills
- Cohesion policy funds
(to help regions implement CE strategies & reinforce their industrial fabric)
- Just Transition Mechanism
- European Urban initiatives



4 million jobs

linked to the
circular economy
in the EU



Cohesion policy in the European Green Deal

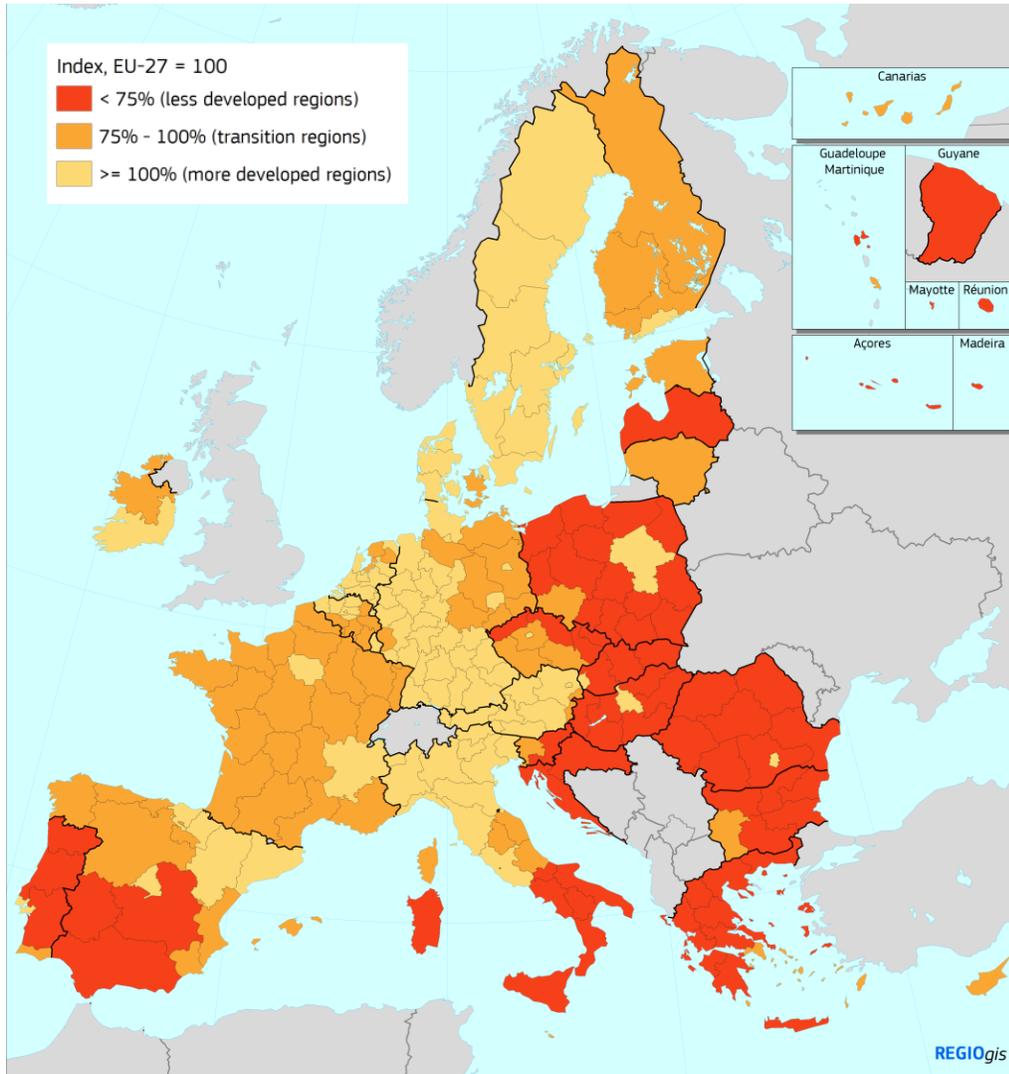


“Cohesion Funds play a crucial role in supporting our regions and rural areas from East to West, from South to North to keep up with the transformations of our world.

In this transition, we must recognise and respect that we do not all start from the same point. We all share the same ambition but some may need more tailored support than others to get there.”

-  Investing in place-based innovation and smart economic transformation
-  Deploying technological and social innovation on a large scale
-  Facilitating phase-out of unsustainable practices
-  Ensuring a just transition for all regions

Cohesion policy 2021-2027



GDP/head (PPS) by NUTS2 region, average 2014-2015-2016

- 1/3 of the EU budget (European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund, European Social Fund +, Just Transition Fund) to:
 - Reduce disparities between Europe's regions, strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion
 - Contribute to EU priorities
- 5 Policy Objectives
 1. A more competitive and smarter Europe
 2. A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe
30% thematic concentration requirement (ERDF)
 3. A more connected Europe
 4. A more social and inclusive Europe
 5. A Europe closer to citizens

2021-2027: circular economy investment areas

Specific objective 2.6: promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

- Support for upper stages of the waste hierarchy, incl. waste prevention, reuse, repair, separate collection
- Promote circular economy in SMEs
- Awareness-raising and support for sustainable consumption
- Modernise or upgrade existing recycling and waste treatment infrastructure
- Introduce smart technologies to improve resource efficiency
- Improve the knowledge base
- Capacity-building for all stakeholders

Excluded: disposal of waste in landfill, facilities for the treatment of residual waste

Sustainable urban development in 2021-2027

- Cross-cutting policy objective ‘Europe closer to citizens’ (PO5)
 - To foster economic, social, and environmental sustainability and resilience in all places
 - Interventions based on **integrated local/territorial strategies**, drawn up by local bodies
 - Local/territorial bodies involved in project selection, partnership with relevant stakeholders
 - Min 8% of ERDF (at national level) allocated to sustainable urban development
- European Urban Initiative (<https://www.uia-initiative.eu/en>)
 - ERDF funding for all EU urban areas
 - Strengthen participatory approach, provide stronger link to EU policies and cohesion policy investments
 - Direct funding for ‘urban innovative actions’

Next steps

- Together: making the best of programming
Objective setting, types of actions, funding, outputs and results
- Partnership principle: public authorities (regional/urban/local) and partners (economic, social, civil society) involved in programming and monitoring of implementation
- DG REGIO is working across the Commission and with key partners (EEA, OECD, World Bank...), to:
 - Learn the lessons from past transitions
 - Translate frontier academic knowledge into actions on the ground
 - Promoting the sustainability transition [toolkit](#) for Managing Authorities
 - Assess governmental capacity to manage sustainability transitions

Thank you for your attention



Máté Tas, policy analyst
DG REGIO, Smart and Sustainable Growth Unit
Mate.Tas@ec.europa.eu