

#### The European Cyclists' Federation

- We are the European umbrella federation of memberbased civil society organisations advocating and working for more and better cycling.
- We promote cycling as a **sustainable** and **healthy** means of transport and leisure.
- With more than 60 member organisations from over 40 countries, we **harness the power** of the European cycling movements.

• HQ in Brussels, 25+ FTE





ECF gratefully acknowledges financial support from the cycling industry via Cycling Industries Europe



#### Our vision 2030: More and better cycling for all

- More cycling: Increase cycling levels in Europe by at least 50%
- **Safer cycling**: Reduce the rate of cyclists killed or seriously injured in road collisions by at least 50%
- Stronger political support: Cycling to be prioritised by policymakers at all levels as a sustainable and healthy part of the mobility mix
- **Higher investment**: EU funding for cycling to increase to at least €6 billion in the 2021-2027 budget cycle
- More and better infrastructure: 100,000 km of new cycling infrastructure to be built in Europe







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### **Positive impacts of cycling**



- ✓ Cleaner air
- ✓ Fewer road deaths and serious injuries
- ✓ Healthier, happier citizens
- ✓ More liveable cities and towns
- ✓ Better rural connectivity
- ✓ Greener leisure and tourism options
- ✓ More vibrant local economies
- ✓ More inclusive societies



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#### World Climate Summit COP26 - Glasgow 2021

"We recognise that alongside the shift to zero emission vehicles, a sustainable future for road transport will require wider system transformation, including support for active travel, public and shared transport, as well as addressing the jull value chain impacts from vehicle production, use and disposal."

# FIGHTS CLIMATE CHANGE



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### **EU funding for cycling: Outline**

- Previous funding periode (2014 2020): EU Regional Funds (ERDF + Cohesion Fund)
- 2. Next financing period (2021 2027)
  - a. Recovery and Resilience Facility
  - b. Regional Funds (ERDF + Cohesion Fund)
- 3. Other funding sources
  - a. EU Social Climate Fund
  - b. European Urban Initiative









# **Overview: EU Regional Policy**

- EU regional policy is an **investment policy**:
  - job creation,
  - competitiveness,
  - economic growth,
  - improved quality of life
  - sustainable development.
- Narrowing social and economic disparities between developed and less developed regions in the EU



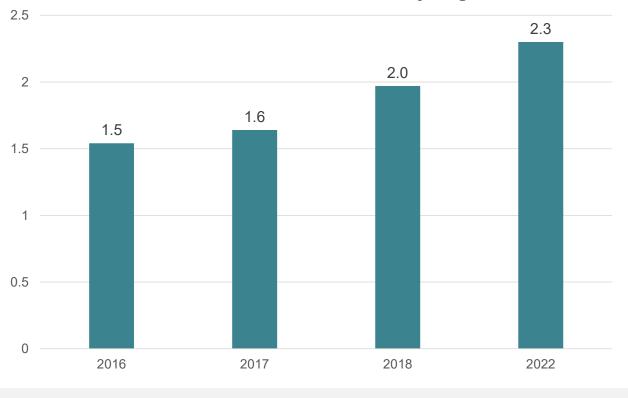




# Increase in cycling investment

Higher priority of cycling for managing authorities

 $\rightarrow$  reallocation of funds



Cumulative estimated investments in cycling, in € bn



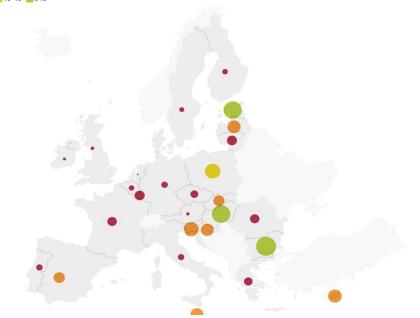


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#### Regional distribution of funds for cycling

Cycling investments in previous EU regional funding period (2014-2020)



Source: European Cyclists' Federation, 2022 • Created with Datawrapper



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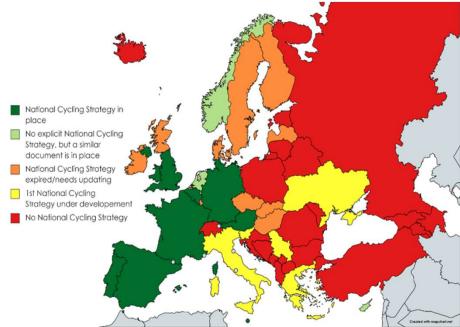
#### Romania:

- Total: € 71 million
- Per capita: € 3.61
- Room for improvement, especially given the relatively high share of the country in total funding (see e.g. Bulgaria and Hungary)



# Two important success factors for unlocking EU investments in cycling

- Explicit references to cycling in Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes
- Strategic alignment with a national cycling strategy (or a wider sustainable transport plan etc.) – demonstrating that EU cycle investments are part of a comprehensive strategy, not stand-alone measures







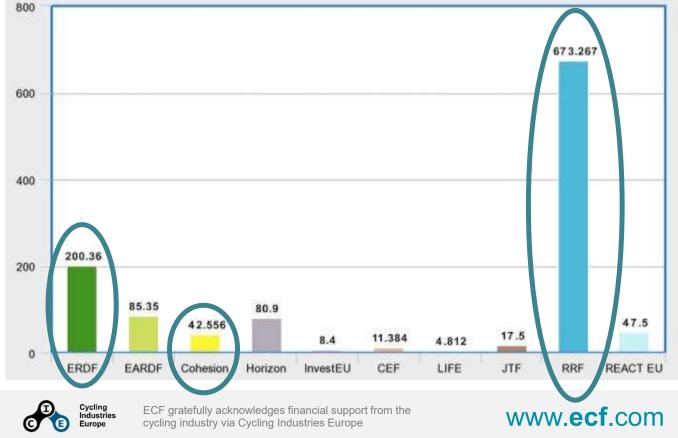
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### Next financing period 2021-2027: overview

EU Funds in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (2021 – 2027)

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# Overview

- Part of the EU's response to the economic aspects of the pandemic ("NextGenerationEU")
- Total volume of € 672.5 billion
- Allocation based on National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs)
- ECF found cycling investments of ca. € 1.7 bn in NRRPs









#### **Cycling content in National Recovery and Resilience Plans**

📕 none 📒 cycling mentioned, but potential for more 📕 good cycling content



- 22 countries have included cycling in their NRRPs:
  - 10 with good content + investments
  - 12 with potential for more
- 5 do not mention cycling

Source: European Cyclists' Federation, 2022 • Created with Datawrapper



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### Investments in cycling

Country	Investments (€ million)	Country	Investments (€ million)
taly	600	Greece	4.5*
Belgium	411	Malta	2.2*
Spain	135*	Bulgaria	1*
Hungary	120	Slovenia	1*
Romania	120	Austria	0
Slovakia	105	Finland	0
Denmark	70	France	0
_atvia	34	Germany	0
Sweden	25*	Ireland	0
Czech Republic	25*	Lithuania	0
Poland	14*	Luxembourg	0
Cyprus	14*	Portugal	0
Croatia	6*	Netherlands	n/a
Estonia	5	Total	1,692



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\*estimate





#### **Cycling in the NRRP:**

#### • €120 million of investments - Plan "Romania Velo":

- Changing legislation to improve cycling
- Construction of up to 3,000 km of touristic cycle tracks in Romania, including EuroVelo routes
- Supporting mature projects initiated by civil society and local public administrations





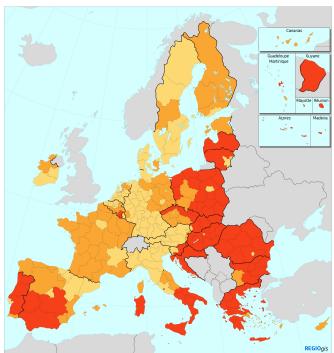
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### EU - Regional Funds 2021 - 2027

## Overview



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Investment for jobs and growth goal (ERDF and ESF+) eligibility, 2021-2027 Categories of regions

Less developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) less than 75% of the EU-27 average)

Transition regions (GDP/head (PPS) between 75% and 100% of the EU-27 average)

More developed regions (GDP/head (PPS) above 100% of the EU-27 average)

- European Regional Development Fund: € 200 bn
- Cohesion Fund: € 42 bn
- EU co-funding rate: between 35 85 %
- Climate funding: at least 30 %
- Climate and environment co-efficient of cycling: 100 % - good way to reach climate targets



## ECF country guides





- A detailed step-by-step manual to navigate EU legislation, process, good practice examples etc. in order to access more EU funding for cycle investments from ERDF and Cohesion Fund during next MFF 2021 – 2027
- Download: <u>https://ecf.com/unlocking-cycle-investments</u>



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adopted at the moment (Romania's has

Programmes are partially still underway

Still room for local/regional authorities

Partnership Agreements are being

Negotiations on Operational

### Process

The European Regional Development Fund Regulation				
A legal act containing conditions and setting objectives of financial support for the development and structural adjustment of regional economies.				
27 Partnership Agreements				
The financial contracts of each Member State with the European Union.				
200+ Operational Programmes / Rural Development Programmes				
The translation of general objectives set down in the partnership agreement to specific thematic or regional policies. The decision on the number and type of progammes is made by each Member State itself.				
Thousands of Calls for Projects				
Calls for contractors for the implementation of the objectives of operational or rural development programmes.				





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to exert their influence

been adopted)

Final opportunity



# Investment ideas - 1

- (Peri-)urban cycle route networks
- 100 climate-neutral cities;
- urban nodes of the TEN-T
  network → SUMP by 2025







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# Investment idea – 2

- Regional (national) cycle route networks
  - Recreational/ touristic
  - Functional (cycle highway networks)

NATIONAL RECOVERYAND RESILIENCE PLANROMANIAAPRIL 2021







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# Investment idea - 3

- Intermodality
- Bike-parking at bus and train stations
- Bikes on trains new EU law
- Not just NL & DK: Slovakia!







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### Investment idea - 4

- (E-)bike-sharing schemes in major towns and cities
- In connection to public transport







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# Key recommendations

- 240 bn EUR available in 2021 2027 for regional development through European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund
- Operational Programmes are not finalised yet, so still possible to influence managing authorities
- Ask for inclusion of explicit references to cycling + output indicators (ideally embedded in a national cycling strategy)
- Suggest concrete investment ideas







#### Other funding sources

# EU Social Climate Fund

- Complementary to the "Fit for 55" legislative package
- ...which proposes to extend emissions trading to the building and road transport sector
- ...supposed to address social impacts arising from increasing costs linked to pricing emissions in these sectors









#### Other funding sources

# EU Social Climate Fund

- Still being negotiated at EU level we would like to see Romania taking a strong position for the inclusion of cycling, e.g. financial help for purchasing/leasing (electric) bicycles, in the measures that can be financed through the fund
- Implementation through national social climate plans (similar to NRRPs) – also here it will be important to make sure that cycling is included









#### Other funding sources

# **European Urban Initiative**

- Successor of "Urban Innovative Actions" (UIA) programme
- Being launched at the moment first call opens this autumn
- Goals:
  - Support cities in building capacity and knowledge
  - Support innovation in urban areas
  - Develop transferable and scalable innovative solutions to urban challenges
- total ERDF budget of €450 million for 2021-2027





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# **Cities & Regions for Cyclists**

A network bringing together local and regional administrations, actively working to promote the bicycle as a mode of transport and leisure.



# Aims

- Exchanging knowledge, solutions and strategies and promoting political initiatives and practical work on the ground;
- Inspiring and catalyzing cities to take action by learning from each other and avoiding having to "reinvent the wheel";
- **Putting cycling at the centre of urban planning practices**, thereby triggering and supporting a change in political thinking



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- Preferential access to ECF advocacy and knowledge base and highlevel data and information;
- Network and exchange with cities and regions of different sizes and levels of cycling development across 25 countries;
- Free participation in Velo-city conferences, with exclusive workshop for CRC Members; number of free tickets depends on membership category
- Visibility and promotion of your news and successes;
- Access high-level project partnership opportunities;







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# EUROPEAN ( /C ISTS F DE ATI IN THE NETWORK

#### Local and regional authorities all over the world can become a member of Cities & Regions for Cyclists.

**Contact** Froso Christofides ECF Members & Networks Manager f.christofides@ecf.com

#### Membership contribution\*

Your category:	Categories - per number of inhabitants:	Contribution:	Free Ticket(s) Velo-city
1.	< 100,000	1,000 €	1
2.	< 500,000	1,500 €	1
3.	< 1,0 million	2,000 €	1
4.	< 2,0 million	3,000 €	2
5.	< 3,0 million	4,000 €	2
6.	< 5,0 million	5,000 €	2
7.	< 10,0 million	6,000 €	2
8.	10,0 million and more	7,000 €	2





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# **Multumesc!**

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