



OVERVIEW EU SUBSIDIES 2014- 2020



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1. INTRODUCTION

Social housing providers play an increasingly significant role in today's housing market. They are leading suppliers of affordable homes and major partners in regeneration and estate renewal. They are providers of a wide range of vital welfare services, ensuring diversity, opportunity and a labour force for essential community services.

However, shrinking national budgets, changing legislation and little access to private bank credit at affordable interest rates have increased the pressure on social housing providers to maintain the flow of affordable homes in many European countries. These new developments and policy changes require organizations, including social housing providers, academic institutions and private sector organisations, to find new and smart ways to collaborate and discuss the options for innovative ways to utilize housing association assets and financing capacity.

The European Commission acknowledges the financial benefits for European cities and regions from innovative and sustainable development of affordable housing. For this reason the Commission is committed to invest in a sustainable and innovative economy through a wide range of funding opportunities. For housing associations it is particularly interesting to know that themes such as energy efficiency and social cohesion also qualify for sizable funding support.

This brochure intends to provide methodological information and point out interesting funding opportunities to EFL members and associated partners. The following pages give an enumeration of all the relevant funding opportunities available to the housing sector with regards to the INTERREG programme, the Horizon 2020 programme, the 2014-2020 EU Structural Funds and the Ambient Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL).

2. INTERREG

What is INTERREG?

INTERREG North-West Europe (NWE) is a Programme of the European Union to promote the economic, environmental, social and territorial future of the North-West Europe area. It invests EUR 355 million of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in activities based on the cooperation of organisations from eight countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the United

What does the programme aim to achieve?

The INTERREG EUROPE programme aims to improve the implementation of regional development policies and programmes, in particular programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs and European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) programmes.

The current funding period INTERREG IV 2007-2013 is nearly finished. To face the challenges in Europe the structural policy will fundamentally change, not only in regards to content, but also in the organizational process. The content of the future INTERREG programme will be based on the eleven funding priorities mentioned in the [EU regulation concerning the European Regional Development Fund](#) that aim to promote intelligent, sustainable and integrated growth ([EU 2020 strategy](#)) and to connect economic, environmental and social issues:

1. Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
2. Enhancing access to and use and quality of ICT
3. Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs
4. Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
5. Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
6. Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
7. Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures
8. Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
9. Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty
10. Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning by developing education and training infrastructure
11. Enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration

Each cooperation area may choose four priorities of the previous list that can be funded in concrete projects. Further, there will be the possibility to define a fifth individual priority where up to 20% of the total budget can services within four months after the adoption of the regulation (article 17). Expenditures that are not covered by these criteria can be standardized on programme level. National regulations will only come into play afterwards be used. Currently the programme areas are discussing and preparing the operational programmes.

In the upcoming funding period the rules of the different funds will be harmonized. In the future there will be one single set of rules for the five funds. A more integrated approach will assure that the funds are all aligned to coherent goals and thus mutually reinforcing.

The EU provides approximately 9 billion € for the European Territorial Cooperation from 2014: 6.6 billion € for the cross-border cooperation ([INTERREG VA](#)), 1.8 billion € for the transnational cooperation ([INTERREG VB](#)) and 500 million € for the inter-regional cooperation ([INTERREG VC](#)).

INTERREG A, B and C

The three strands of transnational, cross-border and interregional cooperation will be continued in the upcoming funding period. Further the cooperation areas in INTERREG A and INTERREG B will be largely maintained. The INTERREG B programme provides the creation of a new cooperation area, the [Danube region](#). The Danube region programme will succeed the Programme for South-eastern Europe (SEE) and further include Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg and the Czech Republic. The Italian regions and the southern part that earlier participated in the SEE

programme will now be part of the "South East Gateway" programme. The new Danube Region Programme should enable a better implementation of the Danube Region Strategy.

3. HORIZON 2020

What is Horizon 2020?

Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness. Launched in January of 2014 with an available budget of approximately €80bn., Horizon 2020 is the largest ever EU Research and Innovation funding program.

What does the programme aim to achieve?

The program strongly emphasizes the relevance of a comprehensive approach to societal matters in accelerating the uptake of innovation. By coupling research and cutting-edge practice, it offers important opportunities to researchers and businesses throughout Europe. In an emerging knowledge-based society, the program will be a great means to drive economic growth and create jobs.

The new program includes a number of changes compared to its predecessor FP7. The emphasis has shifted from fundamental research in FP7, to industrial research and experimental application. A significant procedural improvement is the less complex structure of the program. The rules for SMEs will be simplified to help get a greater number of new projects off the ground in a shorter period of time and achieve results faster.

In addition to the procedural changes, Horizon 2020 offers a new range of new themes and subjects. The goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation.

Horizon 2020 comprises three complementary pillars, respectively "Excellent Science", "Industrial Leadership" and "Societal Challenges". The structure is displayed in the table below.

HORIZON 2020

Excellent Science: European Research Council (ERC), Future Emerging Technologies (FET) Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA), European Research Infrastructures.
Industrial Leadership: Enabling and Industrial Technologies, Access to Risk Finance, Innovation in SMEs.
Societal Challenges: Health, Demographic change and wellbeing, Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, etc. Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy, Smart Green and Integrated Transport, Climate Action, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials, Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies.

Source: Euresearch

These three priorities are elaborated in several different strategic directions for 2014-2016. These 'strategic programmes' highlight the main features of the rollout of Horizon 2020 and guide its implementation over the first three years. Furthermore it complements the direct research activities and provides scientific support to the Commission's policy.

What are the funding opportunities?

The strategic programmes have a total twelve focus areas. In this brochure we will merely point out the areas that are most relevant to the housing sector. These are six areas and they are listed below. Of each area we will list the relevant calls, the budgets and deadlines. This way you will get a concrete idea of how the focus areas are implemented in the programme. The areas are as follows:

- Smart cities and communities
- Competitive low-carbon energy
- Energy efficiency: research & innovation
- Energy efficiency: market uptake
- Energy efficiency: market uptake PDA
- Energy efficiency: PPP EEB and spire topics
- Energy efficient buildings

The first focus area is smart cities and communities. This area will coordinate the development and technological validation of smart cities technologies. The output will result in commercial-scale solutions with high market potential, such as smart buildings and neighbourhoods, sustainable energy systems and smart mobility services.

Proposals for the smart cities and communities focus area are invited against the following topics:

SCC 1 – 2014/2015: Smart Cities and Communities solutions integrating energy, transport, ICT sectors through lighthouse (large scale demonstration - first of the kind) projects.

SCC 3 – 2015 92: Development of system standards for smart cities and communities solutions.

The deadlines for the Smart Cities and Communities calls are displayed in the table below:

Topics*	Deadlines
SCC 1	05/05/2015
SCC 3	05/05/2015

The budget for the Smart Cities and Communities calls is displayed in the table below:

Topics*	2015 (M€)
SCC 1, SCC 3	107,1

For information on the specific challenges, the scopes and the applying procedures of the calls you can visit the Horizon 2020 website.

The second focus areas, competitive low-carbon energy, aims to develop and put on the market affordable and efficient solutions to decarbonise the energy system, secure energy supply and to complete the energy internal market. This area will focus on a smart European electricity grid, alternative fuels and technologies and competitive low carbon electricity.

Proposals are invited against the following topics:

LCE 3 - 2015: Demonstration of renewable electricity and heating/cooling technologies

LCE 4 – 2015: Market uptake of existing and emerging renewable electricity, heating and cooling technologies.

LCE 9 – 2015: Large scale energy storage.

LCE 12 – 2015: Demonstrating advanced bio fuel technologies.

LCE 14 – 2015: Market uptake of existing and emerging sustainable bio energy.

LCE 18 – 2015 82: Supporting Joint Actions on demonstration and validation of innovative energy solutions.

LCE 19 – 2015 83: Supporting coordination of national R&D activities.

LCE 21 – 2015: Modelling and analysing the energy system, its transformation and impacts.

LCE 23 – 2015: Supporting the community in deploying a common framework for measuring the energy and environmental efficiency of the ICT-sector

The deadlines for the competitive low-carbon energy calls are displayed in the table below:

Topics*	Deadlines
LCE 3, 4, 9, 12, 14, 19, 21, 23	05/05/2015
LCE 18 (ERA-NET)	28/04/2015

The budget for the competitive low-carbon energy calls is displayed in the table below:

Topics*	2015 (M€)	
LCE 3, 12	80	All single stage evaluation
LCE 4, 14	20	All single stage evaluation
LCE 9	26	All single stage evaluation
LCE 13	10	Single stage evaluation
LCE 18 (ERA-NET)	57.85	Single stage evaluation
LCE 19	3	Single stage evaluation
LCE 21	10	Single stage evaluation
LCE 23	189,5	Single stage evaluation

For information on the specific challenges, the scopes and the applying procedures of the calls you can visit the Horizon 2020 website.

The energy efficiency 'research & innovation' focus area will focus on a smart European electricity grid, alternative fuels and technologies and competitive low carbon. Proposals are invited against the following topics:

EE 6 – 2015: Demand response in blocks of buildings.

EE 11 – 2015: New ICT-based solutions for energy efficiency.

EE 13 – 2015: Technology for district heating and cooling.

The energy efficiency 'market uptake' focus area comprises actions in industry and buildings, including market uptake measures. Proposals are invited against the following topics:

EE 5 – 2015: Increasing energy performance of existing buildings through process and organisation innovations and creating a market for deep renovation.

EE 7 – 2015: Enhancing the capacity of public authorities to plan and implement.

EE 9 – 2015: Empowering stakeholders to assist public authorities in the definition and implementation of sustainable energy policies and measures.

EE 10 – 2015: Consumer engagement for sustainable energy.

EE 14 – 2015: Removing market barriers to the uptake of efficient heating and cooling solutions sustainable energy policies and measures.

EE 16 – 2015: Organisational innovation to increase energy efficiency in industry.

EE 17 – 2015: Driving energy innovation through large buyer groups.

EE 19 – 2015: Improving the finance ability and attractiveness of sustainable energy investments.

EE 21 – 2015: Development and market roll-out of innovative energy services and financial schemes for sustainable energy.

For the energy efficiency focus area 'market uptake PDA', proposals are invited against the following topic:

EE 20 – 2015: Project development assistance for innovative bankable and aggregated sustainable energy investment schemes and projects.

For the last energy efficiency focus area, 'PPP EEB and spire topics', proposals are invited against the following topic:

EE 2 - 2015: Buildings design for new highly energy performing buildings.

The deadlines for the energy efficiency calls are displayed in the table below:

Topics*	Deadlines
Topic EE 6,11,13	04-06-2015
Topic EE 5,7,9,10,14,16,17,19,21	04-06-2015
Topic EE 20	04-06-2015

The budget for the energy efficiency calls is displayed in the table below:

Topics*	2015 (M€)
Topic EE 6, 11, and 13	€21,850,000
Topic EE 5,7,9,10,14,16,17,19,21	€40,800,000
Topic EE 20	€18,500,000

For information on the specific challenges, the scopes and the applying procedures of the calls you can visit the Horizon 2020 website.

The last focus area is energy-efficient buildings (EeB). The area intends to create and integrate technologies and solutions enabling to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions. It aims to develop innovative and smart systemic approaches for green buildings and districts, helping to improve the competitiveness of the EU building industry. Proposals are invited against the following topics:

EeB 5 - 2015: Innovative design tools for refurbishing of buildings at district level

EeB 6 - 2015: Integrated solutions of thermal energy storage for building applications

EeB 7 - 2015: New tools and methodologies to reduce the gap between predicted and actual energy performances at the level of buildings and blocks of buildings

EeB 8 - 2015: Integrated approach to retrofitting of residential buildings

The deadlines for the energy-efficient buildings calls are displayed in the table below:

Topics*	Deadlines
EeB 5, 6, 7, 8	04-02-2015

The budget for the energy-efficient buildings calls is displayed in the table below:

Topics*	2015 (M€)
EeB 5, 6, 7, 8	€62,480,000

What are the Structural Funds?

European Structural Funds provide EU Member States and regions with assistance to overcome structural deficiencies and to enable them to strengthen competitiveness and increase employment. The Structural Funds are made up of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF). Together with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund make up the great bulk of EU funding, and the majority of total EU spending.

What do the Structural Funds aim to achieve?

Building on the implementation experiences with financial instruments in past cohesion policy cycles and reflecting the importance attached to them in the multiannual financial framework 2014-2020, the legislative and policy framework for 2014-2020 encourages further expansion and strengthening the use of financial instruments in the new programming period as a more efficient and sustainable alternative to complement traditional grant-based financing.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The ERDF supports programmes addressing regional development, economic change, enhanced competitiveness and territorial co-operation throughout the EU. Funding priorities include modernising economic structures, creating sustainable jobs and economic growth, research and innovation, environmental protection and risk prevention. Investment in infrastructure also retains an important role, especially in the least-developed regions.

The European Social Fund (ESF)

The ESF focuses on four key areas: increasing the adaptability of workers and enterprises, enhancing access to employment and participation in the labour market, reinforcing social inclusion by combating discrimination and facilitating access to the labour market for disadvantaged people, and promoting partnership for reform in the fields of employment and inclusion.

The Cohesion Fund

The Cohesion Fund contributes to interventions in the field of the environment and trans-European transport networks. It applies to member states with a Gross National Income (GNI) of less than 90% of the EU average. As such, it covers all 12 new member states as well as Greece and Portugal. Spain is also eligible for the Cohesion Fund, but on a transitional basis (so-called "phasing out").

5. AMBIENT ASSISTED LIVING JOINT PROGRAMME (AAL)

What is AAL?

The Ambient Assisted Living Joint Programme (AAL JP) was a funding activity running from 2008 to 2013, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life of older people and strengthening the industrial base in Europe through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The AAL JP operated in the field of services and actions to enable the active ageing among the population. The programme has launched an overall of six calls for new project proposals to reinforce the European market for Ambient Assisted Living products and services.

The programme had an overall budget of € 600 Mil to co-finance Research & Development & Innovation projects aiming to deliver concrete solutions for independent living or 'ageing well' of elderly people using ICT. This funding activity has been implemented by the AAL Association and the funding authorities of its member countries.

What does the programme aim to achieve?

The AAL JP aimed to combine social, technological and business aspects to deliver:

- New models of service delivery and care that contribute to greater self-reliance for older adults and greater support for informal carers;
- Adapted living spaces that can improve the quality of their everyday lives;
- New ways for older people to remain active, including contributing as volunteers or providing mutual support;
- New ways of mobilising active and trusted networks, both formal and informal, professional and in kind, to provide all types of support.

What are the funding opportunities?

The closure dates for applying have passed, therefore the calls will not be discussed in this brochure. Should you need information on the various AAL calls, consult the website at www.aal-europe.eu.

6. JOINT PROGRAMMING INITIATIVE URBAN EUROPE

Urban Europe is a joint programming initiative. Through JPI Urban Europe, member countries can generate European solutions by means of coordinated research. The aim is to create attractive, sustainable and economically viable urban areas, in which European citizens, communities and their surroundings can thrive.

JPI Urban Europe aims to coordinate research and make better use of Europe's public funds in order to:

- Transform urban areas to centres of innovation and technology
- Realise eco-friendly and intelligent intra- and interurban transport and logistic systems
- Ensure social cohesion and integration
- Reduce the ecological footprint and enhance climate neutrality

This initiative currently has 14 European members: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Portugal and Spain are observers.

Consortia to jointly submit research proposals

The aim of this meeting is to bring interested parties from research and practice together. The matchmaking will therefore focus on the formation of consortia that can jointly submit research proposals.

The ENSCC call – a collaboration of the JPI Urban Europe and the Smart Cities Member States Initiative – will open in December 2014. Four subjects have been defined:

- Smart integrated urban energy and transport systems
- Smart tools and services for integrated urban energy and transport systems
- Smart big data
- Smart governance and smart citizens

7. UPCOMMING RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Gerard van Bortel / 28 November 2014

Program	Summary	Opportunities for succesful grant proposals
<p>Horizon 2020, Societal Challenges</p> <p>Sub-call Energy Efficiency</p> <p>EE-2015-3 Market Uptake</p> <p>Deadline: 4 June 2015</p>	<p>Increasing energy performance of existing buildings through process and organisation innovations and creating a market for deep renovation.</p> <p>Budget: € 41 M</p> <p>More info: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/</p>	<p>Connects with existing sustainability TU Delft projects</p>
<p>JPI Urban Europe 3rd Call</p> <p>In collaboration with the Smart Cities Member States Initiative</p> <p>Call to be published in December 2014</p> <p>Deadline pre-proposal: March 2015</p>	<p>Collaboration between 14 EU-members.</p> <p>JPI Urban Europe aims to coordinate research in order to (among others): transform urban areas to centres of innovation and technology, ensure social cohesion and integration</p> <p>Most relevant theme in 3rd call: Smart governance and smart citizens</p> <p>Budget: €20 – 28 M</p> <p>More info: http://jpi-urbaneurope.eu/</p>	<p>UK, F, D do not participate in 3rd cal JPI EU .</p> <p>Possibilities do adapt PrivaRent proposal (2nd JPI Call) and form a more compact consortium with partners from Austria, Belgium and Sweden.</p>

Program	Summary	Opportunities for succesful grant proposals
<p>Smart Urban Regions of the Future (SURF)</p> <p>Parties: NWO, Platform31, het Ministry of Infrastructure and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations</p> <p>Call to be published in January 2015</p> <p>Deadline for proposals: to be announced</p>	<p>Large research projects focussed on smart solutions for societal challenges at the crossroad of spatial planning, housing, accessibility., economy and governance in urban regions.</p> <p>Co-creation between policy and practice is central.</p> <p>Budget: to be announced.</p> <p>More info: €15 M</p> <p>http://www.verdus.nl/nieuwsitem.aspx?id=1967</p>	<p>Focussed on the Netherlands.</p> <p>Opens up opportunities for PrivaRent Urban living Labs in Dutch cities. Possibly in collaboration with other Dutch universities (e.g. Eindhoven, Twente)</p> <p>Information session and matchmaking event on Wednesday 3 December 2014. Gerard will deliver a pitch on Privarent proposal</p>
<p>UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Research Grant Program</p> <p>No fixed closing dates.</p>	<p>General ESRC Grant Program provides opportunities for a wide range of research proposal, including partners from non-UK partners.</p> <p>More info: http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/funding-opportunities/3717/research-grants.aspx</p>	<p>In collaboration with UK University (e.g. Cambridge University , De Montfort University Leicester, University of Birmingham)</p> <p>ESRC sponsored previous research on Private Rented Sector Housing</p>

8. ICT POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMME AS PART OF THE COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (CIP)

The ICT Policy Support Programme (or ICT PSP) aims at stimulating innovation and competitiveness through the wider uptake and best use of ICT by citizens, governments and businesses.

The ICT- PSP program has been finished by the end of 2013. Currently there are no new Calls open.