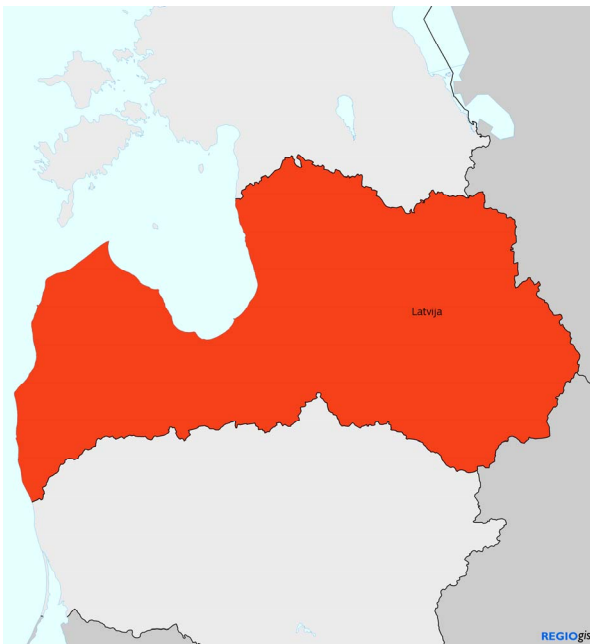


Cohesion Policy and Latvia

⋈ In 2014-2020, Latvia will manage **one operational programme** for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the Cohesion Fund and the European Social Fund (ESF) under EU Cohesion Policy.



How much will the EU invest in Latvia from 2014-2020?

For 2014-2020, Latvia has been allocated around **€4.51 billion** in total Cohesion Policy funding:

- **€3.04 billion** for less developed regions (the entire country is classified as a less developed region)
- **€1.35 billion** through the Cohesion Fund
- **€93.6 million** for European Territorial Cooperation
- **€29 million** for the Youth Employment Initiative

Of this, the ESF will represent a minimum of **€629 million**. The actual share will be set in light of the specific challenges the country needs to address in the areas covered by the ESF.

Structural Funds (ERDF and ESF) eligibility 2014-2020

- Less developed regions
(GDP/head < 75 % of EU-27 average)
- Transition regions
(GDP/head between $\geq 75\%$ and $< 90\%$ of EU-27 average)
- More developed regions
(GDP/head $\geq 90\%$ of EU-27 average)

What are the main investment priorities for Latvia?

The investment priorities for Latvia will be set out in a Partnership Agreement with the European Commission. The priorities are expected to include:

- Increasing economic productivity, quality of innovation, research and science.
- Sustainable and efficient transportation infrastructure.
- Sustainable use of natural and cultural resources.
- High employment rate in inclusive society.
- High quality and efficiency of education system.
- Balanced and sustainable territorial development.

What results have been achieved so far?

The total allocation Cohesion Policy funding for the 2007-2013 period was € 4.6 billion.

Since the beginning of the 2007-2013 funding period, amongst other achievements, EU Cohesion Policy investments have produced the following main achievements:

- 1 632 new jobs have been created;
- 123 research projects have been completed;
- 160 companies have successfully put in production new products or technologies;
- 984 projects assisted Latvian companies entering the international trade markets;
- Energy efficiency in 146 residential multi-apartment buildings has been increased;
- 389.1 kilometers of TEN-T roads and 1st class roads have been reconstructed;
- 45 % of secondary school students are benefiting from modernized science classrooms;
- 8 169 people with functional disabilities and 1 597 persons with eyesight or hearing disabilities received improved social rehabilitation services;
- Occupational risk assessment has been performed at 100 000 work places;
- More than 21 000 young people with disabilities or at risk of social exclusion have been attracted to education institutions and/or received support for their studies;
- More than 58 000 young people have been supported during their studies in vocational education institutions;
- More than 16 000 employed people have been trained thus increasing competitiveness of enterprises.

Cohesion Policy success stories

Cohesion Fund projects

● **Getting connected to Riga's water supply and sewerage system**

Riga's 700 000 inhabitants will benefit from a major scheme to [upgrade the city's water supply and waste water collection network](#).

Total cost: €61.3 million (Cohesion Fund contribution: €20.6 million)

ERDF projects

● **Development of velotourism in Ventspils**

[The City of Ventspils](#) built a cycling road path to link the international ferry terminal with the main city tourist attractions, such as the old town, the port promenade, or South pier. The cycling road contains tourist information; sufficient lighting has been installed as well as new bicycle parking spots.

Total cost: € 1.3 million (ERDF contribution: € 997 722)

March 2014

- **Dihydropyridine derivatives – new agent for cancer chemotherapy**

The [Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis](#) is working on an agent that will increase the effect of existing chemical therapy treatments and lower their toxicity.

Total cost: € 152 548 (ERDF contribution: € 90 146)

ESF projects

- **Training of unemployed and job seekers in Latvia**

The [State Employment Agency](#) has provided training programmes and requalification measures to more than 112 200 unemployed people to facilitate their integration into the labour market.

Total cost: € 101 million (ESF contribution: € 94.5 million)

- **Skills are key for competitiveness**

The [Investment and Development Agency of Latvia](#) is organising courses and in-house training for employees from companies to increase their skills and competencies. Helping young workers less than 30 years of age is the key aim. This will make Latvia's economy more competitive in the long term and at the same time increase labour productivity.

Total cost: over € 47 million (ESF contribution: over € 30 million)

Find out more about EU cohesion policy projects in Latvia

For more project examples, as well as links to the complete list of beneficiaries of EU cohesion policy funding, see the following websites:

- [European Commission Regional Policy website](#)
- [European Social Fund website](#)
- [Managing authority of Latvia](#)