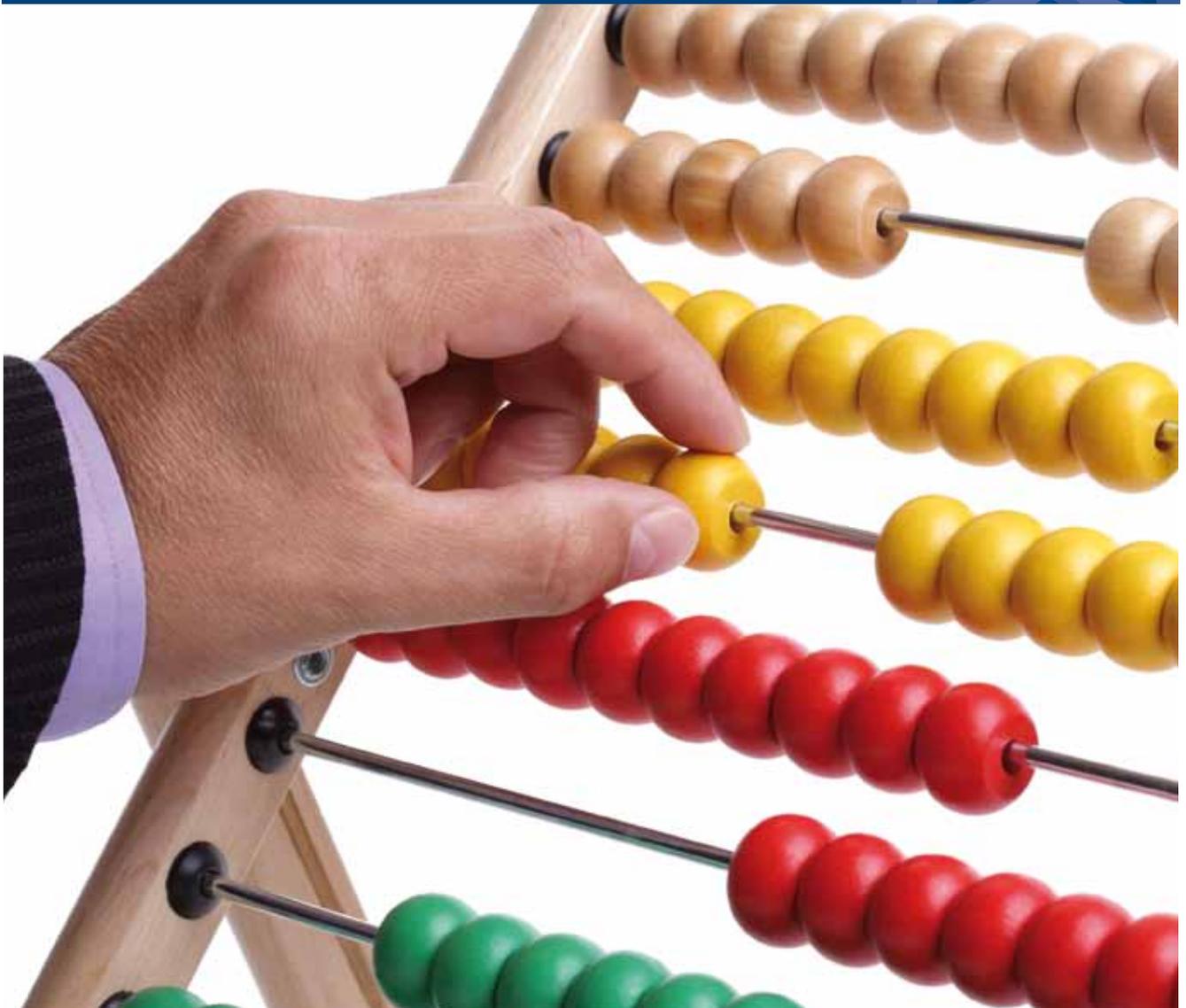


FVG Obiettivo Europa

PERIODICO DI INFORMAZIONE SULLE OPPORTUNITÀ DEL POR FESR IN FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



The importance of enterprises

122 million euro have been allocated for the projects concerning competitiveness and employment

Many small, medium and large enterprises represent the manufacturing fabric of Friuli Venezia Giulia but they are also the result of a part of the funding of the

Regional Operational Programme of the European Regional Development Fund (ROP ERDF) 2007-2013 Competitiveness and Employment Objective for the Friuli Venezia Giulia

Region. Since the beginning of the program, through the publication of the first call for tender in 2009, how many projects have been funded for the enterprises? According to

In this issue



We can count how many companies close every day. Or we can tell how many companies have designed and implemented the innovation. We would like to start with this second information. The rigour *policy* is now softened and the negotiations at different levels, both at European and at national level, are more opened to the growth. In this issue, aware of acting in Europe, we can not forget the comparison with the global impulse. That's why we write about the strategic context. A support to an information that can be analyzed in different ways.

We start with a focus on projects carried out by the companies thanks to the funding from the ROP ERDF. They are not the only projects funded by the European Union but they represent the opportunities that the EU Funds can offer. Avoiding the acronyms, we are writing about the Cohesion Action Plan, about the integrated plans on the sustainable urban development, and about the European 2014-20 programme. We write in a simple way because we want that the information could be understood by everyone. We use words as "measure" and "responsibility" without using important words as "growth" and "hope".

Maria Missoni
 Editor-in-chief

Summary

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the data related to the beginning of April 2013, the granted assistance from the Regional Operational Programme ERDF to the projects presented for the programming period 2007 - 2013 is over 263 million euro (87%) of which 122 million (46%) are in favour of the companies. The total allocation of the program amounts to approximately 303 million euro. It was paid an amount of near 125 million euro (42%) of which 50 million in favour of the companies.

In total, the projects presented are 1,418 of which 330 ended, 848 in

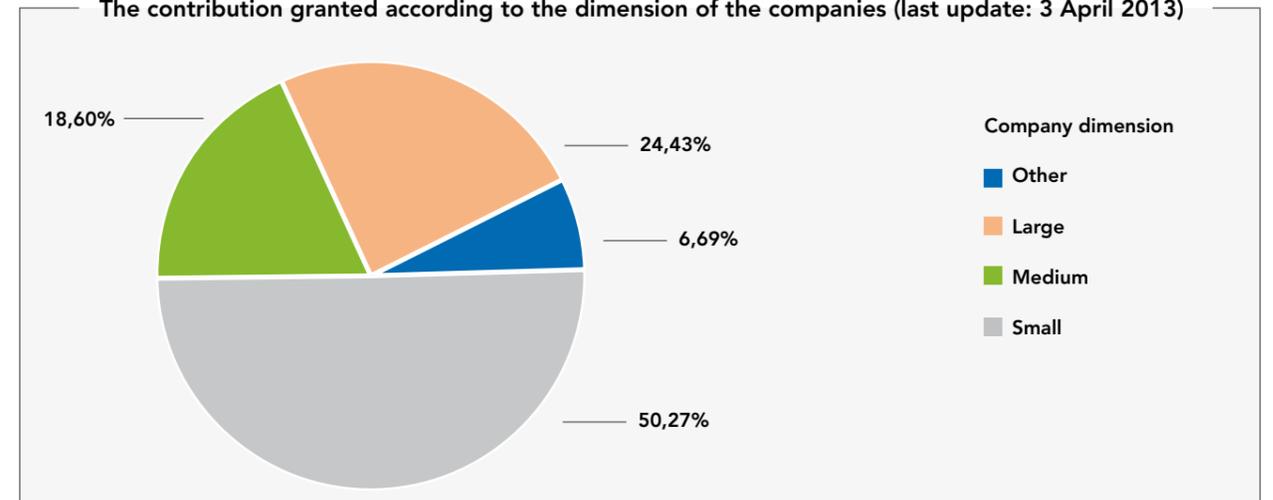
Most of these projects concern the small enterprises. 1,017 projects for the small enterpris-

// Most of these projects concern small enterprises //

es, 202 projects for the medium enterprises, 146 projects for the large enterprises and 53 projects classified as "other." "Most of these projects

million euro and a half. 393 are the projects for the province of Pordenone with an eligible expenditure of more than 116 million euro and a contribution granted of more than 33 million euro. 292 are the projects for the province of Trieste with an eligible expenditure of more than 94 million euro and a granted contribution of about 33 million euro and a half. 631 are the projects for the province of Udine, the eligible expenditure is approximately of 161 million euro and the assistance granted is close to 47 million euro. One single regional project has an eligible expenditure

The contribution granted according to the dimension of the companies (last update: 3 April 2013)



progress, 87 have been revoked, while 153 have rejected the grant.

Axis 1, addressed to the companies, aims at strengthening the competitiveness of the enterprises: 1,166 projects submitted for a value (the eligible expenditure) of more than 359 million euro with a contribution granted of almost 112 million euro. Even the Axis 5 concerns the enterprises and it aims at promoting the eco-sustainability and the energy efficiency of the production system: 252 projects with a contribution granted of more than 11 million euro.

concern small enterprises". The territorial distribution of the number of the projects is subdivided as follows: 101 projects for the province of Gori-

// A Guarantee Fund financed by ROP ERDF of 22 million euro //

zia with an eligible expenditure of more than 29 million euro and a half and an assistance granted for over 8

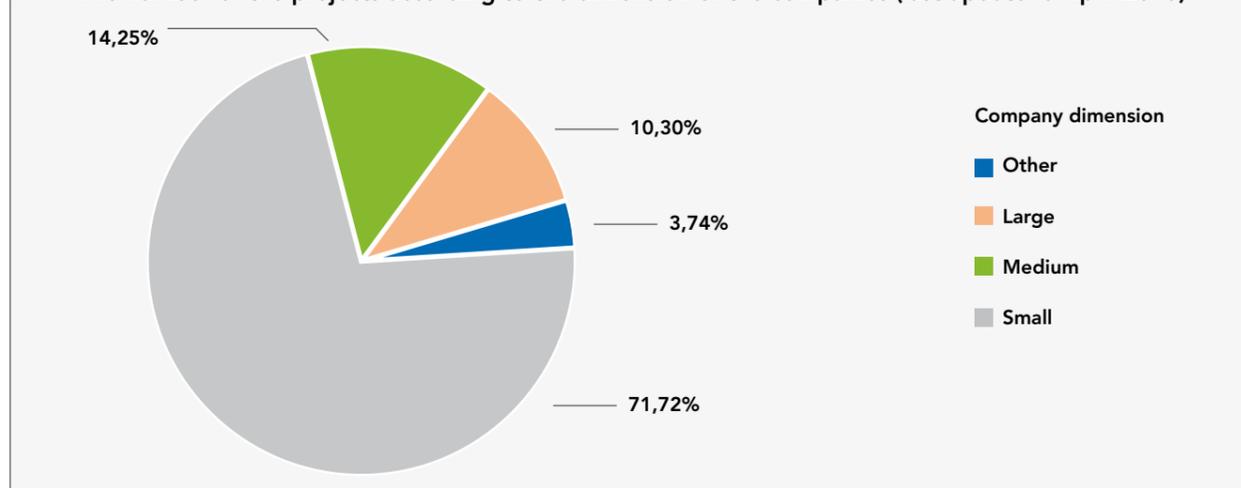
and a contribution granted amount- ed to 110 thousand euro. The distribution of the 1,418 total projects according to the economic activity (EU classification) – reveals that at the top there are 511 unspecified manufacturing "industries", 305 projects concerning "other services", 224 economic activities that deal with production and distribution of electricity, gas, steam and hot water, 158 economic activities of wholesale trade and retail, 61 dealing with the manufacture of means of transport and, to follow, other projects for other economic activities. Another

>>> Continued on page 4

>>> Continued from page 3

tool, the Line 1.2. a.c. (always Axis 1), is always for the enterprises and it's grants guarantees up to 80% on the bank loans in the short or medium

The number of the projects according to the dimension of the companies (last update: 3 April 2013)



not included in the data previously analyzed. It deals with the Guarantee Fund: 52 are the companies in the Region have received the guarantee for a total of over 11 million euro.

po FVG" is made up of eight Consortia of Friuli Venezia Giulia. Thanks to the establishment of a Guarantee Fund ERDF ROP of 22 million euro "Competitività e Sviluppo FVG" it

term, in order to facilitate the access to the credit for the SMEs operating in the region, which invest in innovation projects.



Access to credit: the Guarantee Fund for SMEs

The Companies can make application up to 31 December 2013

In order to facilitate the access to the credit for the small and medium enterprises operating in the Region, which invest in research, experimental development, innovation, technology transfer and in supporting the start-up of the innovative enterprises, the TGCs (the Temporary Grouping of Companies that gather together all the regional consortia) called "Competitività e Sviluppo FVG", has signed an agreement for the management of a Fund in respect of the resources of Axis 1 "innovation, research, technology transfer and entrepreneurship".

We asked Marco Della Mora, project manager, to give us some information about this tool.

What is the Guarantee Fund?

It is a tool available for the enterprises which aims at increasing their bargaining power toward the Credit Institutions. It is often difficult for the companies which invest in innovation, to access to credit. Therefore the eight Consortia operating in the Region (Confidimprese FVG, Confidi artigiani and the SMEs of Trieste, Confidi Friuli, Confidi Gorizia, Confidi Pordenone, Confidi Trieste, Confagi industria Trieste, Neafidi) thanks to the setting-up of the Fund, they grant considerable guarantees (up to 80%) on the bank loans in the medium term, in order to facilitate access to credit for SMEs operating in the Region.

Which is the goal?

// The goal is to loan financial guarantees in order to support

SMEs in the implementation of projects such as: the acquisition of an outside strategic consulting services; the industrial research and experimental development; the innovation of the product, of the process and of the organization, the mechanisms for technology transfer; the creation of productive investments linked to the industrialization of the results of research projects, development and innovation; the support to the start-up of innovative enterprises and with a high-growth potential. //

Who are the beneficiaries?

The guarantees may be required by the SMEs operating on the regional territory.

How much is the value of the Fund?

Overall, the value of the Fund amounts to 22 million euro, of which 5 million euro and 390 thousand euro are the ERDF share, 11 million euro and 550 thousand euro

are the state share and 5 million euro and 60 thousand are regional share. During a period of one year, about 18 million euro have been allocated. Since the multiplier is equal to 5, the ceiling of the loans put into action by the ROP ERDF Fund amounts to 110 million euro.

Which is the deadline for submitting the applications?

The application must be submitted by the enterprises through the info desks at one of the regional offices of the Consortia by 31 December 2013. The guarantees expire on December 31, 2015. It is important to know that the Confidi may also cover the depreciation period (which runs from 1 January 2016 until the natural expiration of the loan) through independent and separate letters of guarantee.

To whom should you turn for information?

It's possible to request for information to the Temporary Association of Companies (TACs) "Competitività e Sviluppo FVG" (**marco.dellamora@confidimpresefvg.it**). Furthermore, you can contact the eight participating Confidi situated throughout the Region or visit the website pages:

www.competitivasviluppofvg.it

Look at the tutorial of the Guarantee Fund: <http://www.fvg.TV/WebTV/> and click on: **News ROP ERDF**

Cohesion Action Plan: a parallel action to the ROP

There is a new planning to improve the effectiveness of this project

The CAP has started. It's the well-known Cohesion Action Plan. Its aim is to enhance the effectiveness of the Structural Funds Interventions on the issues concerning the strategic interest and speeding the expenditure. To join this plan it is necessary a new programme for the resources of the Regional Operational Programme of the European Regional Development Fund 2007 - 2013 (ROP ERDF) with regard to the national part on an external parallel

program. The change of the program "ROP ERDF 2007 - 2013 Regional competitiveness and employment in the Friuli Venezia Giulia" was approved as an introductory point, by the Regional Executive Committee in April (Resolution No. 660-2013). In this document was also approved the proposal to join the Cohesion Action Plan. The value of the CAP is over 48 million euro of which more than 44 originate from the national share of the ROP and the remaining share from

the regional and local authorities. The financial share is allocated as follows: 56% is in favour of the innovative themes/priority (business-young people, digital agenda, areas of cultural attraction, energy efficiency); the 42% is allocated for the ROP interventions (transport networks, urban development and industrial archeology). The remaining 2% is in favour of the implementation of actions for technical assistance, i.e. of the management of Cohesion Action Plan.



EU Funds 2014 - 2020: methods and objectives for an effective use

A policy document suggests how to redeem the quality of public action between innovation and strategic actions

The document entitled "Methods and objectives for an effective use of 2014 - 2020 EU Funds" started (during the first months of 2013) a public discussion, in view of the preparation of the Partnership Agreement and the Operational

Programmes of the Country and they must be used in a timely and effective manner in order to increase the development, contributing to the recovery of the productivity in all territories. The document, drawn up by the Minister for Territorial Cohesion, in agree-

ment with the Ministers of Labour, Social Affairs and of Agriculture, Food and Forestry suggests a method of "how to spend" the Funds and it proposes 11 specific innovations in order to achieve the following four objectives: 1) employment, innovation and



ment with the Ministers of Labour, Social Affairs and of Agriculture, Food and Forestry suggests a method of "how to spend" the Funds and it proposes 11 specific innovations in order to achieve the following four objectives: 1) employment, innovation and

Some information

Funding should support the economic, social and territorial cohesion in all ar-

1) expected results; 2) actions; 3) time-frame and supervision; 4) opening; 5) partnership activated; 6) impact assessment; 7) National presence. and three are strategic options related to the South, to the cities and to the inland areas.

1) expected results; 2) actions; 3) time-frame and supervision; 4) opening; 5) partnership activated; 6) impact assessment; 7) National presence. and three are strategic options related to the South, to the cities and to the inland areas.

Time for a new strategy for Research, Development and Innovation for SMEs

The idea of a multi-year regional project according to an analysis published in April 2013

The ERDF Regional Operational Programme promotes and supports research activities, development and innovation of the small and medium-sized enterprises (RDI). A document of the Evaluation Plan analyzes the ROP ERDF investment in research and innovation. This is stated by an independent evaluator that is outside the ROP.

The aim of the analysis, through these documents, is improving the quality, effectiveness and consistency of Fund assistance. The goal is to improve the strategy and implementation of operational programs with respect to the specific structural problems affecting the Member States and the Regions concerned.

The thematic evaluation published on April 2013 analyzed the issue RDI for small and medium-sized enterprises in three contexts: the coherence between ROP ERDF and other tools used by the Region, the distribution of the beneficiaries in the territory and the effectiveness.

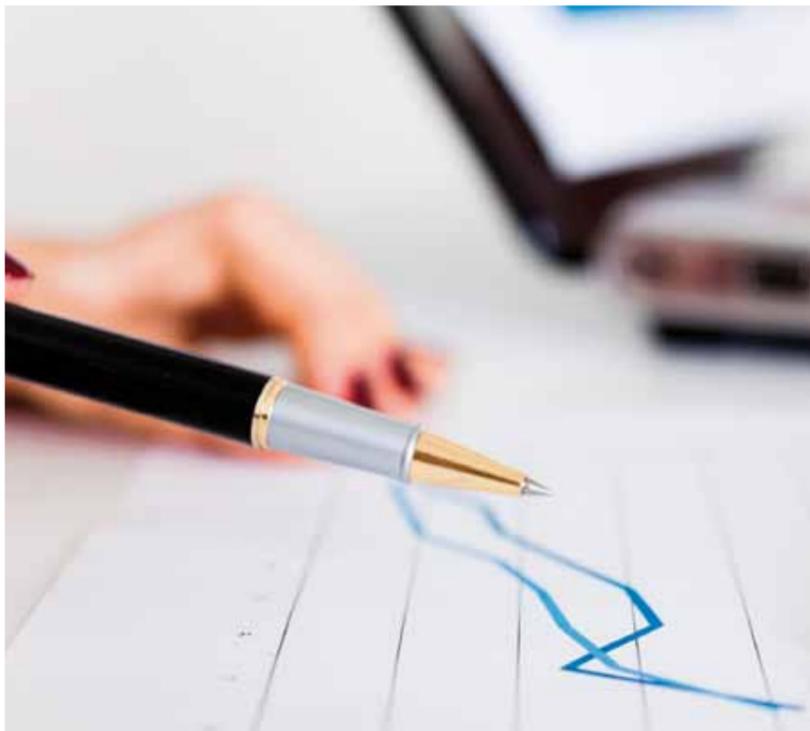
A search will (or would) always reply to the following question: how does the ROP ERDF support the research, development and innovation of SMEs? Does it collaborate with the other policies of the Region? Which is the result in terms of quantity and quality?

Already in 2009 a research carried out by the Department for development and economic cohesion of the Ministry of Economic Development pointed out – as written on the evaluation report – that Friuli Venezia Giulia Region was the Italian Region that in terms of percentage concerning the total program resources has allocated more re-

What does evaluation mean?

With the aim of meeting the provisions of Art. 48 of the EC Regulation 1083/2006 to support the implementation process of the Regional Operational Programmes financed by the Structural Funds, the Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia, during the starting phase, implemented a Program Evaluation Unit which includes the Evaluation Plan of the Regional Operational Programme 2007-2013 ERDF - Regional Competitiveness Objective and Employment. There are different analysis: a strategic analysis in order to examine the evolution of a Programme or of a group of Programmes concerning the EU and national priorities and also an operational analysis in order to support the monitoring of an operational program. In this way there's an external opinion on the programme that can rectify soon the wrong dynamics.

sources in favour of the research (28%). After four years, the data of Axis 1 are excellent: it is the preferential line for innovation, research, technology transfer and entrepreneurship. As for the results there is a "system" among the various policies (ROP ERDF and other regional



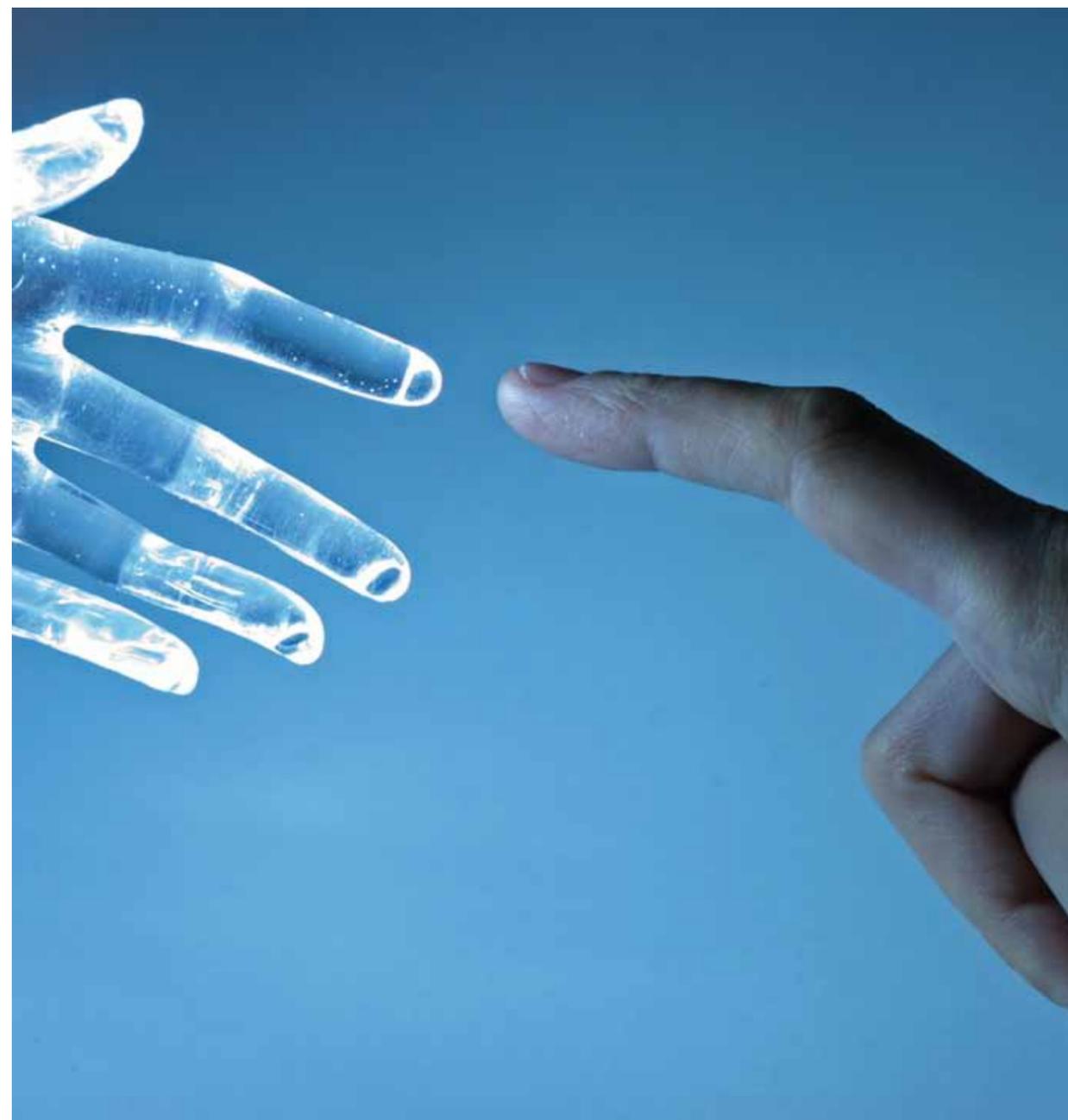
policy tools) that may arise from the old Regional Strategic Plan of the years 2005 – 2008, that is during the period of the first phase of the POR FESR 2007-2013.

Not missing a project (or proposal): it's necessary a document for the territory. A "prospects document" i.e. a strategic program policies concerning the development of research and innovation. The new plan 2014 - 2020 (to quote the report) states upstream a develop-

ment of the strategic approach interventions and, also, a sectorial approach.

There are other reasons not cited by the report but that are known. One of these is how the economy really evaluates "technology" (and therefore also the research, development and innovation) as factors of the analysis and measurement for the economic performance.

Read the full report:
www.regione.fvg.it/rafvfg/cms/RAFVG/fondi-europeifvg-international/por-fesr/
 Evaluation:
Thematic evaluation no. 1: "Incentivazione e supporto attività di RSI delle PMI"
 - First report



PISUS projects, not only urban redevelopment

Over 18 million euro for the Integrated Plans for Sustainable Development

Among the initiatives of the ROP ERDF 2007-2013 "Regional competitiveness and employment" aimed at implementing the strategy of local territorial development and resolution of specific economic, environmental and social issues, the PISUS projects (Integrated Plans for Sustainable Urban Development - Axis IV, activities 4.1.a) play an important role especially for the amount of resources allocated.

The PISUS projects allow you to design, through a governance action promoted by a Municipality and with the involvement of various companies (public or private), initiatives for urban redevelopment and infrastructures and also initiatives to encourage the establishment and maintenance of SMEs for the craft, trade, tourism fields and services to individuals and businesses.

There is therefore a project designed to meet a specific and single economic or technical need. The call entitled "Support to the implementation of integrated plans for sustainable urban development" developed by the Friuli Venezia

Giulia Region makes available a budget of over 18 million euro (of which 4.9 million euro of EU funds, 10, 5 million euro of the national share and almost 3 million euro and a half at the expense of the Region). The minimum amount for each con-

tribution that can be allocated for every single PISUS project is equal to 3 million euro, while the maximum is 6 million euro. The main aim of PISUS is increasing the attractiveness and development of the urban area, through the efficient use of its



resources and the recovery of its excellent functions. In accordance with the provisions of the European program, the PISUS must include three categories of interventions: urban redevelopment and infrastructure, urban regeneration; SMEs settlement and maintenance of the craft, trade, tourism fields and services to individuals and businesses and orientation to the synergistic enhancement of the territory and to the socio-economic regeneration of difficult areas. All this through an integration between heteroge-

neous activities and actions. This approach allows to overcome the difficult situation concerning the environmental and socio-economic fields. It allows also to raise the visibility to urban areas, increasing the services and the useful activities to the local economy, with a special focus on the environment.

The PISUS projects will be implemented in the areas of the region identified in relation to specific economic, environmental and social issues, although the interven-

Do the PISUS projects turn into Cohesion Action Plan?

PISUS projects turn into Cohesion Action Plan (CAP). The CAP, through the agreements between Region, Central Government and European Commission, allows to enhance the effectiveness of some of the structural fund interventions on issues of strategic interest.

It is a transfer of funds to a kind of parallel line of national funding (with different percentages of co-financing) that allows to preserve the added value of an integrated approach such as that of the PISUS projects.

tions can also be realized in the cities which are adjacent to the main towns and urban centers as long as useful to the development of these areas.

For any further information:
 Pac (1) on FVG Objective Europe no. November 13, 2012.
 Pac (2) of FVG Objective Europe no. February 14, 2013.

The support of ERDF for the tourism website of FVG Region

The tourism proposals made in FVG are on Internet. Innovative and technology proposals originate from the "Regional Tourist Information System" project (Axis 3, Activity 3.2.b, Development of advanced computer services for the tourism system, line of action 1) funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

Through a combination of efforts and intents between the government and tour operators, which are at the same time actors and beneficiaries of the initiative, it was possible to achieve an integrated computer system with the aim at encouraging the increase of tourist flows by promoting the quality and amount of information.

Thanks to this initiative, promoted by the Regional government through TurismoFVG (Tourism Board of Friuli Venezia Giulia), the Region is one of the first regions that have adhered to this system for the PA. The project has allowed the creation of an interactive portal which, through a simple and straightforward platform CMS (*Content Management System*) to use, develops step by step through functions allowing the Entity to be present on the territory constantly, monitoring all the activities and information of interest to transfer and convey, updating the portal with respect to the proposed tourism offers.

Through an impressive and ever-changing graphic, the image of the Region raised its visibility through photographs that take into account the distinguishing features of the places, thus promoting their diversity. Clicking on the site www.turismofvg.it the virtual visitor is encouraged to turn from a passive to an

"active tourist." The editorial staff present on the territory allows beneficiaries (Institutions, municipalities, accommodation facilities) to

have their own data space where inserting autonomously photos, news, tourism initiatives related to their structure. This allows a real-time

Turismo FVG: the clicks of the portal

Data that are recorded on the new portal Turismo FVG are very interesting. In 2012 (from 01 January to 31 December) the website has registered 2 million 155 thousand 928 visitors of which about one million and a half have been unique visitors. The page views have been 7 million 835 thousand 643 and more than 8,000 have been the requests for information on the accommodation facilities. They are considered to be important data if compared to those recorded in the first quarter of 2013. The visits from January to 31 March are nearly a million (996,901 of which 535,960 are unique visitors) and the page views are about three million (2,868,909) and are over a thousand the requests for information on the accommodation facilities.

The main source of traffic is the organic search on Google. The most visited sections of the website (excluding the homepage) are those relating to events (www.turismofvg.it/Eventi) and those concerning the accommodation (www.turismofvg.it/Booking/NuovaRicerca). Trieste has been the city's most written on the search engine, followed by Udine and by the seaside resorts of Lignano Sabbiadoro and Grado.



A view of Trieste

communication of the offer. Always in Internet, it's possible to book and buy the accommodation facilities.

In favour of a "no paper" system which aims at reducing time and costs of the bureaucracy, online desks allow to simplify the administrative procedures quickly and efficiency, in total safety. The development and strengthening of the social interface allow the potential tourist to be up to date on the latest news and to communicate directly with the accommodation facilities they are interested in. Among other planned lines of action, there are the creation of public internet systems to facilitate user to access to the offer (infopoint) and the implementation of innovative tools within the regional tourism system such as wireless access and links to local tourist maps.



Castle of Miramare – promontory of Grignano, Trieste

The ROP ERDF dictionary

The dictionary ERDF expands with content related to the European Institutions.

AGREEMENT PARTNERSHIP: the document drawn up by the European Commission, which regulates the use of the European Funds for the 2014-2020 Cohesion and its national co-financing. According to the Proposal for a Regulation on European Funds of the Common Strategic Framework (CSF), Partnership Contract means: "the document prepared by a Member State with the participation of the partners according to the multi-level governance system which sets the strategy and priorities of the Member State and also the procedures for an effective and

efficient use of CSF Funds to pursue the Union strategy for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and approved by the Commission following the assessment and dialogue with the Member State."

DECISION: the decision is the individual act (it defines the the beneficiaries individually) and it's also a mandatory act (it must be followed in each part) with which the European Institutions take measures on a specific issue.

DIRECTIVE: it is a legislative act which requires the Member States of the European Union to achieve a particular result without dictating the means of achieving that result.

It is addressed to one Member State or more Member States or even all Member States.

ACTIVATION PROCESS: is the set of acts and documents drawn up by the management structures in order to identify both the beneficiaries and the operations to be performed with the available financial resources.

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES: they are documents drawn up by the Managing Authority and adopted by the European Commission. They include a description of the pursuing strategy and the axes of intervention, a description of the measures and a financial plan.

The importance of water

Blueprint: a plan to protect the waters for the future of Europe

In recent years, the sustainability debate has been focused on the field of water resources. The "bad quality" of the waters of the European Union and the scarcity of resources that characterizes the

subject of frequent discussion. On the subject of green economy, the EU environment commissioner Janez Potočnik has promoted Blueprint, a plan to Safeguard Europe's Water Resources, whose goal is

to make available to the Member States sufficient good quality water and prevent environmental disasters, through the creation of target action plans.

This program plays an important role, considering the pollution of the aquifers, the water extraction for the agricultural and energy production, from use of the soil to the effects of climate change, all of which require measures to protect water resources and to improve the efficiency of their exploitation.

In order to get a good water status by 2015, the Plan proposes a strategic approach based on three cornerstones: improving the implementation of EU water policy by exploiting all the opportunities within the framework of the existing legislation; integrating the objectives of water policy in other related sectors (agriculture, fisheries, renewable energy, etc.); filling the gaps, particularly with regard to the tools needed to increase water efficiency.

The goal of the Plan is not providing a universal recipe to solve the problem, but it aims at offering a variety of solutions and tools that allow the Member States a better water management at national, regional or at river basin level. Although binding to the Europe 2020 Strategy, Blueprint will guide the water policy of the European Union until 2050.



Member States affected by recurring flooding phenomena and environmental disasters, have become

to make available to the Member States sufficient good quality water and prevent environmental disasters

Flagship initiatives

They are the actions that will allow the EU and its Member States to achieve the objectives of a "smart, sustainable and inclusive" under the Europe 2020 strategy. The initiatives are 7:

- to promote innovation;
- strengthen the performance of education systems and to facilitate the entry of young people into the labor market;
- the birth of a digital single market;
- to promote energy efficiency;
- a new industrial policy;
- to modernize the labor markets;
- an European platform against poverty.

Horizon 2020: a support for innovation and research

Horizon 2020 is the name of the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, which will start on 1 January 2014 and will go on until 2020. Its aim is to bring together, in a single framework and with a single set of rules, all the EU funding for research and innovation. The program is supported by the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and by the Committee for the European Research Area and it provides a total budget of around 80 billion Euro.

The objectives

This program is under the Europe 2020 Strategy, that among the seven flagship initiatives, the Innovation Union has the impulse to promote a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, with the aim of turning Europe into a "science performer", removing obstacles to innovation and changing how the public and private sectors interact. Investments in research and innovation enable Europe to become more competitive at the global level since through the processes which link together science and technology there's an increase in the standard of living and in the creation of new jobs, in raising the needed wealth to face the pressing challenges of society.

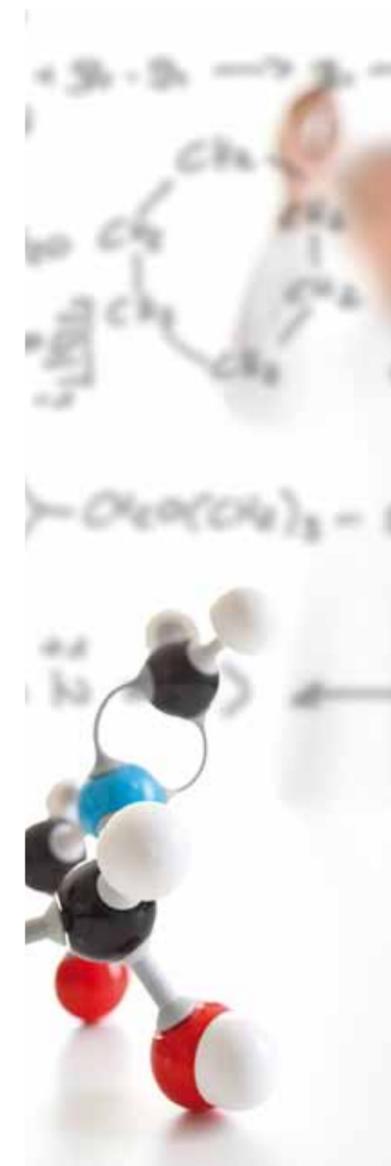
In this context, the effort of Horizon 2020 will be two-fold: to allow, on the one hand, a more stable financial and economic system in the short term and, secondly, to take the necessary measures to create economic opportunities for the future.

Support innovation and research

The program aims at supporting the most talented and creative individu-

als as well as their team to carry out high quality research, by providing excellent opportunities for training and career development.

A crucial point of this program is to



support the collaborative research to open new and promising fields of study and to provide Europe with significant research infrastructures

available in Europe and in the world. By supporting the best ideas, developing talent, providing researchers with access to priority research infrastructure, Horizon 2020 raises the bar of excellence, it ensures a steady stream of research, it makes the States attractive places for world's most promising brains and it guarantees, likewise, the long-term competitiveness of Europe.

Among the most crucial objectives of Horizon 2020 is also to fill the gap between research and the market, allowing businesses to turn their innovations into products potentially marketable.

The instruments of Horizon 2020

The useful resources to strengthen the EU's position in the field of science amount to 24.598 million euro. In order to encourage the high-level research in Europe is expected an increase in funding of 77%. To strengthen the industrial leadership in innovation will be allocated 17,938 million euro.

31,748 million euro will be allocated in order to face important issues such as climate change, the development of transport and mobility, easier access to renewable energy, food safety and public safety, the progressively ageing population. Through partnerships between the European Institutions, national and regional Authorities and the enterprises, it will be possible to gather the necessary resources to achieve the planned purposes. Furthermore, the International cooperation will also be an important objective of the Horizon 2020 program that will include further measures, designed to break down barriers in order to create a single market for knowledge, research and innovation.

Thanks to the natural gas the maritime transport is changing

It is the sustainable and economic proposal, made by NG Ship project, co-financed by ROP ERDF

An industrial research project for the installation of a liquefied natural gas system on cargo ships, co-financed by the European Regional Operational Programme Regional Development 2007-2013 Friuli Venezia Giulia, Regional competitiveness and employment Objective developed and ended in 2012.

NG ShiP, Natural Gas for Ship Propulsion, developed through an industrial research for the use of liquefied natural gas (LNG). It highlighted the critical issues and the

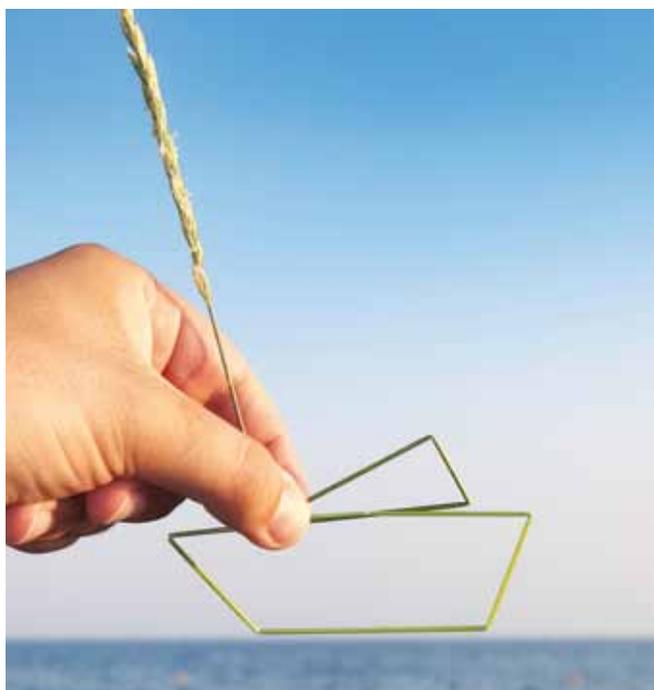
benefits of LNG. The various aspects originated during the experimental development relate mainly to environmental sustainability and to the reducing the cost for supplies with conventional fuels.

The results in terms of environmental sustainability concerning the reduction of emissions (as well as the management costs) are interesting. 25% less CO2 emissions, 85% less emissions of nitrogen oxides and soot, the possibility for the ships to move freely in ECA (Emission Controlled Area) areas.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted in 2008 stringent standard concerning emissions from ships' engines. These standard are included in the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. The ships operating in "emission controlled areas" shall be within the parameters of progressive reduction of emissions (2015 - 2020). At present these areas include the Baltic Sea and the U.S.A. coasts with a possible extension to the Mediterranean Sea, to Oceania and to some of the most important harbours in Asia such as Singapore.

Furthermore, the project included a census, updated to 2012, of all existing LNG supply installations and planned in Europe identifying, on the most busiest shipping routes, further potential location for a potential dissemination of this type of installation.

The partners of the project together with the companies (including the leading one) are the Universities of Trieste and Udine, the Consortium for the Scientific and Technology Research AREA of Trieste and RINAVE (the Consortium for Advanced Naval Research).



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