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# *How do EU-15 Member States Benefit from the Cohesion Policy in the V4?*

**Prepared within the *Ex post evaluation and forecast of benefits to EU-15 countries as a result of Cohesion Policy implementation in V4 countries,* commissioned by Polish Ministry of Economic Development**

## country profile: France

imapp

ibs

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# 1 Introduction

Results presented in this material are based on the final report from *Ex post evaluation and forecast of benefits to EU-15 countries as a result of Cohesion Policy implementation in the V4*, a study conducted by imapp and the Institute for Structural Research between September 2015 and May 2016. The evaluation was commissioned by the Polish Ministry of Economic Development and completed in cooperation with the Czech Ministry of Regional Development, the Hungarian Prime Minister's Office and Government Office of the Slovak Republic.

# 2 Impact of Cohesion Policy on economies of the V4

According to the macroeconomic simulation applied in this evaluation, by the end of effective spending under the 2007-2013 programming period (i.e. in 2015), the GDP of the V4 was higher by ca. 6% than it would have been under the no-support from structural funds and the Cohesion Fund scenario. Two sets of mechanisms underpinned this scale of impact. Firstly, the V4 business environment was invigorated by the growth in aggregate demand induced by the implementation of projects co-financed by EU funds, e.g. in demand for building services or machinery and equipment procurements. Secondly, higher GDP was also driven by supply-side mechanisms, i.e. gradual increase in production capacity of the economy thanks to the impact of implemented projects.

**Figure 1. Impact of the Cohesion Policy on GDP in the V4 (percentage deviation from the baseline [no-EU-funds] scenario)**

*Source: Own elaboration.*

Numerous evaluations also confirm tangible impacts of the Cohesion Policy in areas such as improved innovation, positive labour market developments, higher transport accessibility, improved environmental protection and enhanced energy efficiency. Despite many challenges, taken on for a reason, it is clear that EU-funded programmes in V4 countries have achieved most of their objectives. Nevertheless, that the unprecedented scale of growth-related investments in V4 countries would not have been possible without the contribution from structural funds and the Cohesion Fund made up largely of payments by the EU-15 into the EU budget. However, the spending is offset by economic benefits and other positive externalities, which make the Cohesion Policy in its current form beneficial both to beneficiaries of the support as well as to the member states which co-finance the interventions, notably France.

# 3 Benefits to France

The total values of economic benefits to France resulting from the implementation of the Cohesion Policy in V4 during the 2007-2013 financial perspective can be broken down into three major categories: indirect export benefits, direct export benefits and direct capital benefits.

| category of benefits | interpretation | value (EUR bn)[1] | % of benefits to the EU-15 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **indirect export benefits** | benefits resulting from increased exports to the V4 induced by the macroeconomic impact of Cohesion Policy interventions, less the direct involvement of French companies in the implementation of projects | EUR 4.8 bn | 6.3% |
| **direct export benefits** | benefits resulting from direct involvement as contractors/suppliers of French-based companies in projects funded under Cohesion Policy in V4 | EUR 1.0 bn | 8.7% |
| **direct capital benefits** | benefits resulting from direct involvement as contractors/suppliers of companies owned by French capital groups in in projects funded under Cohesion Policy in V4 | EUR 1.3 bn | 16.4% |
| **total economic benefits** | sum of indirect export benefits, direct export benefits and direct capital benefits | EUR 7.1 bn | 7.4% |

[1] All values are expressed in constant 2010 prices.

- In absolute terms, France enjoyed economic benefits resulting from the implementation of Cohesion Policy in the V4 at the level of EUR 7.1 billion during the 2007-2013 programming period.
- The structure of benefits to France is similar to the structure of benefits enjoyed by the entire EU-15, with Poland accounting for more than half of the economic benefits.
- France stands out in terms of its high share of direct capital benefits, i.e. benefits resulting from direct involvement of companies owned by French capital groups in the implementation of projects funded Cohesion Policy in V4 countries. However, even in the case of France, indirect export benefits dominate (over 60% of total benefits).

**Figure 1. Structure of economic benefits to France**

**division of benefits between V4 countries**

**division between categories of benefits**

*Source: Own elaboration*

Figure 2. Summary of benefits to France (2007-2013 programming period)

*Source: Own elaboration*

In absolute terms France is the fifth largest beneficiary among EU-15 economies. When the stream of benefits to France is related to contributions of this country to the overall financing of Cohesion Policy in the V4 during the 2007-2013 programming period, the ratio stands at 31%.[2]

Figure 3. Total economic benefits to France in relation to gross contribution to Cohesion Policy implementation in the V4 in 2007-2013 programming period

*Source: Own elaboration.*

[2] Calculated based on gross contributions of France to the EU-budget in 2007-2015.

**Figure 4. Total economic benefits to the EU-15 in relation to gross contribution to Cohesion Policy implementation in the V4 in 2007-2013 programming period (EUR bn,%)**

The EU-15 MS **contributed** ca. **EUR 120 billion** to the cohesion policy in V4.

The **total economic benefits to EU-15 MS** resulting from implementing cohesion policy in V4 amount to **EUR 96.6 billion**, which is approx. **80% of their contribution**.

*Percentages on the map: benefits to each EU-15 country as a % of its gross spending for the cohesion policy in V4 countries in 2007-2015.*

*Source: Own elaboration.*

Table 1. Summary of benefits to the EU-15 (2007-2013 programming period)

| | Czech Republic | Hungary | Poland | Slovakia | V4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| total benefits | 20 906.27 | 16 170.14 | 51 088.55 | 8 406.79 | **96 571.75** |
| indirect export benefits | 17 356.97 | 13 420.73 | 38 622.85 | 7 478.01 | **76 878.57** |
| direct export benefits | 1 822.82 | 2 103.62 | 7 501.33 | 228.85 | **11 656.62** |
| direct capital benefits | 1 726.48 | 645.79 | 4 964.37 | 699.93 | **8 036.57** |
| total benefits | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | **100%** |
| indirect export benefits | 83% | 83% | 76% | 89% | **80%** |
| direct export benefits | 9% | 13% | 15% | 3% | **12%** |
| direct capital benefits | 8% | 4% | 10% | 8% | **8%** |
| total benefits by EU-15 (EUR mn) | | | | | |
| **AT** | 2 423.89 | 3 285.77 | 3 127.42 | 1 402.30 | **10 239.38** |
| **BE** | 696.76 | 1 015.88 | 2 457.68 | 568.70 | **4 739.03** |
| **DE** | 10 236.23 | 6 147.17 | 20 680.97 | 3 174.38 | **40 238.75** |
| **DK** | 147.30 | 308.50 | 1 331.46 | 73.72 | **1 860.98** |
| **EL** | 59.57 | 34.68 | 285.88 | 22.40 | **402.54** |
| **ES** | 527.91 | 326.39 | 4 176.19 | 316.08 | **5 346.58** |
| **FI** | 77.14 | 74.16 | 527.87 | 28.40 | **707.57** |
| **FR** | 1 463.04 | 1 219.28 | 3 651.82 | 811.60 | **7 145.75** |
| **IE** | 234.11 | 307.87 | 638.51 | 34.35 | **1 214.84** |
| **IT** | 1 119.77 | 1 622.14 | 5 201.24 | 956.63 | **8 899.78** |
| **LU** | 83.29 | 49.03 | 164.56 | 62.79 | **359.67** |
| **NL** | 1 947.03 | 838.04 | 4 423.91 | 590.08 | **7 799.06** |
| **PT** | 105.65 | 68.87 | 234.36 | 16.15 | **425.02** |
| **SE** | 879.15 | 210.96 | 1 864.31 | 82.34 | **3 036.77** |
| **UK** | 905.43 | 661.40 | 2 322.36 | 266.85 | **4 156.05** |
| total benefits by EU-15 MS | | | | | |
| **AT** | 11.6% | 20.3% | 6.1% | 16.7% | **10.6%** |
| **BE** | 3.3% | 6.3% | 4.8% | 6.8% | **4.9%** |
| **DE** | 49.0% | 38.0% | 40.5% | 37.8% | **41.7%** |
| **DK** | 0.7% | 1.9% | 2.6% | 0.9% | **1.9%** |
| **EL** | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.6% | 0.3% | **0.4%** |
| **ES** | 2.5% | 2.0% | 8.2% | 3.8% | **5.5%** |
| **FI** | 0.4% | 0.5% | 1.0% | 0.3% | **0.7%** |
| **FR** | 7.0% | 7.5% | 7.1% | 9.7% | **7.4%** |
| **IE** | 1.1% | 1.9% | 1.2% | 0.4% | **1.3%** |
| **IT** | 5.4% | 10.0% | 10.2% | 11.4% | **9.2%** |
| **LU** | 0.4% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 0.7% | **0.4%** |
| **NL** | 9.3% | 5.2% | 8.7% | 7.0% | **8.1%** |
| **PT** | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.2% | **0.4%** |
| **SE** | 4.2% | 1.3% | 3.6% | 1.0% | **3.1%** |
| **UK** | 4.3% | 4.1% | 4.5% | 3.2% | **4.3%** |

*Source: Own elaboration*