

europa umbria 2007  
2013



UMBRIA



PORFESR

Regional Operational Programme  
European Regional Development Fund

**1. THE STRUCTURE OF THE ROP**

**2. FUNDING OF THE ROP**

**3. PRIORITY FOR INTERVENTION (AXIS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ROP)**

*Axis I - Innovation and economics of knowledge  
Description of the Activities*

*Axis II - Environment and risk prevention  
Description of the Activities*

*Axis III - Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources  
Description of the Activities*

*Axis IV - Accessibility and urban areas  
Description of the Activities*

*Axis V - Technical support service  
Description of the Activities*

**4. IMPLEMENTATION STATUS UP TO 31/12/2013**



Regional Operational Programme  
European Regional Development Fund





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# POr-Fesr

The 2007-2013 Regional Operational Programme (ROP) for Umbria is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and concerns the aim of the 2007-2013 community programming cycle for "regional competitiveness and job occupation" (RCO).

The 2007-2013 Regional Operational Programme ERDF has a global aim to increase the competitiveness of the "Umbrian System" by raising the potential and capacity for innovation of the manufacturing system, by improving the protection and development of its environmental and cultural resources and by promoting a greater cohesion in the area.

The Programme, financed by community funds (ERDF) and national funds (Rotation Fund formerly Law 183/87), plans to carry out social and economic interventions to reinforce the competitiveness of the regional system. It plans, therefore, on a total, overall funding (consisting of ERDF

resources and the relevant national co-funding) of approximately 348 million Euro. It fits into a wider picture of a homogenous policy consisting of:

- *on a regional level, the development Charter (second phase as regards the 2005-2010 legislation) that defines the action framework to be carried out to develop the region of Umbria using not only the community and national resources allocated to the region, but also the regional resources available;*
- *on a national level, the national strategic Framework of reference for 2007-2013, a political document that defines the lines of action to develop with reference to the whole of Italy by means of community structural funds (ERDF), the relevant national resources for co-funding (Rotation Fund formerly Law 183/87) and the national Fund for Underutilised Areas (FAS).*







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structure

## THE STRUCTURE OF THE ROP

The global objective of the ROP is divided into five specific objectives, corresponding to the five priority Axes making up the programme, i.e.:

The activity, therefore, represents the minimum unit implementation of the ROP strategy. The table below shows the corresponding specific objective, the

Axis I	Innovation and economics of knowledge
Axis II	Environment and risk prevention
Axis III	Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources
Axis IV	Accessibility and urban areas
Axis V	Technical support service

Each specific objective or Axis has one or more operational objectives, carried out by means of one or more activities.

relevant operational objectives and the pertinent activities for each priority Axis in the Programme.

TOP PRIORITY AXES		SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Axis I	Innovation and economics of knowledge	To promote and consolidate the processes of innovation and TR&D in order to qualify and reinforce the competitiveness of the manufacturing system	To reinforce the regional capacity in TR&D and innovation	Support of industrial research and experimental development for the manufacturing system
				Company projects of innovative investments
				Support of the creation of new enterprises in highly innovative technological sectors
				Support to the enterprises for eco-friendly innovation
			To promote access to the ICTs	Support to the diffusion of the ICTs in the SMEs
				Infrastructures and services for an Information Society
			To support the acquisition of expertise and instruments to encourage the inclusion of TR&D and innovation into the enterprises, especially the SMEs	Activities to stimulate and accompany innovation
				Financial services for SMEs



TOP PRIORITY AXES		SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Axis II	Environment and risk prevention	To protect, preserve and develop the environment and its resources to promote sustainable development of the regional system	Support the elaboration of plans and measures to prevent and manage natural and technological risks, to guarantee and develop the quality of the environment in the area and investments to salvage the physical environment	Plans and interventions to prevent natural risks
				Plans and interventions to prevent technological risks
				Salvage and re-conversion of run-down sites
			Promotion, protection and development of the environmental and cultural resources	Promotion of environmental interventions to develop the network of Nature 2000 sites
Protection, development and promotion of the environmental and cultural heritage				

TOP PRIORITY AXES		SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Axis III	Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources	To promote energy efficiency and the production of energy from renewable, clean resources	To promote and support the production of energy from renewable sources	Activities to introduce technologies of energy production from renewable sources
				Support for research activities to develop innovative systems and technologies for energy production from renewable sources and for their production on an industrial scale
				Support for the production of energy from renewable sources
			To promote and support energy efficiency	Activities to introduce measures to save energy
				Support for research activities and the creation of more energy efficient systems
				Support for the introduction of measures and investments for energy efficiency

TOP PRIORITY AXES		SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Axis IV	Accessibility and urban areas	To promote a greater cohesion and quality of urban life within the territory in order to increase the competitiveness and the attractiveness of the area and the towns	To complete the infrastructures for secondary transport	Infrastructures for secondary transport
			To develop urban areas	Upgrading and regeneration of urban areas
			To promote sustainable mobility	Clean, sustainable public transport

TOP PRIORITY AXES		SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES	ACTIVITIES
Axis V	Technical support service	To develop an activity to assist regional technical and administrative structures in order to guarantee an improvement in the levels of efficiency in the process of programming and implementation of the Programme and the initiatives linked with it	To facilitate the processes implementing the operational Programme and to widen fundamental knowledge in order to manage and develop the activities in the Programme and the initiatives linked with it	Technical support service
				Evaluation
				Monitoring
				Control
				Information and advertising
				Studies and research

The programme presents 28 activities representing the interventions that will be carried out from 2007 to 2013.



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# resources

## THE FINANCIAL ALLOCATION FOR THE ROP

In order to accomplish the aforementioned objectives for development, the ROP has funding for 348 million Euro, of which 150 million Euro are resources from ERDF and 198 million Euros are from national co-funding. These resources were shared amongst the five Axes of the Programme as shown in the following table. A considerable part of these resources (46%) was allotted to Axis I - Innovation and economics of knowledge, in an attempt to influence the

area and the quality of life, by protecting and developing the natural and cultural resources present in the region; Axis III - Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources (15%) in order to improve the energy system in the region, by promoting energy efficiency and fully developing its potential in terms of production and consumption of energy from renewable sources; Axis IV - Accessibility and urban areas (21%) with the aim of strengthening the regional system of

**Table 2 – Funding for the ROP ERDF 2007-2013**

Axes		Financial burden Axes	Community contribution ERDF	National contribution	Total financing
		%	a	b	c=(a+b)
I.	Innovation and economics of knowledge (****)	46	68.988.909	91.144.493	160.133.402
II.	Environment and risk prevention	15	22.496.383	29.721.030	52.217.413
III.	Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources	15	22.496.383	29.721.030	52.217.413
IV.	Accessibility and urban areas	21	31.494.937	41.609.442	73.104.379
V.	Technical support service	3	4.499.278	5.944.207	10.443.485
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>149.975.890</b>	<b>198.140.202</b>	<b>348.116.092</b>

levels of competitiveness of the regional manufacturing system by triggering virtual circuits based on the implementation of innovative processes. The remaining resources were divided between: Axis II - Environment and risk prevention (15%) in an attempt to influence the attractiveness of the

mobility and the attractiveness of the urban system with special reference to the larger town centres; and finally Axis V - Technical support service (3%) in order to improve the efficiency of the process of programming and implementing the Programme and the initiatives linked to it.



# PRIORITIES

## Axis I Innovation and economics of knowledge

The Axis “Innovation and economics of knowledge” represents the top priority on which the strategy of intervention of the 2007-1013 ROP FESR is mainly concentrated. The activities planned by the Axis aim to spread the “culture of innovation” within the regional manufacturing system, so that its competitiveness will increase on both a national and international level. It aims, therefore, to overcome the difficulties of “innovating” found by the regional manufacturing system.

In this context, special attention is paid to the conditions and assumptions not only for a more efficient evaluation of the results of the research carried out by academics, but also for a greater use of the potential of human capital already present in the region.

The promotion of processes of innovation and TR&D for manufacturing purposes takes place by: creating and strengthening the links between the manufacturing system and the research sector; creating and strengthening the technological poles and networks between the enterprises; supporting investments for eco-friendly innovation and the introduction of manufacturing technologies with a low environmental impact; supporting the diffusion of the use of ICTs by SMEs; creating new “innovative” enterprises; allocating services to the enterprises (promotion, advice, financial services).

Behind the strategy of intervention of the Axis lie both specific objectives and operational objectives, for which the activities which guarantee its implementation are listed.

## Description of the Activities

### Support for industrial research and experimental development for the manufacturing system

The activity supports projects of industrial research for manufacturing purposes (feasibility studies, planned research or critical investigations that aim to acquire new knowledge to fine-tune new products, processes and services or improve existing products considerably), as well as initiatives for experimental and pre-competitive development (acquisition, combination, structuring and use of existing organisational, scientific, technological and commercial knowledge and skills with the aim of producing plans, projects or designs for new, modified or improved projects, processes and services) to be developed as partnerships between groups of enterprises and centres of competence and production of knowledge and within networks of enterprises or single enterprises. The infrastructures (research equipment) and laboratories will be developed within the joint research programmes between companies or companies and research centres and the creation and/or development of technological poles.

This activity proposes, therefore, to support not only collaboration, networks and partnerships, both public and private in a logical cluster, but also initiatives by single companies whose aims are technological R&D that will be able to produce lasting effects on the manufacturing system.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs, large companies<sup>1</sup>, centres of competence and production of knowledge

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 34.811.608,00

**Relevant service:** Policies to support the enterprises

### Company projects for innovative investment

The activity aims to support company projects of SMEs for innovative investments, with special attention to those aiming to introduce innovative products and processes. Such projects will have to concentrate on incorporating the results of the activity of experimental development (to the support of industrial research and to the experimental development for the manufacturing system), encourage enterprises to join the cluster or chain and schedule plans for company re-organisation. This activity is for all SMEs and aims to carry out projects with a high level of innovation which will imply the raising of the quality of manufacturing and organisational processes; moreover, it will be possible to fund the large enterprise if it is part of a partnership with groups of SMEs.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs and the large enterprise working in association with SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 45.255.091,00

**Relevant service:** Policies to support the enterprises

## Axis I – Innovation and economics of knowledge

### Support for the creation of new enterprises in sectors with a high level of technological innovation

The activity supports the creation of new, highly innovative, entrepreneurial initiatives together with the creation of networks among enterprises and between the latter and the research sector, so that in this way they will be able to develop synergies and collaboration to increase the potential in Umbria. The new entrepreneurial initiatives will be developed particularly via spin-off from research, technological spin-off and start-ups.

The aim of the activity is to create new entrepreneurship in sectors with a high level of technology, starting with: Universities, centres of competence and production of knowledge, enterprises.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 17,405,806.00

**Relevant service:** Policies to support the enterprises

### Support for enterprises for eco-friendly innovation

The activity aims to support investments for eco-friendly innovation and for the adoption of instruments of environmental management. It aims for enterprises operating within the region to introduce manufacturing technology with a low environmental impact and processes that respect the components of the environment: air, water, earth.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs and large enterprises working in association with SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public announcement of competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 10,443,484.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

### Support for the diffusion of ICTs by the SMEs

The activity supports the introduction and use of ICTs by the SMEs. This activity will be closely developed in conjunction with activity b2 *Infrastructures and services of the Information Society (IS)*, so as to support the adoption of ICTs by SMEs and the effective use of instruments of the Information Society which will supply SMEs with telematic services and applications.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 6,962,323.00

**Relevant service:** Innovative services to enterprises and diffusion of innovation

### Infrastructures and services of the Information Society (IS)

The activity supports the strengthening of infrastructures (broadband, wireless systems, etc.) of the Information Society in the areas of regional, economic interest, in order to encourage access by SMES to ICTs that will increase the efficiency and competitiveness of the enterprise system. The structure of the broadband cable system is being developed in suburban and marginal urban areas with special attention to reaching a mass of micro and small enterprises, and in order to activate the investments needed for logical economic sustainability; these interventions will be carried out according to the "principle of technological neutrality" in compliance with the norms on competition, aid and those on electronic communication in areas where a marked "market failure" has been identified. The interventions concerning the suburban and marginal urban areas will, therefore, follow the aforementioned principle of "market failure." Access to the network will not only provide an answer to the needs of SMEs, but it will also be able to produce positive effects on closing the gap between potential users and clients of the regional manufacturing system and will serve the areas hit by phenomena of marginalisation, in which the market cannot guarantee sufficient services, in other words it will serve the areas with difficult telematic access as a result of the Umbrian forms of settlements, which consists mainly of small villages with a widely dispersed population throughout the region.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Plan

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 13,924,642.00

**Relevant service:** Development of the territory and protection of the landscape, information technologies

## Axis I – Innovation and economics of knowledge

### Activities to stimulate and accompany innovation

The activity will support the promotion and acquisition of advisory, information, support and solicitation services (technological mediation) for innovation by single enterprises or groups of enterprises (SMEs) which aim to identify the needs for innovation of the latter via activities that will encourage a matching supply and demand and will enable enterprises to be placed side by side to fine-tune innovative processes. These interventions should aim to consolidate contacts between the enterprises and introduce networking into company organisation.

**Beneficiaries:** Region of Umbria and SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 17,405,806.00

**Relevant service:** Innovative services for enterprises and diffusion of innovation

### Financial services for SMEs

The activity guarantees the necessary financial support for every form of enterprise projects. This support will be expressed by activating funds for investments in venture capital and indemnity funds. These services are for SMEs with special attention being paid to the needs of small and very small enterprises, which will be granted facilities to access credit and capital.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 13,924,642.00

**Relevant service:** Industrial policies and policies for credit for enterprises





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# PRIORITIES

## Axis II Environment and risk prevention

The Axis “Environment and risk prevention” is of fundamental importance in the programmed structure of the ROP ERDF.

The regional management, in fact, considers the environment a cardinal element in the economic development of the region. The interventions scheduled within the Axis aim to ensure a responsible management of environmental and cultural resources present in Umbria, thus improving the quality and attractiveness of the various areas. The Axis proposes, therefore, to protect and develop according to a logical sustainable economic development, the natural and cultural resources which the region possesses and will make its own contribution to the

consolidation of the “Umbrian system”.

The interventions of the Axis are based, on the one hand, on the prevention and management of natural and technological risks that will be carried out by implementing the systems of development and monitoring and the adoption of instruments of area environmental management; on the other hand, it will develop the natural, environmental and cultural heritage using a supply chain approach.

Behind the strategy of intervention of the Axis lie specific objectives and operational objectives for which the activities are listed that will guarantee they will be carried out.

## Description of the Activities

### Plans and interventions for the prevention of natural risks

The activity will draw up plans and monitoring systems and interventions for the prevention and management of natural risks (seismic and hydro-geological risks) with reference to the PAI (Plan for Hydro-geological Stability) to the Unstable Regional Towns identified with a decree by the State and the Region, to the areas most prone to seismic activity and to the Plans adopted for civil defence. Moreover, it promotes the adoption of techniques and procedures to guarantee interventions of environmental protection (interventions of environmental engineering and bio-engineering). The activity supports the elaboration of emergency plans for vulnerable urban areas (seismic and hydro-geological risks).

The plans and interventions for the prevention of natural risks will have to conform to the principles of community legislation concerning civil defence (prevention, preparation and rapid response) and will be limited to risk levels 3 and 4 of the approved (Plan for Hydro-geological Stability).

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Programme / Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 7,828,321.00

**Relevant service:** Promotion and co-ordination of community projects

### Plans and interventions for the prevention of technological risks and for the environmental management of the area

The activity has scheduled plans and systems of monitoring and interventions for the prevention and management of risks from manufacturing activities with a potentially high environmental impact (technological risks or pollution by the manufacturing system). These plans and interventions will comply with the regulations of the Seveso Directive II 96/82/EC and will exclusively concern public costs to carry out plans for civil defence. The activity will include, moreover, interventions to guarantee the diffusion of instruments of environmental management of the territory (EMAS and environmental accounting), and to integrate and complete the remainder of the activities in this Axis, in Axis III and Axis IV and also to connect with some of the instruments of environmental management within activity a4 *Support to enterprises for eco-friendly innovation in Axis I.*

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Programme / Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 6,096,322.00

**Relevant service:** Quality of the environment and waste management

## Axis II - Environment and risk prevention

### Salvage and re-conversion of run-down sites

The activity will support initiatives to salvage the physical environmental with special attention to the re-conversion and re-qualification of contaminated or abandoned public sites and lands, with reference to the regional reclamation Plan, as well as abandoned industrial sites according to the principle of "whoever pollutes, pays".

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Programme

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 6,962,322.00

**Relevant service:** Temporary Operational Unit for the inventory and reclamation of polluted sites and areas

### Promotion of environmental interventions for the development of the network of Nature 2000 sites

The activity supports the interventions in infrastructures and in investments not only for the economic development of the network of Nature 2000 sites with their management plans, but also of protected areas in order to contribute to sustainable, economic development and diversification of rural areas. As regards the development of environmental heritage, interventions can be supported to improve services of hospitality, accommodation and tangible and intangible access according to sustainable models.

Top priority will be given to highly fragmented areas in the territory. These activities are concerned with initiatives of economic development linked with the interventions scheduled for the following b2 activity, *Protection, development and promotion of the environmental and cultural heritage* and they encourage integration with the interventions in the 2007-2013 Plan for rural development.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies, their associated organisations and SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Plan

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 10,443,486.00

**Relevant service:** Promotion and development of naturalistic systems

### Protection, development and promotion of the environmental and cultural heritage

The activity promotes the development of sustainable tourism by funding the initiatives based on the creation and organisation of the tourist product and on the attractiveness of the areas. They aim to protect and develop the environmental, cultural, historic and architectural heritage that is to be developed within the integrated and supply chain projects. As regards the development of environmental heritage, support will be given to interventions that will improve the services of hospitality, accommodation and tangible and intangible access according to sustainable models.

The activity, together with the integrated project of the 2000-2006 community programmes, tends to complete and consolidate the programmes that have already been started to develop environmental and cultural resources. These activities will be carried out to link and co-ordinate those scheduled by other national and regional plans to protect the development of natural and cultural resources.

The integrated project will be used to stimulate and support a systematic project for public and private operators that will aim to improve the sustainable availability of natural and cultural resources by offering an enhanced synergy between structures and services based on four objectives:

- to increase the functional integration of the local capacity and resources able to enhance tourism and its products;
- to stimulate a greater connection between hospitality and tourism in general and the development of collective resources;
- to improve the interconnections that enhance the networks and services between the various systems in the area that make up regional tourism and its products;
- to organise the services of the system on a regional level that will ensure the competitiveness of the product based on strong specifications and the quality of the services rendered.

In order to carry out the programmed interventions for the aforementioned activity, use will be made of the plan for integrated project design carried out according to article 5.2f of the 1080/2006 Regulations, with the idea of developing eco-friendly tourism that will upgrade and increase eco-friendly flows of tourists.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies, their associated organisations and SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Plan / Competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 20,886,962.00

**Relevant service:** Cultural heritage



# PRIORITIES

## Axis III Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources

The interventions of the Axis aim to promote energy efficiency of the regional, manufacturing system in order to improve the environmental sustainability of the manufacturing processes and give rise to an efficient management of the available energy resources that enables the region to fully exploit their productive potential. The Axis proposes, therefore, to develop within the region a model of energy saving and energy production connected

to the use of renewable and above all clean energy sources, by means of setting up energy poles and also by supporting activities of promotion and research for this purpose.

Behind the intervention strategy of the Axis lie both specific and operational objectives, for which the activities are listed that will guarantee they are carried out.

## Description of the Activities

### Activities to promote the introduction of technologies to produce energy from renewable sources

The activity consists of initiatives to raise awareness, promote and inform about renewable energy sources and to turn attention to the various forms of incentive to promote their use. The activity will, therefore, develop actions to inform and to bring to the attention of institutions and the manufacturing system the private and social benefits of implementing processes of energy production using renewable sources (photovoltaic, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal and "locally produced" biomass energy, paying special attention to clean energy). It will, moreover, identify the manufacturing technology suitable for the specific needs of the organisation or enterprise and will guide the latter towards the corresponding forms of incentive. The aforementioned activity will be developed closely with b1 activity, *Activity for the promotion of the introduction of measures to save energy* in order to promote the integrated implementation of processes for the production of energy from renewable sources and energy saving.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Plan

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 1,740,581.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

### Support for research activities to develop innovative systems and technologies for the production of energy from renewable sources and for their production on an industrial level

The activity supports the development of industrial research projects to be developed within partnerships between groups of enterprises and centres of research and expertise or between single enterprises (SMEs, SME networks, large enterprises 2, groups of enterprises and centres of expertise and production of knowledge), with the aim to create highly innovative, illustrative systems and technologies for the production of energy from renewable sources (e.g. district heating using biomass, production of electricity from solar energy). At the same time, the activity funds the implementation of the results of the aforementioned research by SMEs and clusters of SMEs and large enterprises in order to physically create the systems and technologies that have been researched. Moreover, the infrastructures and laboratories in the joint research programmes between enterprises or between enterprises and research centres will be strengthened and poles of innovation will be created and/or developed. This activity will be closely developed alongside activity b2: *Support for the activities of industrial research and the creation of systems with greater energy efficiency* in order to promote the integrated implementation of processes to produce and save energy from renewable sources.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs, large enterprises<sup>3</sup>, centres of expertise and production of knowledge

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 8,702,903.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

## Axis III - Energy efficiency and development of renewable sources

### Support for the production of energy from renewable sources

In an attempt to diversify the supply of energy and reduce dependency on fossil sources, the activity supports investments in structures to produce energy from renewable sources. The benefits of the interventions will be felt by those institutions, enterprises and clusters of SMEs and large enterprises which introduce systems to produce energy from renewable and alternative sources (wind, solar, hydroelectric, geothermal and "locally produced" biomass energy) in order to start producing energy for self-consumption, for the power grid or for the market; that is the institutions and enterprises that wish to increase their energy production using these sources.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs and large enterprises in association with SMEs; Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 17,405,806.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

### Promotional activity to introduce energy saving measures

The activity is divided into promotional and informational initiatives for institutions and the manufacturing system not only about systems that encourage energy efficiency but also the various forms of incentives available in the country. The aforementioned activity will be developed closely with activity a1: *Activity for the promotion of the introduction of technologies to produce energy from renewable sources* in order to promote the integrated implementation of processes for the production and saving of energy from renewable sources.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 1,740,581.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

### Support for the activities to research and create systems with greater energy efficiency

The activity supports the development of industrial research projects to be developed within partnerships between groups of enterprises and centres of expertise and production of knowledge and within networks of enterprises or between single enterprises (SMEs, SME networks, large enterprises 4, groups of enterprises and centres of expertise and production of knowledge), with the aim to create systems and technologies to save energy for use by the manufacturing system and institutions. At the same time, the activity funds the creation of the energy saving systems that have been studied and researched. Moreover, the infrastructures and laboratories in the joint research programmes between enterprises or between enterprises and research centres will be strengthened and poles of innovation will be created and/or developed. This activity will be closely developed alongside activity a2 *Support for the activities of industrial research and the development of innovative systems and technologies to produce energy from renewable sources* in order to promote the integrated implementation of processes to produce and save energy from renewable sources.

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs and large enterprises<sup>5</sup>, centres of expertise and production of knowledge

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 5,221,740.00

**Relevant service:** Energy

### Support for the introduction of measures and investments towards energy efficiency

In order to increase the output and efficiency of the manufacturing system and of Public Administration, the activity supports the adoption and use by enterprises and institutions of technologies and systems that attempt to rationalise and increase the levels of energy saving and output (low consumption and high efficiency technologies, co-generation, three-way generation).

**Beneficiaries:** SMEs and large enterprises 5 in association with SMEs; Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 17,405,802.00

**Relevant service:** Energy



# PRIORITIES

## Axis IV Accessibility and urban areas

The Region proposes to use the Axis "Accessibility and urban areas" to increase its own internal cohesion with a view to focusing on external cohesion at a later date. By reinforcing internal connections via physical links with key points of economic interest and with infrastructures linking to the primary networks, the management is aiming to connect the region with the surrounding regions and with the rest of Europe.

The strategy of this Axis aims, on the one

hand, to strengthen the system of regional mobility, distinguished by its reduced accessibility and lack of infrastructures, and on the other hand to develop the larger urban areas as attractions in the region and to introduce sustainable, eco-friendly systems of both inner city and suburban transport.

Behind the strategy of intervention of the Axis lie both specific and operational objectives, for which the activities are listed that will guarantee they are carried out.

## Description of the Activities

### Infrastructures of secondary transport

The activity aims to strengthen the infrastructures of local transport (road and rail) that ensure that the urban areas are linked with the regional infrastructures of greater economic interest, including airports to connect the region with the outside, consistent with the regional transport Plan. For this purpose the activity will use the Integrated Plan for Urban Development and the Plan for integrated projects in the area.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Integrated Programme of Urban Development/ Integrated Area Programme

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 17,405,805.00

**Relevant service:** Infrastructures for mobility

### Requalification and regeneration of urban areas

The activity aims to regenerate and update the larger town centres by offering citizens and enterprises quality structures and services (services to support research, services to support enterprises), the support of social services and innovative economic activities that distinguish the urban areas, as well as interventions to exploit the physical environment (refurbishment of public spaces, street furniture, the preservation and development of the cultural, historical and architectural heritage). The relevant interventions will follow a regional scheme of integrated programming using the Integrated Plan of Urban Development together with the other activities in this Programme working on sectors of innovation, energy and the environment, in order to stimulate the creation of both public and private partnerships that will systemise the specific needs of the towns of Umbria.

For this purpose the activity will use the Integrated Plan for Urban Development.

The Integrated Plans for Urban Development will concentrate on no more than 5/6 of the larger urban areas some of which already have plans in progress for urban regeneration such as the "district contracts".

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies their associated organisations and SMEs

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Integrated Programme of Urban Development / Public competition

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 34,811,608.00

**Relevant service:** Housing and urban regeneration policy

## Axis IV - Accessibility and urban areas

### **Clean, sustainable, public transport**

The activity aims to adopt eco-friendly systems of public transport that are able to reduce atmospheric and acoustic pollution levels and it will pay special attention to systems of intelligent transport and alternative mobility. These transport systems will have to enable links to be made within the historic town centres as well as between the latter and other urban areas. For this purpose the activity will use the Integrated Plan for Urban Development and the Plan for integrated projects.

**Beneficiaries:** Public bodies and their associated organisations

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Integrated Programme of Urban Development / Integrated Area Programme

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 20,886,966.00

**Relevant service:** Infrastructures for mobility



Regional Operational Programme  
European Regional Development Fund



# PRIORITIES

## Axis V Technical support service

The Axis “Technical support service” aims to develop all those actions that will support the regional Authorities responsible for the management of the ROP ERDF which expand throughout the entire life cycle of the programme. The interventions of the Axis aim, therefore, to provide the Programme Management Authorities with help in creating and running the programme, in monitoring and evaluating its progress, in order to ensure the use of efficient procedures of management and control and to guarantee the development of any studies or communication and advertising

activities in compliance with what is set out in the Plan of Communication. The necessary resources to implement the Programme effectively and efficiently are made available to the Management Authorities by the Axis to enable them to keep to the timescale scheduled by community regulations for the use of Structural Funds and to guarantee the control, surveillance and evaluation of the Programme.

Behind the intervention strategy of the Axis lie both specific and operational objectives, for which the activities are listed that will guarantee they are carried out.

## Description of the Activities

### Technical support service

The activity aims to ensure the necessary support not only to prepare and carry out the programme, but also to implement the scheduled interventions which require specific expertise (surveillance committee, technical secretariat, preparation of documents, activities, evaluation commissions, preparation of award-winning criteria, construction of evaluation grids, integrated and supply chain projects, etc.). This support may be provided by qualified, external experts. The support activities may be developed with reference to the management Authorities and to the people in charge at various levels of the interventions of the programme.

The necessary hardware and software to develop the activities of technical support will be purchased.

### Assessment

The activity aims to assess ex-ante, and includes the Strategic Environmental Evaluation (VAS), the Assessment (SEA), the Evaluations of the ROP using studies based on topics of special interest to the Region and to the Surveillance Committee. This activity will fund not only the tasks developed by the Nucleus of evaluation set up within the regional structure using only temporary staff employed for evaluation activities of the ROP, but also those performed by external evaluators.

### Monitoring

The activity is based on the adoption and set-up of a special information system to manage, supervise and monitor the Programme. This system will enable information to be transferred to the national system (MEF-IGRUE) and to the community system (SFC2007). The internal system may be connected by a special communication protocol with a unique system of regional monitoring that will enable information to be processed from the various monitoring systems in use in regional programmes as established by community regional policies (POR ESF, RDP) together with the support of external experts. Environmental monitoring will also be supported to carry out the process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

### Control

The activity will guarantee the necessary support to perform activities of control with the help also of external experts.

## Axis V – Technical support service

### Information and advertising

Information and advertising activities are scheduled for the activities in the Programme to ensure they are carried out as intended by the Regulations of implementation 1828/2006, which will pay special attention to the circulation of information to potential beneficiaries and the general public.

The Region will follow the Plan of Communication to carry out the activity.

People from outside the Region with special expertise may be employed for this activity.

### Studies and research

The activity aims to carry out studies and research into activities connected with the process of programming and with the implementation and identification of good practices. It will also aim to prepare feasibility studies, analyses and studies for integrated and supply chain projects, and the processing of strategic urban plans.

Description of the Activities

External experts and specialised companies may be appointed to carry out this activity. The results of the research and studies will be circulated, published and presented at seminars and conferences. The management Authorities will regularly inform the Surveillance Committee about the activities scheduled for study and research.

For all the aforementioned activities in Axis V:

**Beneficiaries:** Region of Umbria

**Technical and administrative procedures to carry out the activity:** Regional Programme

**Financial allocation for the 2007-2013 activity (Euro):** 10,443,485.00

**Relevant service:** Community Programming service



Regional Operational Programme  
European Regional Development Fund

# TARGETS

## Implementation status up to 31/12/2013

The programmes put in place by the Umbria Region aimed to identify the tools and actions needed to reduce and mitigate the negative effects of the crisis on the area's economy and to find ways to relaunch the economic vitality of the Region.

Five main Axes were addressed with 23 activities, all of which were implemented through competitive bids, plans and specific programmes.

To the present day, the ROP - ERDF of Umbria is progressing with satisfactory overall results, both from a financial point of view and where the implementation of planned interventions and methods used for the granting of the funds to the beneficiaries is concerned, as well as with regards to the projects realised. Specifically, the Region

has sought to make the funds more easily accessible through an expansion of the measures and interventions to be funded based on open bids (simplification of access and realization procedures) and in certain cases using a ranking system of admissible projects which, however, were not previously financed due to limited resources.

Up to 31/12/2013, with €201,965,923 to report for to the Commission for the Year End Target, the level of ROP ERDF certifies the achievement of N+2 with expenses of €204.8 million, which corresponds to 60% of its available resources. In terms of its legally binding commitments, the amount increases to about 90% of the resources.

## TARGETS REACHED

Further data shows that 65 procedures were supported through calls/plans/programmes in December for a total of 362 million euro, much more than the amount available to the programme. 2,891 projects were approved for a total of 629.73 million euro. In terms of commitments and payments, Axis I had the best performance record.

**Axis I** - Innovation and the Economy of Knowledge - which in financial terms added up to about half of the appropriations provided by the programme (more than 160 million euro for a seven-year period with an average annual expenditure of 23 million euro) - was the best-performing Axis with the implementation of Competitiveness Packages which had been issued since the beginning of programming.

**Axis II** - Environment and Risk Prevention - the elaboration of the Regional Multi-Risk Prevention Plan, which addresses the prevention of natural (seismic and hydro-geological) and technological risks, is nearing completion. The Plan is almost finalised and will soon be operative. It should be noted that the activities surrounding the recovery and conversion of degraded sites have resulted in 19 interventions, instead of the twelve initially planned.

Furthermore, under Axis II, environmental and cultural improvement activities have been implemented via an integrated TAC2 bid entitled "Bid for the financing of interventions aimed at the promotion and sale of thematic

and regional products through the realization of integrated collective projects." This initiative calls for an investment of 43 million euro, 9 million of which to be funded by the ERDF. The activity, a continuance of the integrated planning made possible through 2000-2006 EC programmes, completes and consolidates ongoing programmes with actions aimed at enhancing environmental and cultural resources.

The ROP dedicates a top priority to the energy issue - Axis III - with a total funding of 52.2 million euro over the seven year period. This Axis features two types of interventions aimed at diversification in the field of renewable resources and savings through energy efficiency.

**Axis III** "Energy Efficiency and the Development of Renewable Resources" intervention is making up for the delays accumulated during the first phase, with the implementation of the interventions through published call notices.

**Axis IV** - Accessibility and Urban Areas - thanks to the 11 second generation Integrated Urban Plans (PUC2/PISU) the Umbria Region has attracted investments amounting to 27.3 million euro in the larger cities.

**Axis V** - Technical Assistance - played an important role in the implementation of the Programme and about 2/3 of the funding has been spent.



# CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, notwithstanding the acute economic/ financial crisis, there has been an overall positive advancement of the implementation process in various areas:

- full respect for EC regulations (procurement, rules governing funding, partnerships, etc...), as well as the organisation of a management and control monitoring system by the Authorities, have ensured efficient, effective management and implementation of the ROP;
- the achievement of the objectives in terms of the goals set for the chosen indicators is to be verified over the coming years (2013 – 2015); especially the core indicators chosen by the EC; the Commission has recently given a great deal of importance to the valorisation of these indicators – which shows in real time the improvements made by the Regions – and makes use of them to change and improve their strategies;
- the exceeding of the goals set by the EU and the Central Administration in terms of the progress of invoicing;
- the realisation of project quality was proven by the high payment/request ratio for funding that exceeded both the eligibility phase of the operation and the proposability of the funding;
- the concentration of spending in the earmarked intervention category was in keeping with the goals set by Europe 2020. That same approach will be continued during the next programming period 2014-2020.

From an analysis of the most representative results, we can infer that the funding granted for Research and Development projects has encouraged investments far exceeding expectations, a clear sign of the appreciation

of the projects themselves. It is also clear that the types of projects made available to the Umbrian business community has supported a very real and increasingly important collaboration between companies and both public and private research institutions. This trend has allowed not only the valorisation of the more active sectors in our region, but also to raise the quality of research and development projects to give Umbrian businesses, over the short and medium term, an even more significant competitive edge.

Moreover, the use of the integrated approach has been highly successful both in terms of the qualification of the Administration's management of procedures, but also with regards to the results obtained by the interventions implemented.

With the Integrated Urban Plan (PUC2) – originally entitled “Integrated Urban Development Plan” – public works and residential building projects are being financed, and commercial and artisanal activities are being developed along with improved citizen and business services, all of which contribute to the revitalisation of urban areas, stimulating growth and the development of the Region in terms of the competitiveness and attractiveness of the territory and its cities. The interventions are improving the urban quality of the municipalities concerned, including historical town centres and their liveability, and result in: (i) the improvement of business and services; (ii) an increasing number of resettled residents; (iii) an improvement in the use and accessibility of available space, ensuring the environmental sustainability of the interventions and the preference for innovative technological contents.

In summary, we can state that the global goal and the specific goals of the Programme have, to date, been achieved.

## Acronyms

RCO	Regional Competitiveness and Job Occupation	PUC	Integrated Urban Plan
EMAS	Eco-Management and Audit Scheme	PIT	Integrated Area Project
FAS	Fund for Underused Areas	SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund	ROP	Regional Operational Programme
ESF	European Social Fund	RDP	Plan for Rural Development
IGRUE	General Inspectorate for Relationships with the European Union	TR&D	Technological Research and Development
MEF	Ministry of Economics and Finance	IS	Information Society
PAI	Plan for Hydrogeological Stability	ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
PISU	Integrated Plan for Urban Development	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
		NSRF	National Strategic Reference Framework

## Notes

1 The support of the structural Funds in RCO areas for regional help for the large enterprise will be granted depending on the selectiveness of the relevant investments, in terms of qualified technological content and/or spin-off on the productive chain, with subsequent ability to pass on the innovative effects to local manufacturing systems. The help for large enterprises for industrial research and experimental development can be granted only via specific mechanisms of selection which aim to maximise the effects on local economic development. An exogenous investment has to be a real commitment by the investor to integrate his own activities locally and to give real added value. As regards investments in innovation of the processes and of the organisation of services, the large enterprises can benefit from aid only if they collaborate with SMEs in the funded activity.

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3 See note 2.

4 See note 2.

5 See note 2.





**Regione Umbria**

Region of Umbria  
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Service for European Programmes

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