



2025



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A new architecture of EU policies and funds post-2027 – what place for local development?

Part 2

28 May 2025



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Introduction: what progress since our last meeting?

Urszula Budzich-Tabor

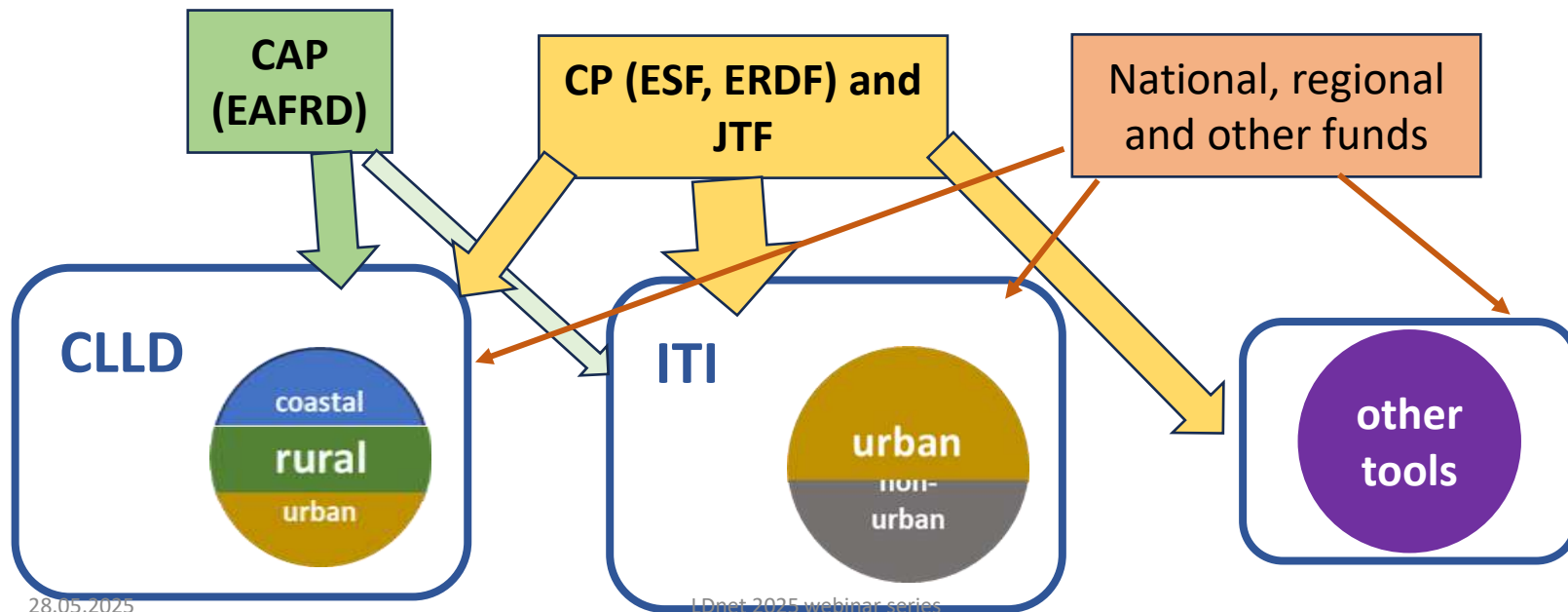


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Local development in EU funds **today**



Pillar I: Single Plan for each Member State

Around **530 programmes** for Member States (2021-2027 MFF)

- Cohesion policy: 398 (national and regional programmes + 27 partnership agreements)
- Agriculture and fisheries: 54
- Home funds: 79

27 programmes for all Member States

Next MFF: “Single Plan” for each Member State

Single all-policy document for each

- Simpler legal framework
- Streamlined negotiations (more leverage and flexibility)
- Less red tape

Strong policy agenda on joint EU priorities

Reference Framework identifying challenges for the Member States (Pillar 1) and the EU (Pillar 2)

European Semester CSRs

National Energy and Climate Plans

European Governance Plans

Other policy tools (e.g. Schengen, Rule of Law)

National and/or Regional chapters

e.g. transport

e.g. social

e.g. energy

e.g. agriculture

e.g. security and migration

Investments (examples)

Construction of rail line

Social Housing

Renewable Energy

Direct Payments

Reception Facilities for migrants

Reforms (examples)

Simpler public procurement

Addressing gender gap in employment

Faster permitting

Promoting organic farming

Strengthening cross-border cooperation

Performance-based delivery model

Payments against fulfilment of policy objectives

Strong Conditionality

Protection of EU financial interests, Rule of Law and EU values

Territorial dimension in 2021-27

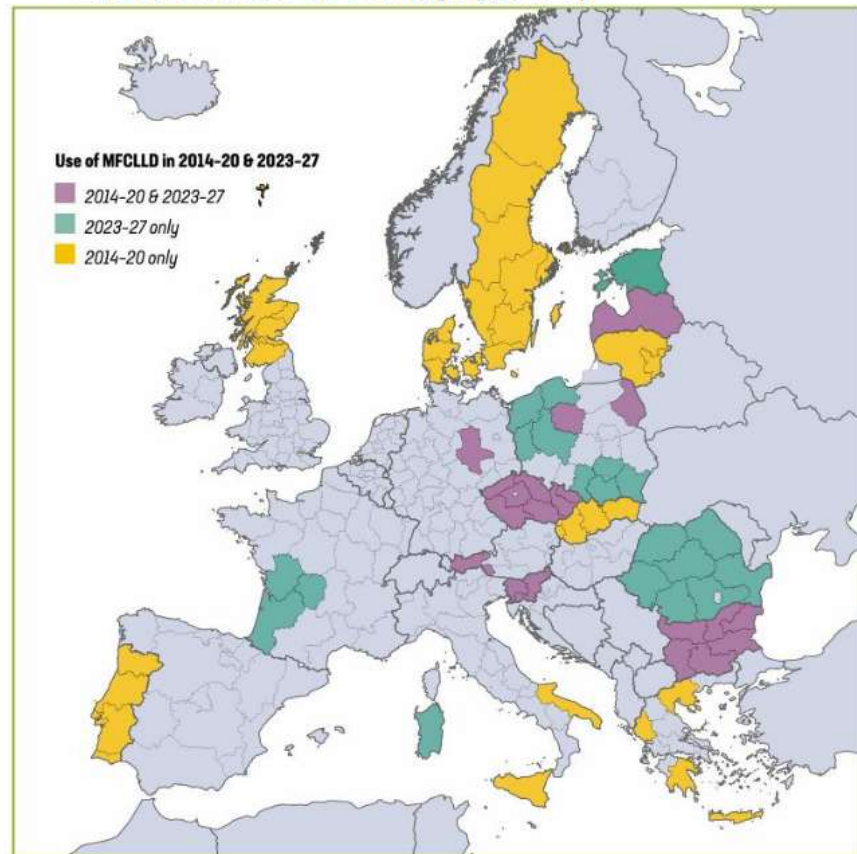
Compulsory urban allocation increased from 5% to **8%**

New category “**other tools**”: e.g. domestic approaches in line with key principles

Uptake:

- **€40 billion** Cohesion Policy funding implemented through territorial instruments*
- **ITI**: broadly **continuation** and often **expansion** (CZ, PL, HR)
- **CLLD**: mix of **introduction** (RO, FR, EE), **continuation** (BG, CZ, SI) and **discontinuation** (PT, SE, SK) – see map

Evolution of CLLD coverage (NUTS 2)



*COM (2023) [Report](#) on the outcome of 2021-2027 cohesion policy programming

Recently...

- Commission's Communication: „**The road to the next multiannual financial framework**” (11 February 2025)



- „Status quo is not an option”



- Public consultation: 12 February – 7 May 2025

- Over 2500 responses received
 - Common civil society position (e.g. minimum 50% total budget on sustainability, climate and environment)

- European Parliament's priorities (7 May 2025)

- ‘Single national plan’ approach cannot be the basis for spending in MS
 - Mega-funds merging existing programmes are not fit for purpose



- Commission's proposals expected in **July 2025**



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