

#### Eastern Norway County Network 2 April 2014







# Key issues at stake

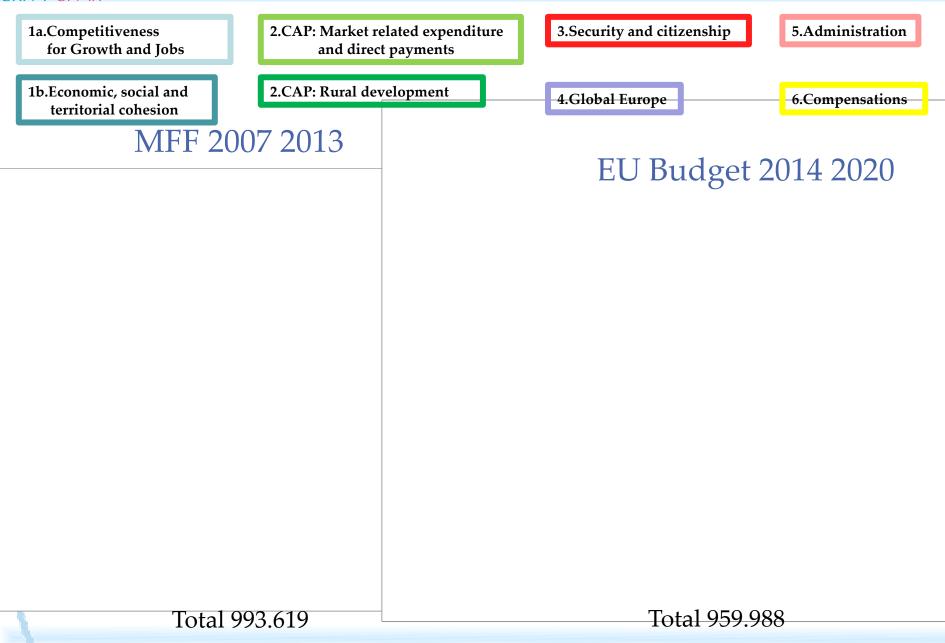
- *EU Budget agreement:* 
  - Ex ante conditionalities
  - Macroeconomic conditionalities
  - Economic governance
- Thematic and Territorial aspects of growth and jobs
  - Macro regions
  - Blue growth
  - *Connecting peripheries and maritime spaces Revised TEN-T and CEF*



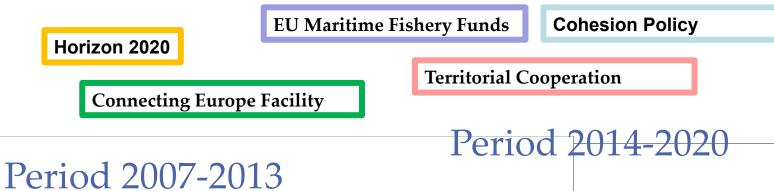
## **Budget negotiations...**













## **EU Budget and Cohesion Policy**

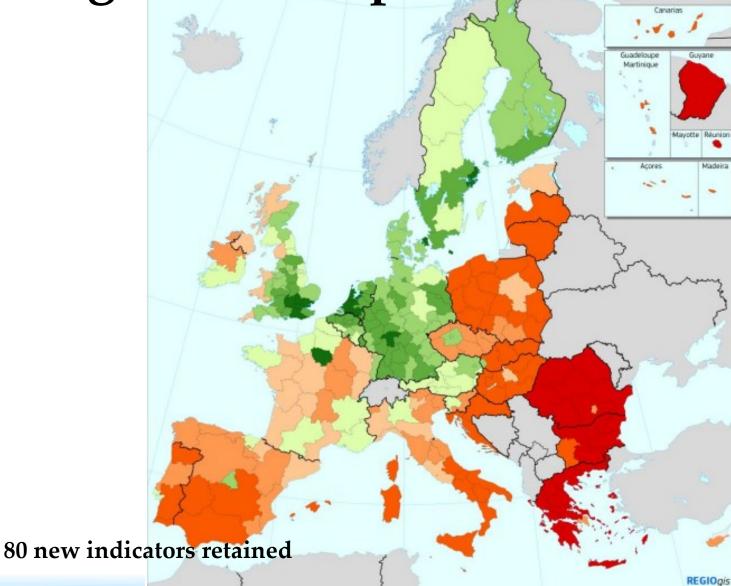
We asked for

- Sufficient budget and support to policy architecture (transition regions)
- Made projections to assist regional negotiations on allocations
- ✓ *Made the case for using 2008/2009/2010 reference period stats*
- Asked for a review clause for structural funds to benefit most to territories suffering from the crisis

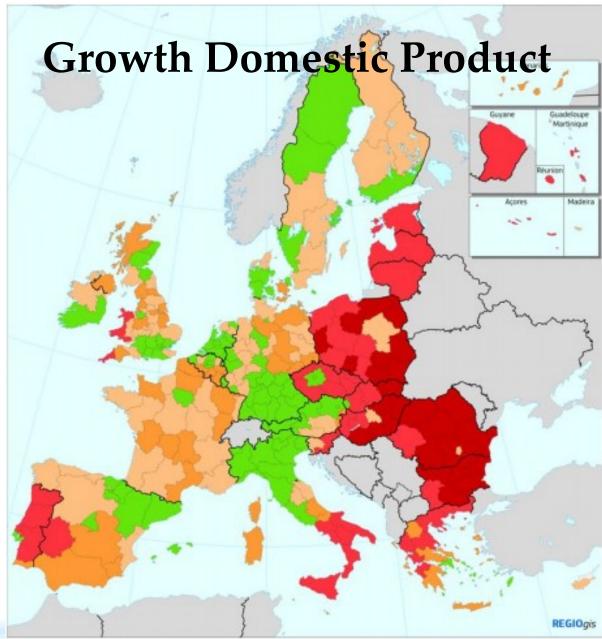
- Architecture and budget
- ✓ Assisted CPMR regions (helped secure €100 million for Border Midland and Western Irland region)
- Secured review clause (2016)



# **Regional Competitiveness Index**









### **Integrated Maritime Policy** We asked for

- Sustainable blue growth for coastal areas -Maritime tourism
- Maritime Industrial development
- Maritime safety
- Marine research- energy efficiency and renewables
- Sustainable economic development in the fisheries sector

- Increased budget and references to blue growth Horizon 2020
- ✓ LeaderSHIP report
- Erika judgment and follow up
- *EP Intergroup ...revamped*
- Vasco Da Gama



## www.vasco-da-gama.eu

- An ambition : propose the education pillar of Integrated Maritime Policy
- Why the Regions? Due to the fact that European Regions usually have significant powers in the fields of education and training;
- Why youth mobility? It is a unanimously recognised means to tackle the lack of attractiveness of maritime careers.
- VDG a pioneer concrete project, approved by the European Commission in July 2013, legally contracted in December 2013 and launched in 2014 for 2-years.



## Accessibility

### We asked for

- Better addressing peripheral areas within the TEN-Ts
- Promotion of maritime transport and ports
- *Effective reply to the imminent Sulphur challenge*
- (0.1% sulphur in fuel as of1 January 2015 for ships sailing in the EU CPMR offers its availability to launch adaptation projects in sea basins)

- Addition of 6 peripheral ports to the EC core network list of 83 (Huelva, Agusta, Tenerife, Cagliari, Heraklion, Galati)
- Strengthening of the Motorways of the Sea with a coordinator
  - *Inclusion of CPMR in the European Sustainable Sea Transport Forum currently being established*



## Macroregions

We asked for

- *Their establishment on a needs based approach*
- Contributed to the definition, governance and funding for macro regions-EC consultation
- Geographical Commissions supported Baltic, Atlantic, Med, Adriatic and North Sea Strategies – official or not

- Atlantic preparatory action and participation in Steering group of MS
- Atlantic launch work on Strategy and Action Plan
- Involvement in Med programme task force and possibly a specific priority axis in the new OP
- Support the Med MR approach within the ARLEM Ecoter works and involvement in the ARLEM capacity building project
- North Sea preparatory action



#### And also

- A concrete and shared road map for the emerging strategies in the Mediterranean (EUSAIR + Western, Eastern and Integrated Strategy), the IT Presidency semester
- Adriatic Strategy and Action plan development within Greek Presidency and follow up with Italian Presidency: a place for Regions in the governance, an invitation to prepare projects
- Black Sea maritime strategy: follow up launching event Bucharest 30 January 2014
- Follow up preparation phase of sea basins operation programmes co-financed by European Neighbourhood Instrument in Mediterranean and Black Sea areas



## EU agenda ahead

Greek Presidency (January – June 2014)

- Informal Ministerial meeting on Cohesion April 2014
- Informal Ministerial on Maritime Policy May 2014
- Italian Presidency (July December 2014)
- *EP Intergroup re- launch with new EP and activities prior and after its inauguration Gesine MEISSNER*



# **2014 – The timetable**

- **20 December 2013** Entry into force of the regulations
- 20 March 2014 (four months from entry into force) Deadline for submitting Partnership Agreements
- 22-25 May 2014 European elections
- End of June 2014 Deadline for submitting Operational Programmes
- End of August 2014 Deadline for adoption of Partnership Agreements by the European Commission
- October 2014 Appointment of new European Commission
- End of January 2015 Deadline for adoption of Operational Programmes by the European Commission