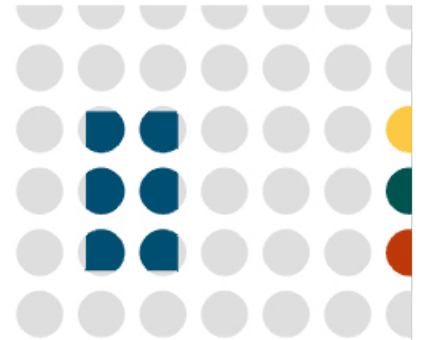


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The Future of Cohesion Policy: Lithuanian perspective

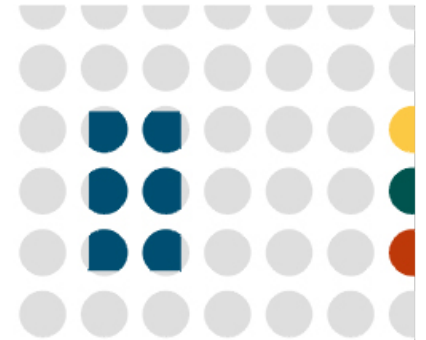
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4 March 2011



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Impact of Cohesion Policy

- Cohesion Policy has helped reducing economic, social and environmental disparities;
- Cohesion Policy has benefited all regions (through foreign direct investments, improvement of competitiveness and etc);
- Cohesion Policy supports investments in European priorities across the EU.

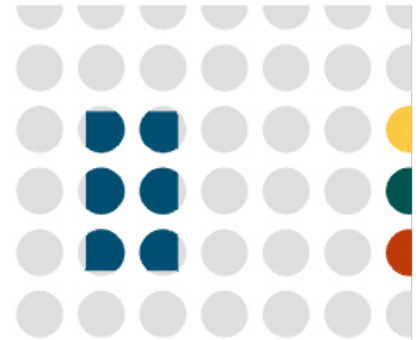


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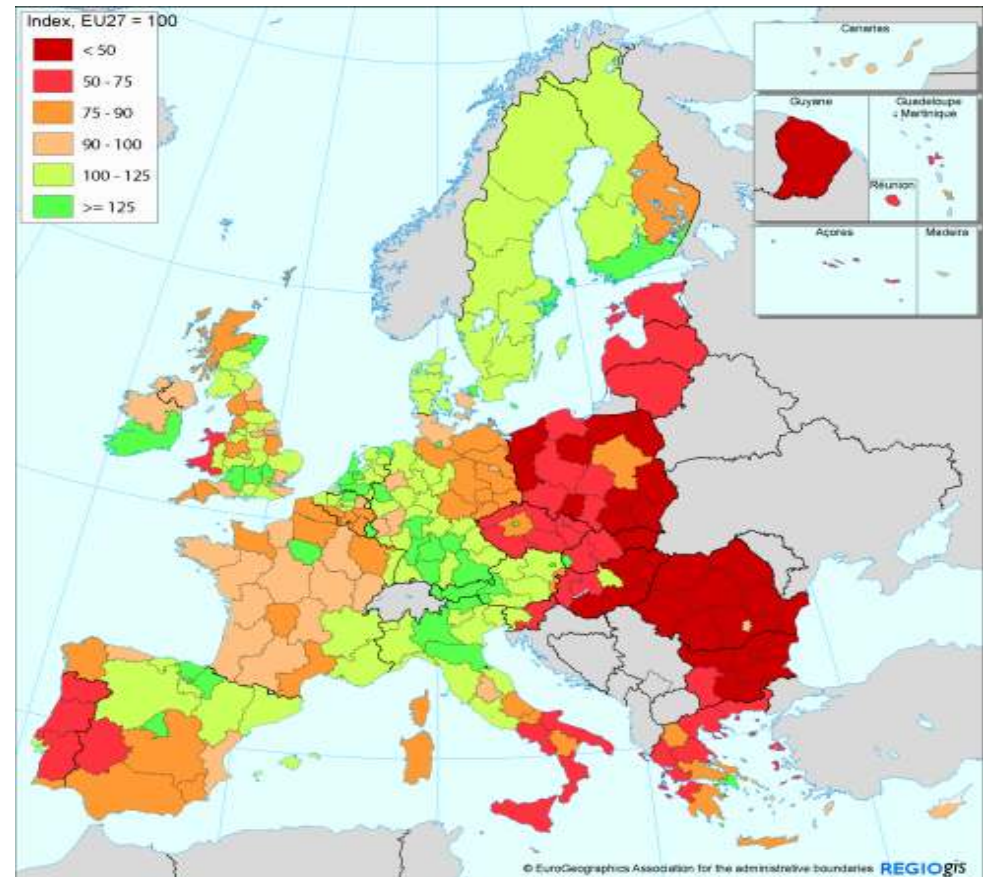
Kuriame Lietuvos ateitį



The challenges for the new programming period

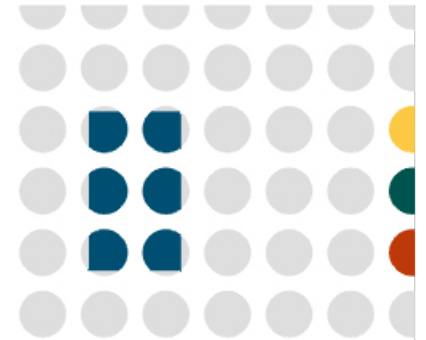
- Regional disparities remain wide, especially between less and more developed regions;
- The past ten years have helped to reduce disparities, but the crisis may disrupt this process.

GDP/head (PPS), 2007



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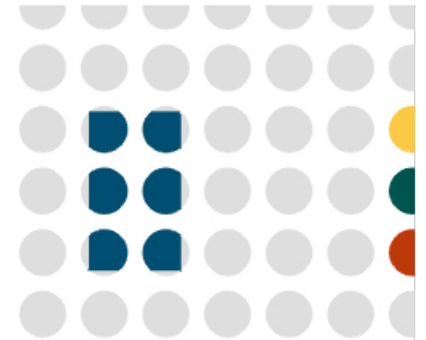


Lithuanian situation

- ☺ Lithuania belongs to the group of 10 fastest growing regions (in this group GDP per head increased by over 8 % a year over the period of 2000-2007);
- ☺ Employment rate, age group 20-64, in 2008 – **70-75 %**; the Europe 2020 employment rate target – 75 %;
- ☹ Total expenditure on R&D in 2007 – **0,5-1 %**; EU-27 – 1,85 %; the Europe 2020 R&D target – 3 %;
- ☺ Productivity growth within sectors, 2000-2007 – **3 %**; EU-27 – 1 %;
- ☺ Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), 1990-2008 – **40 %**; the Europe 2020 GHG emissions reduction target – 20 %;
- ☺ Share of renewable energy in final energy consumption in 2008 – **15 %**; the Europe 2020 target – 20 %.

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Lithuanian situation

- ☺ Population aged 25-64 with tertiary education in 2008 – **27-30,9 %**; EU-27 – 24,3 %;
- ☺ Early school leavers aged 18-24, 2007-2008 – **10-12 %**; EU-27 – 14,9 %; the Europe 2020 target for early school leavers aged 18-24 – 10 %;
- ☺ Households with broadband connection in 2009 – **40-50 %**; EU-27 – 56 %;
- ☹ Population suffering from severe material deprivation in 2008 – **12-16 %**; EU-27 – 8,4 %; the Europe 2020 target – to lift at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and exclusion.



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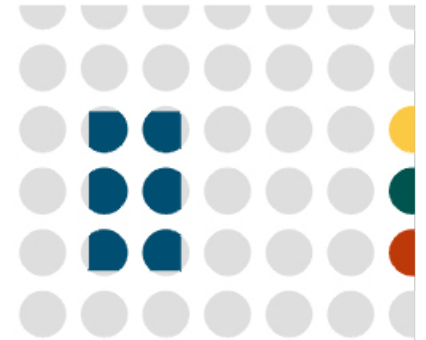


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Challenges for the Future of Cohesion Policy

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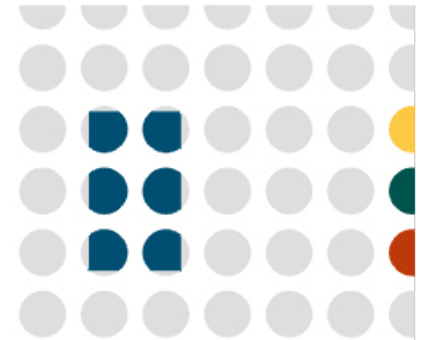


Enhancing the added value of EU cohesion policy

- EU cohesion policy should significantly contribute to the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy;
- The Cohesion Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund should contribute integrally to the implementation of EU cohesion policy;
- Cohesion policy resources should be concentrated on a limited number of priorities in order to increase the impact and visibility of the investments;
- The aim of EU cohesion policy – to provide financial assistance to the less developed regions – should be maintained;
- Cohesion policy resources should be concentrated not only on the Europe 2020 strategy priorities, but also on national (regional) development priorities.

Challenges for the Future of Cohesion Policy

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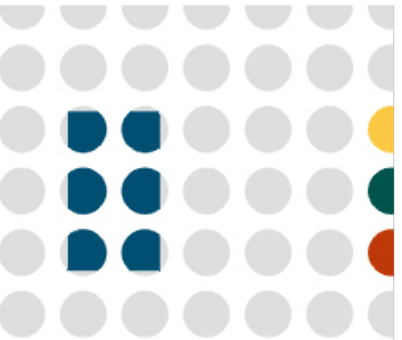
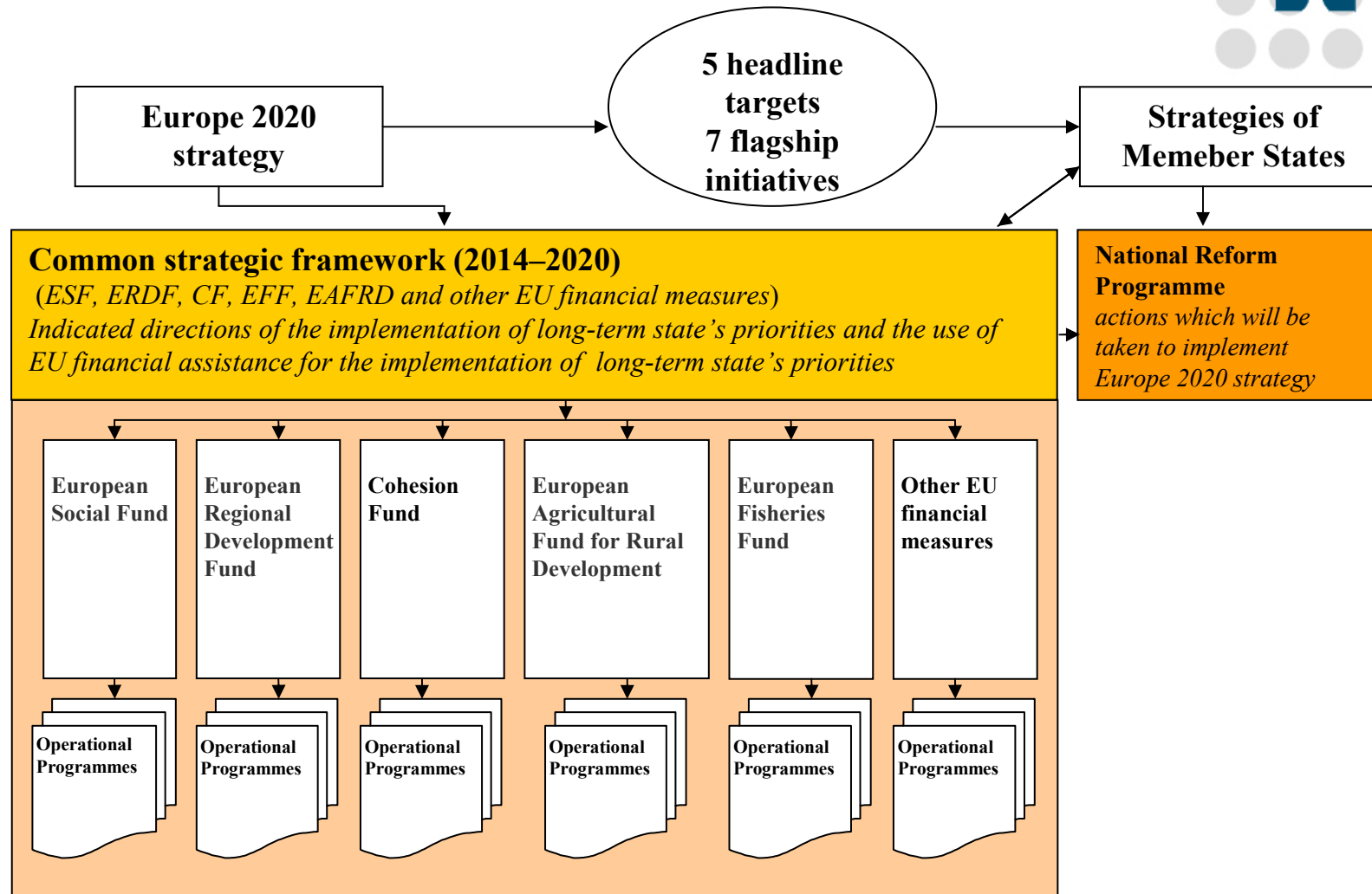


Strengthening governance and simplifying delivery system

- Coordinated programming and implementation of different policies pursuing similar goals should be ensured at EU and national level;
- National Reform Programme – an instrument to evaluate the progress of the implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy;
- EU cohesion policy should be oriented towards results;
- A performance reserve would stimulate a more rapid absorption of EU structural assistance at the expense of the objectives pursued;
- The simplification of the implementation and wider application of the principle of proportionality.

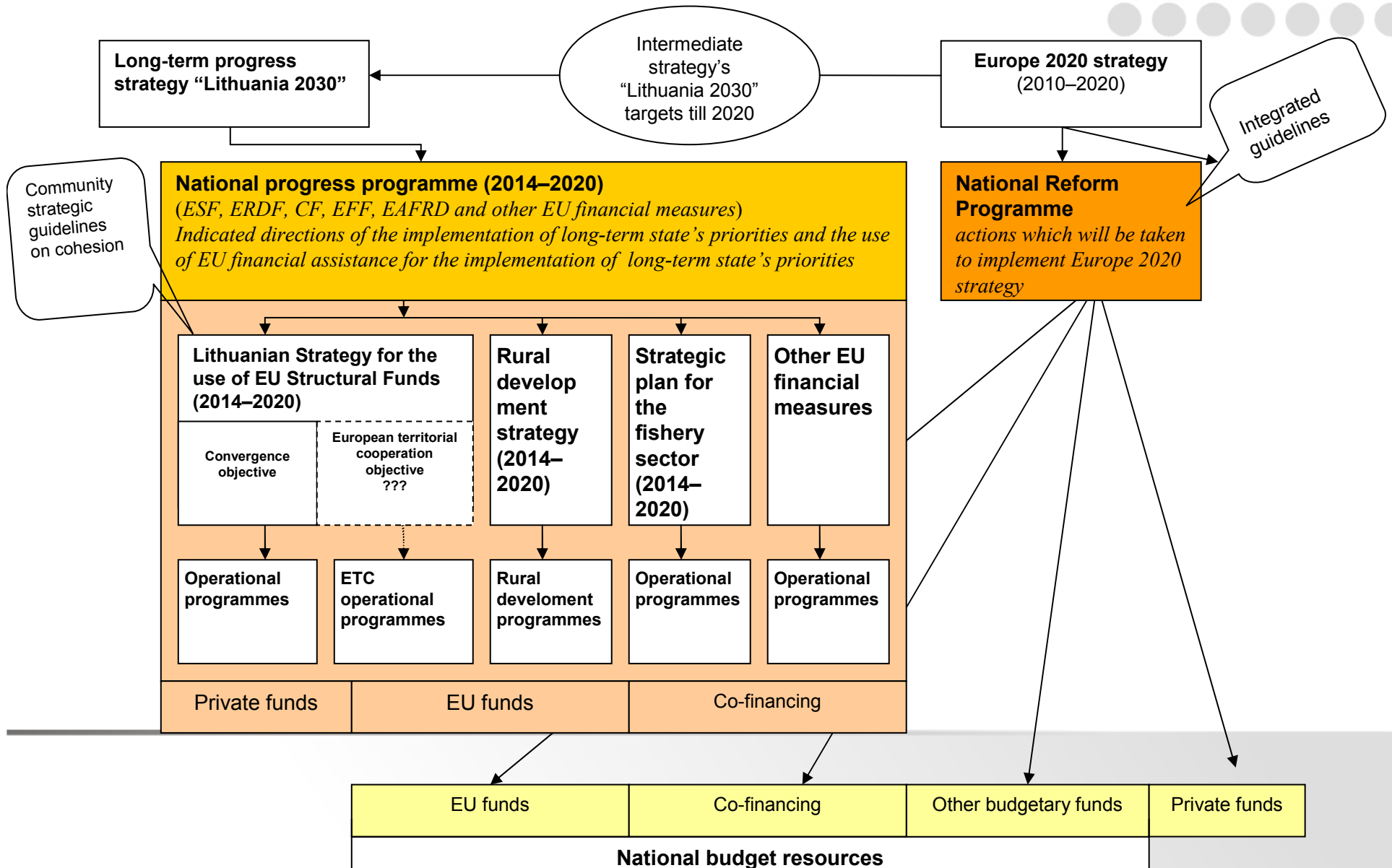
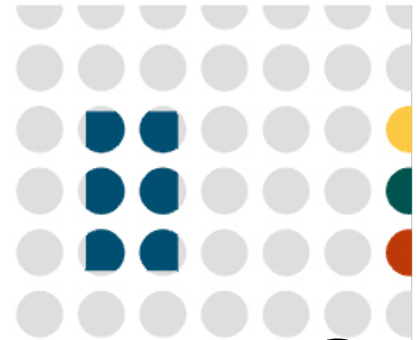
The structure of EU strategic documents

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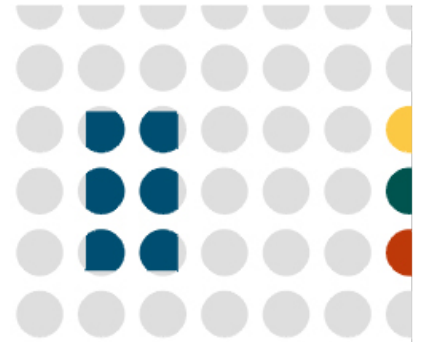


The structure of national strategic documents

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Thank you for your attention!



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