




Basic information	
2001/2057(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999 Subject 4.70.01 Structural funds, investment funds in general, programmes	

Key players					
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed	
	RETT	Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism	NOGUEIRA ROMÁN Camilo (V/ALE)	24/01/2001	
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	BUDG	Budgets	PITTELLA Gianni (PSE)	27/02/2001	
	EMPL	Employment and Social Affairs	AVILÉS PEREA María Antonia (PPE-DE)	05/12/2000	
	PECH	Fisheries	VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA Daniel (PPE-DE)	23/01/2001	
	FEMM	Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU Rodi (PPE-DE)	23/01/2001	
	Council of the European Union				
	European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
		Regional and Urban Policy			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/11/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0698 	Summary

15/03/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/06/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
20/06/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0247/2001	
19/09/2001	Debate in Parliament		
20/09/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0474/2001	Summary
20/09/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/03/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2057(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RETT/5/14018

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0247/2001	20/06/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0474/2001 OJ C 077 28.03.2002, p. 0021-0119 E	20/09/2001	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2000)0698 	13/11/2000	Summary	
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0714/2001 OJ C 221 07.08.2001, p. 0091	30/05/2001	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0184/2001 OJ C 107 03.05.2002, p. 0060	15/11/2001	

Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999

PURPOSE: to present the Commission's 11th Annual Report on the Structural Funds (1999). **CONTENT:** This Report describes how the Structural Funds regulations were implemented during 1999, with a particular focus on Objectives 1 to 6 and the Community Initiatives. As the last year of the programming period, 1999 saw the programmes fully implemented. This meant that very few new items of assistance were adopted during the year. In all, only five such items were adopted in 1999 for the various Objectives. These comprised two operational programmes for Objective 1 (regions whose development is lagging behind), one concerning the territorial pacts for employment in Spain, the other a programme to develop ecological buses in Greece. In general, three global grants were adopted in Italy. All together, these five items account for only 0.1% of assistance from the Funds for the period. At the same time, 24 small Community Initiative programmes were also adopted. As in 1997 and 1998, the implementation of appropriations speeded up considerably in 1999, in many cases enough to make up for the backlogs which had accumulated during the early years of the programming period. This was true of both the national initiatives programmes (CSFs/SPDs) and the Community Initiatives. As in 1998, Objective 1 and 3 (combatting unemployment and exclusion) achieved the best implementation rates. Again as in 1998, the Member States which had the best rates of implementation of appropriations were the least prosperous Member States (Spain, Portugal, Ireland) and therefore the main beneficiaries of the Funds. By contrast, the more prosperous countries continued to lag behind in the implementation of payments. The implementation of the Community Initiatives (CIs) also speeded up considerably, partly thanks to the reallocation of finance carried out in 1998. The Commission devoted special efforts in 1999, as it did in previous years, to giving fresh impetus to a number of its activities and priorities. Safeguarding and promoting employment, in particular, continued to be a priority receiving sustained support. A complete review of the national action plans for employment were undertaken and resulted in recommendations to the Member States on how best to honour their commitments. The Commission guidelines on employment adopted in 1998 were expanded in 1999 to include new goals, such as lifelong training, access to the information society, the involvement of the social partners in the organisation of work and the incorporation in the programmes of equal opportunities for men and women. In its resolution on the employment guidelines, the Council stressed the role of the Structural Funds, and particularly the ESF, in achieving the goals of the European Employment Strategy. The regulations governing the Structural Funds in 2000-06 require the Member States to include the employment guidelines and more generally the principles set out in the European Employment Strategy, in their programmes. Following the proposed regulations to govern the Structural Funds which the Commission had drawn up in 1998, 1999 was a crucial year for actual preparations for 2000-06, since it saw the adoption of a large number of decisions. Finally, this year's report looks at measures to promote equality between men and women and more specifically, the improvements made in incorporating this political priority in the Funds' programmes.

Structural Funds. 11th annual report 1999

2001/2057(COS) - 20/09/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

By adopting the report by Mr Camilio NOGUEIRA ROMAN (Greens/ALE, E), the European Parliament acknowledges the efforts of the Commission to provide an overview of the results for the whole 1994-1999 period, but regrets that the Commission does not provide a more extensive analysis of the budgetary performance over the period, but limits itself to a description of the actual out-turn. The Parliament also notes that indirect reference is made to the backlog of outstanding commitments remaining to be paid at the end of the period (*reste à liquider*) and invites the Commission to remedy this situation. It also underlines the lack of quantitative descriptions or detailed explanations in the use of the community initiatives. The Parliament calls for the Funds to have as a policy priority and effect the incorporation of small businesses (creation, expansion, technological equipment, development and innovation, internalisation of markets etc.) by their inclusion in all priority projects of the Community Support Frameworks and their substantial participation in the take-up of such funds. The Parliament is also calling for a more effective policy to promote women's interests in the implementation of the Structural and Cohesion Funds, considering that the objective of gender quality has only partly been taken into account. Special measures should be taken to link the Funds to the 60% target for female employment to be achieved by 2010 and also to deal the large problem of insecure employment. With regard to the enlargement process, the Parliament calls for an immediate start to be made on the determination, on the basis of consultation which should be as wide as possible, of cohesion policy for the period after 2006 with a view to ensuring both continued support for the sectors and regions of the current Member States which will continue to be eligible in an enlarged Union, and specific supplementary cohesion arrangements for the new Member States. The Parliament is dismayed that the principle of additionality, one of the four basic principles underlying the Structural Funds, is not been respected by the Member States. It regrets the fact that no penalty can be imposed when Member States infringe the additionality principle.