

Examples of the projects supported by the EU funds in the 2007–2013 period in the Czech Republic

Environment

Thanks to investments from the EU funds a total of **4 526 km** of new sewer mains has been constructed and **147 wastewater treatment plants** has been built or modernized. There are now more than **600 000 people** connected to the water supply and a modern sewerage system, which contributes to a better environment. In the Vltava river alone, the water pollution in some plants was decreased by tens of percent, even if measured several kilometres downstream from the plant.

Education – primary and secondary schools

In the previous programming period, **90%** of primary and **75%** of secondary schools have enjoyed the benefits of the EU funds. The projects were aimed at improving conditions for education, especially in reading and information literacy, mathematics, foreign language teaching, ICT and also to equip classrooms as well as science labs.

86% of school representatives estimate that the project implemented in their school has contributed to the development of key skills. The most significant benefits were observed in the fields of information and communication technologies (97%) and foreign languages (91%).

Entrepreneurship

The resources of EU funds have helped many businesses to overcome the period of economic hardship between 2008 and 2009. The company projects focused on innovation and new product development have helped to keep more jobs (albeit in the part-time form) than was the case in the comparable firms which did not receive any support. Of all the supported enterprises, 61% reported that they were able to **gain a competitive advantage**, and 91% of them launched a new product. Through investments, the production capacity of the surveyed companies rose by 25%.

Support for science and technology studies

In 2015, interactive centres aimed at popularizing scientific and technical disciplines have welcomed more than **1.5 million visitors**. These activities contributed to a 5% increase between 2009 and 2015 in the proportion of students applying for engineering and science degrees.



Cohesion Policy

and its Benefits for the Czech Republic and the EU

Cohesion policy

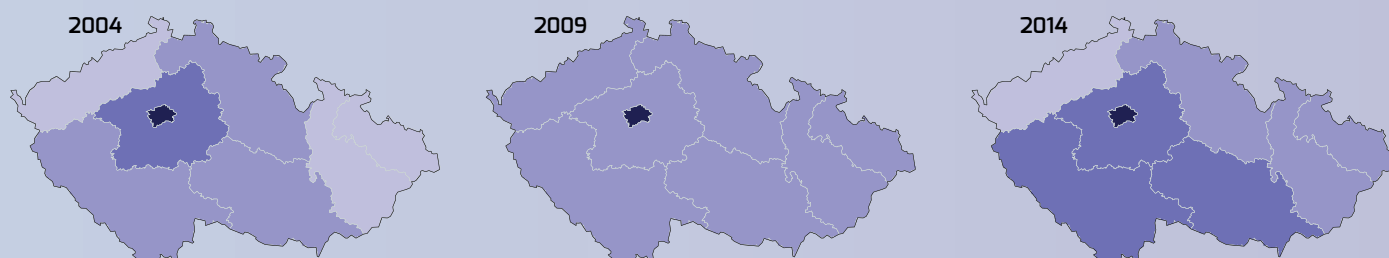
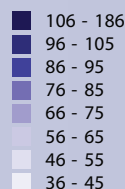
is a win-win investment. The cohesion policy spending in the Czech Republic between 2007–2015 brought more than €20 billion worth of benefits to the EU15 economies.

Every €1 invested by cohesion policy between 2007–2013 will generate an additional €2.7 of EU's GDP by 2023.

These macroeconomic effects were achieved by implementing a huge number of successful projects in a wide range of thematic areas, as illustrated by the figures below.

Czech regions have seen **significant GDP** convergence to the EU average with the cohesion policy being a source of such progress. Thanks to Cohesion Policy, the GDP of the Czech Republic was **4% higher** in 2015.

LEGEND (% of EU GDP)



Implementation of cohesion policy in numbers



94 104 jobs were newly created in total.



6 173 jobs in the field of research and development were newly created.



6 992 students of all grades were using the created infrastructure or were involved in the centre's activities.



111 km of new TEN-T motorways, expressways and main roads were constructed.



346 km of TEN-T railway lines were reconstructed and upgraded.



8 456 projects supported small and medium enterprises.



4 549 innovative products, processes, organisational and marketing innovations were launched.



147 waste water treatment plants were newly built, reconstructed or intensified.



In public transport, **684** environmentally friendly vehicles were newly acquired.

Source: Monitoring data

Ex post evaluation and forecast of benefits obtained by the EU-15 countries as a result of implementing Cohesion Policy in the V4 countries