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**EU funding for ecological networks and
green infrastructure**

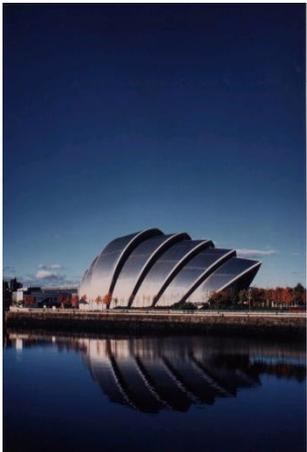
**National Ecological Networks Conference
Edinburgh, 07 02 2013**

**Karen Fraser
Scotland Europa**

Scotland Europa - Who we are



Our team - Dedicated EU Policy & Funding resources for members and SE/SDI



Scotland Team

- Team of EU Funding specialists – strategic EU funding support, project development and compliance
- Close collaboration with National Contact Points
- Working in partnership with Enterprise Europe Scotland for R&D funding activities

Brussels Team

- Experienced staff focusing on EU policy – early warning, interpretation and analysis
- Direct links with Commission and other regional and national representations in Brussels
- Engagement with EU business networks and associations e.g. EURADA



Content

- **Short Term Opportunities – LIFE+ 2007-13**
 - **The New Funding Landscape 2014-20:**
 - EU Policy Context
 - The Multiannual Financial Framework
 - Horizon 2020
 - Common Agricultural Policy
 - Cohesion Policy
 - LIFE
 - **Key Messages**
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LIFE+ 2007-13 EU Financial Instrument for the Environment

- **2013 Call open – closes 25 June**

 - **LIFE + Nature and Biodiversity**
 - **LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance - Implementation, updating and development of European Union environmental policy and legislation**
 - **LIFE+ Information and Communication**

 - Best practice, innovation and demonstration projects
 - Average EU contribution €1m / project €2m
 - Average project duration - 2 to 5 years
 - EU funding maximum **50%** eligible costs
 - Or up to 75% to LIFE+ Nature proposals that focus on concrete conservation actions for priority species or habitats of the Birds and Habitats Directives.
 - Single country or transnational projects (15% budget)
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The New Funding Landscape 2014-20: Policy Context

- Europe 2020 Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth
- Flagship Initiative – Resource Efficiency
 - ⇒ a resource-efficient, low carbon economy
- EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020
- EU Environmental Action Programme to 2020

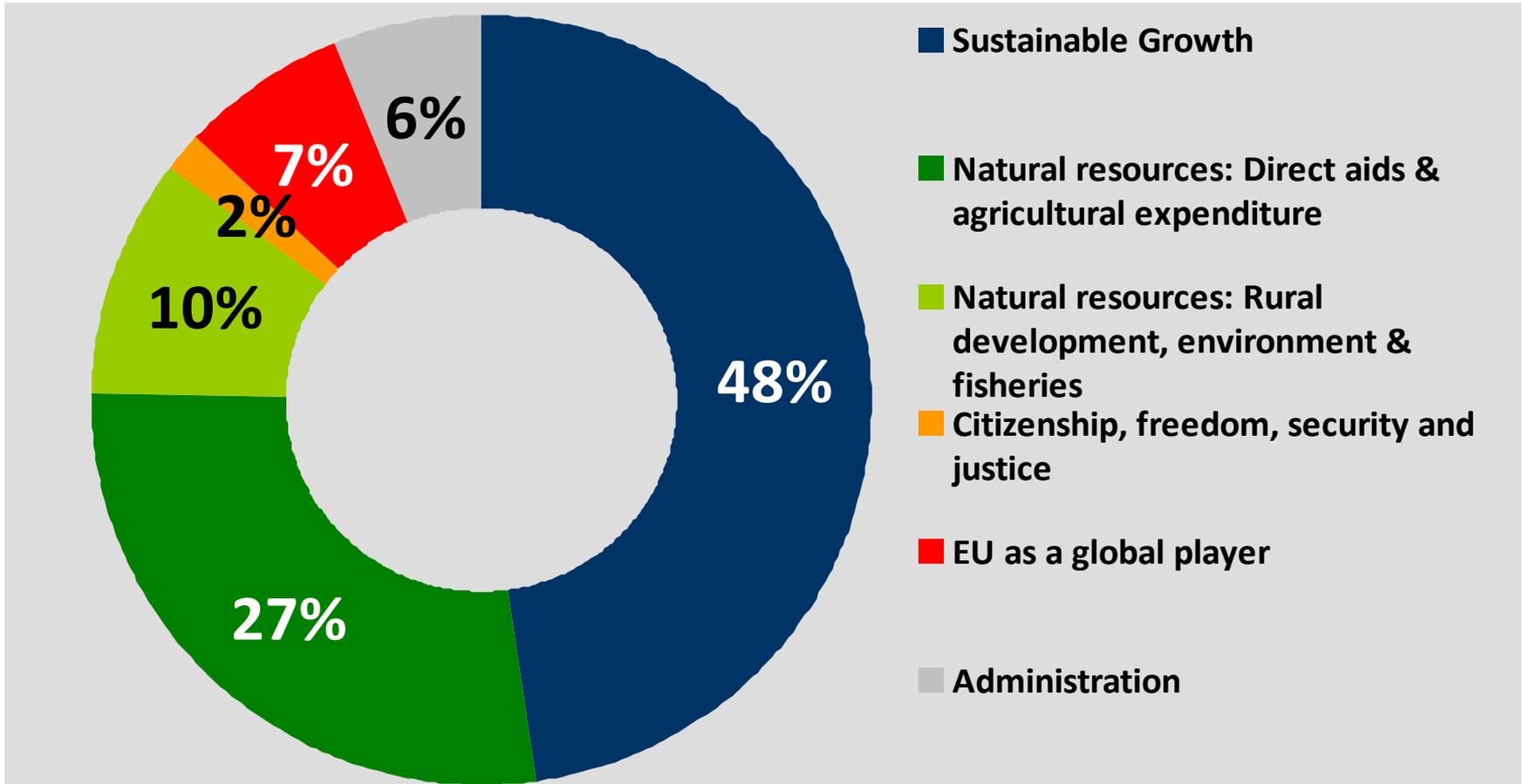
Other relevant policies and initiatives:

- Cohesion policy, urban and rural development
 - Smart Cities and Communities
 - Health, wellbeing, active ageing, social inclusion....
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Specific references to financing:

- **EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020**
 - better uptake of funds foreseen for environment e.g. Cohesion Policy
 - rationalise and maximise co-benefits of funds, including those for agriculture, rural development, fisheries, regional policy, climate change
 - diversify and scale up sources of funding – innovative financial instruments, reward public and private goods, attract private investment in green infrastructure
 - specific needs for Natura 2000 network
 - **EU Environmental Action Programme to 2020**
 - improved mainstreaming of environment and climate objectives in all EU funding instruments – climate related expenditure at least 20% of new EU budget
 - Greening of the Common Agricultural Policy
 - LIFE as the specific instrument for the environment
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Multiannual Financial Framework- Proposals for A Budget for Europe 2020



Multiannual Financial Framework- Proposals for A Budget for Europe 2020

- Smart and Inclusive Growth €490bn
- Sustainable Growth – Natural Resources €383bn
- Security and Citizenship €18.5bn
- Global Europe €62bn

Key Components:

Horizon 2020 €80bn

Cohesion Policy €376bn

CAP €282bn direct payments (30% for greening)

€90bn rural development

LIFE €6.7bn

Horizon 2020

Commission proposal for an 7 year EU research and innovation funding programme, focused on three priorities:

- Excellent science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges

What's New?

- A single programme bringing together research and innovation
 - Stronger emphasis on innovation, demonstration and capitalising on results
 - Cross-cutting and cross-sectoral
 - Focus on societal challenges facing EU society
 - Simplified access, higher maximum grants rates – up to 100%
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Horizon 2020 - The Societal Challenges

Will receive the largest proportion of funding, for research, innovation and demonstration projects:

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
 - Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research & the bio- economy
 - Secure, clean and efficient energy
 - Smart, green and integrated transport
 - Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials
 - Inclusive, innovative and secure societies
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Horizon 2020

Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials:

- Fighting and adapting to climate change
 - Sustainably managing natural resources and ecosystems
 - Ensuring the sustainable supply of non-energy and non-agricultural raw materials
 - Enabling the transition towards a green economy through eco-innovation
 - Developing comprehensive and sustained global environmental observation and information systems
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Cohesion Policy – Common Strategic Framework

- CSF to cover European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, European Fisheries Fund
- Partnership Agreement - Scottish Chapter– set out how these will complement each other, avoid overlap, delivery structures
- Draft mid March 2013
- Public Consultation May 2013
- Development of Operational Programmes

Where does environment fit?

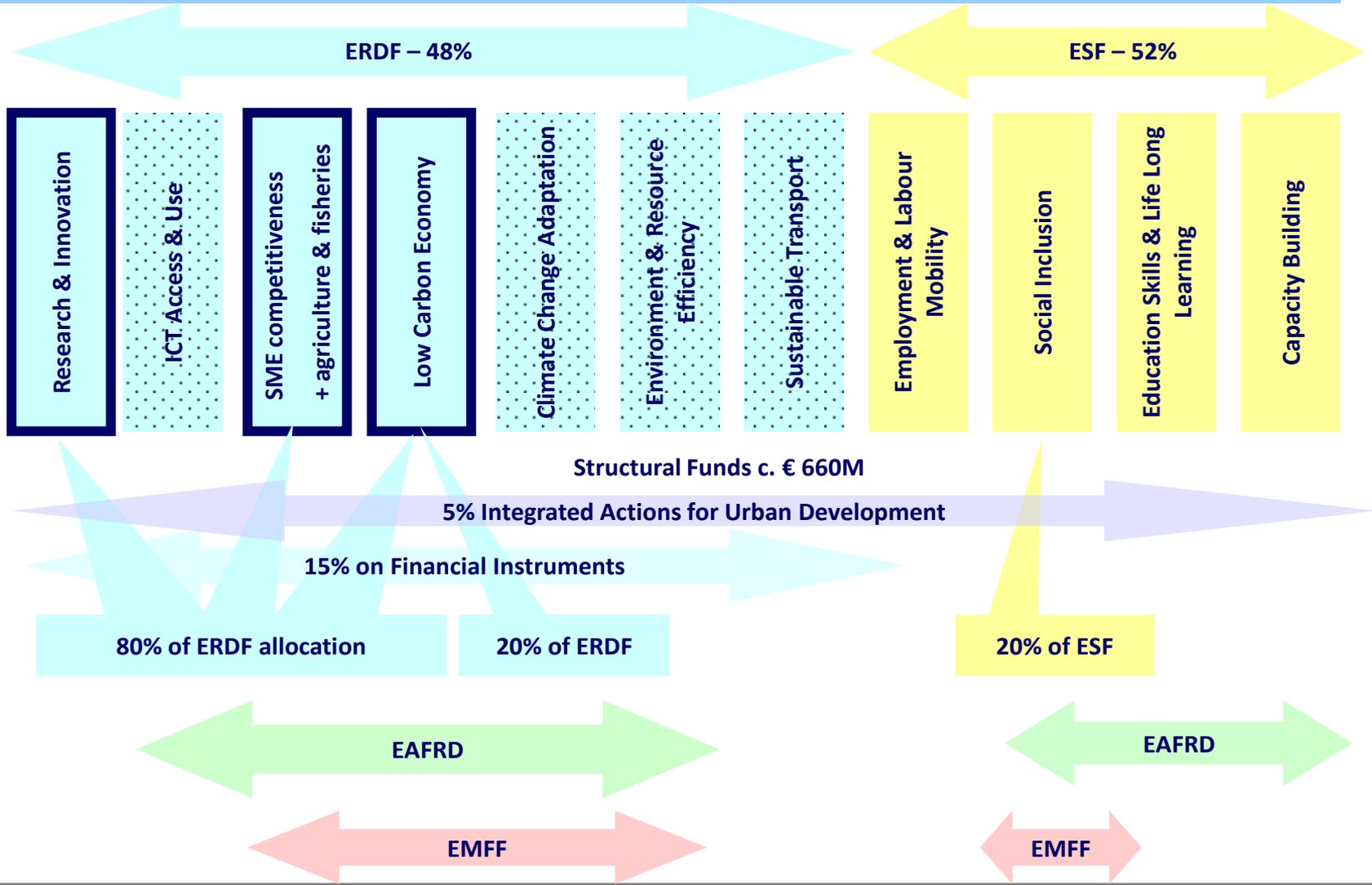
Rural Development Fund

Sustainable Urban Development

Low Carbon??

SCOTLAND EUROPA

Regional Policy 2014-2020 – Common Strategic Framework



INTERREG (Territorial Cooperation)

Geographical Programme Areas:

- Western Scotland – Northern Ireland – Ireland
- North Sea
- Atlantic
- North West Europe
- Northern Periphery

Projects must involve partners from at least two countries – trans-national approach and EU added value important

Programmes choose from the list of Cohesion Policy themes

Not clear yet which will be chosen

Traditionally have been good supporters of environment projects

CAP and Rural Development

- **Greening of Common Agriculture Policy:**
 - Sustainable management of natural resources 1 of 3 objectives
 - 30% of direct payments linked to “green” practice
 - **Rural Development Programme:**
 - Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry
 - Resource efficiency and carbon sequestration in agriculture, food and forestry
 - Investment in physical assets, including for environment commitments, biodiversity, conservation species and habitats, public amenity value of Natura 2000 and high nature value sites
 - Basic services and village renewal – including protection and management of Natura 2000 and high nature value sites, leisure and recreation facilities, restoration and upgrading natural heritage
 - Afforestation and creation of woodland
 - Agri-env-climate measures
 - Cooperation, clusters and networks – environmental projects and practices, forest management plans...
 - **LEADER:** local action groups, development and implementation of action plans
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LIFE 2014-20: Objectives

- LIFE should be used as a **catalyst**;
 - LIFE should promote **implementation** and **integration** of environment and climate objectives in other policies and Member State practice, including mainstreaming;
 - LIFE should contribute to the improvement and dissemination of **knowledge-base**;
 - Emphasis will also be placed on **better governance**;
 - Specific link to **EU priorities**: resource efficiency, biodiversity loss and climate adaptation and mitigation
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LIFE 2014-20 sub-programmes

Environment:

- Environment & Resource Efficiency
- Biodiversity
- Environmental Governance & Information
 - shift focus towards implementation through **Integrated Projects** (waste, water, air);
 - Includes a specific objective on **resource efficiency**;
 - **Development, test and demonstration** of policy approaches, best practices and solutions to environmental problems;

Climate Action:

- Climate Mitigation
 - Climate Adaptation
 - Climate Governance & Information
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LIFE 2014-20: Integrated Projects

- Aiming at implementation of plans, programmes or strategies required by EU environmental or climate legislation
 - Larger scale, e.g., regional, multi-regional, national
 - Primarily in the areas of nature, water, waste, air, climate mitigation and adaptation
 - Sustainability
 - Mobilisation of other EU funds
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Example of Integrated Project - nature

- A Region develops a Regional Programme for Natura2000 covering all 10 sites under its jurisdiction
 - It identifies a range of management and conservation activities
 - Then identifies the financial needs for the implementation of these activities
 - Submits a proposal for a LIFE Integrated Project.
 - This project clearly specifies the activities or group of activities among those included in the programme that will be financed by LIFE (e.g. the restoration and connectivity activities, capacity building, awareness raising)
 - In addition, it presents evidence on how it will use other funds (e.g. from EARDF, ERDF, private) to implement the complementary measures included in the programme
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Key Messages

- The EU funding architecture is changing – need to adjust to new programme rules and focus
 - Competition will be strong
 - Resources, particularly for environment and regional programmes in Scotland will be limited, compared with needs
 - Quality projects, with clear objectives and outputs, which delivery on EU policies and targets – high impact
 - Involvement or engagement with key actor and stakeholders
 - Cross-cutting, cross-sectoral approach
 - Strategic, integrated approach
 - Engagement, networking, profiling Scotland's expertise....
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