

**Question for written answer E-013075/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Ensuring synergy between Horizon 2020 and European Structural and Investment Funds

In the European Commission's proposal for a cohesion policy for the period 2014-2020, developing an innovation strategy for smart specialisation is a precondition for the programming period 2014-2020 in relation to operational programmes. 'Smart specialisation' should focus the Member States' efforts on key development priorities for each region based on its specific economic potential.

On the other hand, Horizon 2020 complements other EU programmes and sources of funding, including in relation to Structural and Investment Funds, in mainly two directions: 'upstream' for capacity building, and 'downstream' for demonstration activities with a view to commercialising projects.

How is the Commission ensuring synergy between the measures stipulated in Horizon 2020 and the programming of Member States' operational programmes in the research and innovation field? Does the Commission have data available on which Member States are at the most advanced stage of programming these measures, and can best practices be shared?