

Language Policy Unit

EC Support for European Regional and Minority languages



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Education and Culture

Overview of presentation

- Regional and minority languages action
 - History
 - Future
 - Current activities
- Other sources of funding for RMLs
 - Structural funds
 - E-content
 - Culture
 - Media

Background

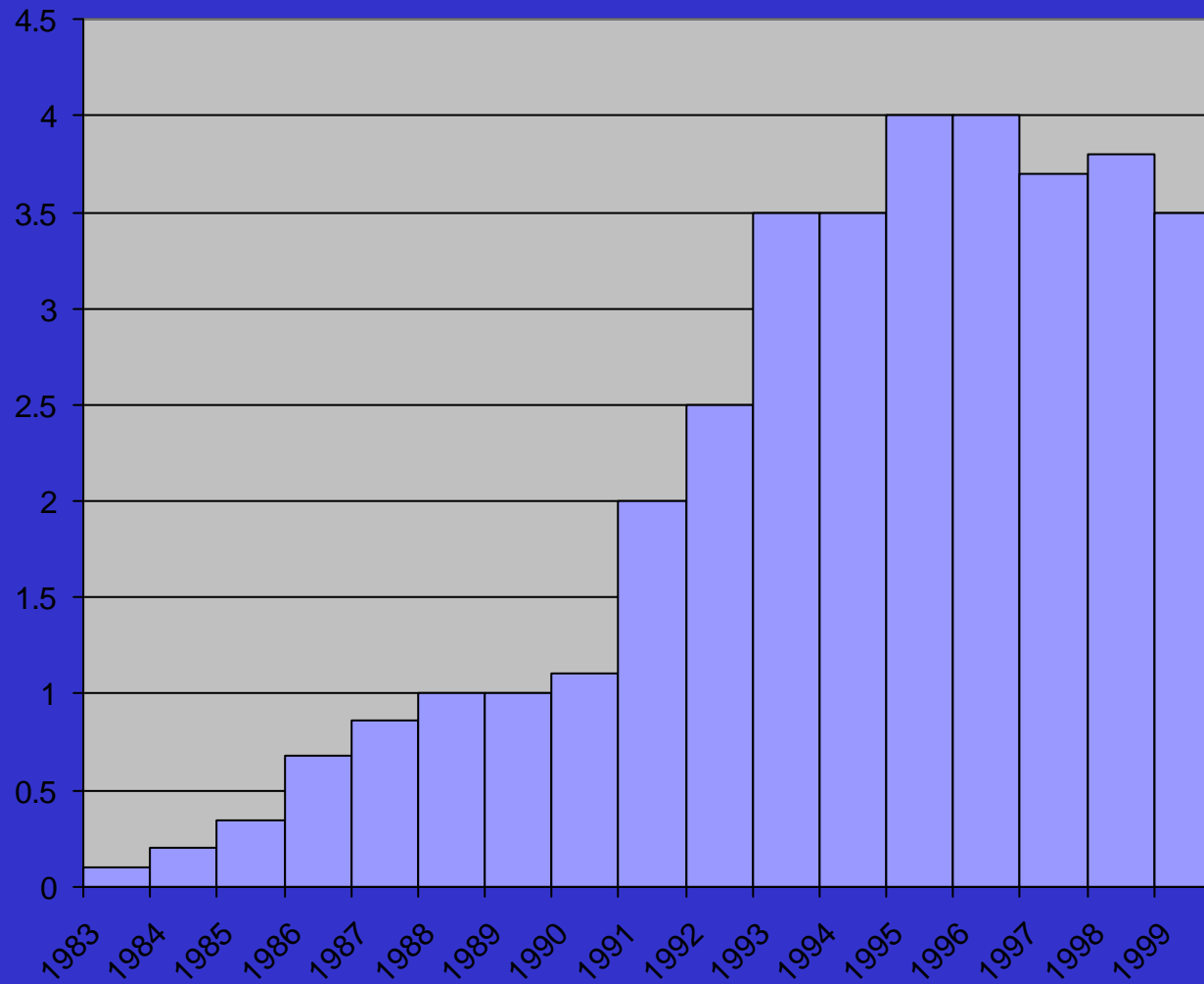
Origins of the action

EP Resolutions:

- Resolution on a Community charter of regional languages and cultures and on a charter of rights of ethnic minorities (**Arfé I**, 16.10.1981)
- Resolution on measures in favour of minority languages and cultures (**Arfé II**, 11.2.1983)
- Resolution on the languages and cultures of regional and ethnic minorities in the European Community (**Kuijpers**, 30.10.1987)
- Resolution on linguistic and cultural minorities in the European Community (**Killilea**, 9.2.1994)

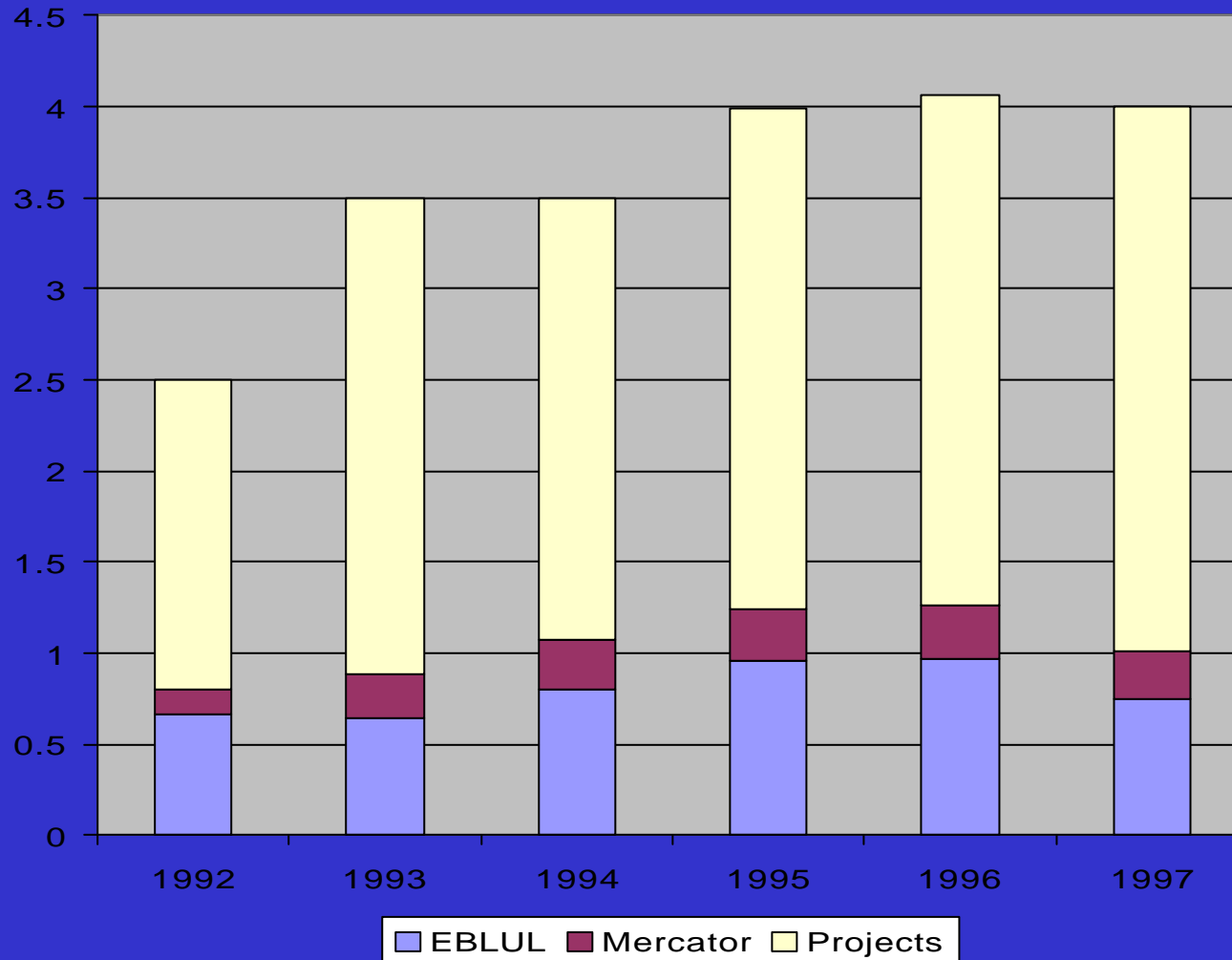
Background

Financing 1983-1999 (million euro)



Background

Financing 1992-1997 Breakdown



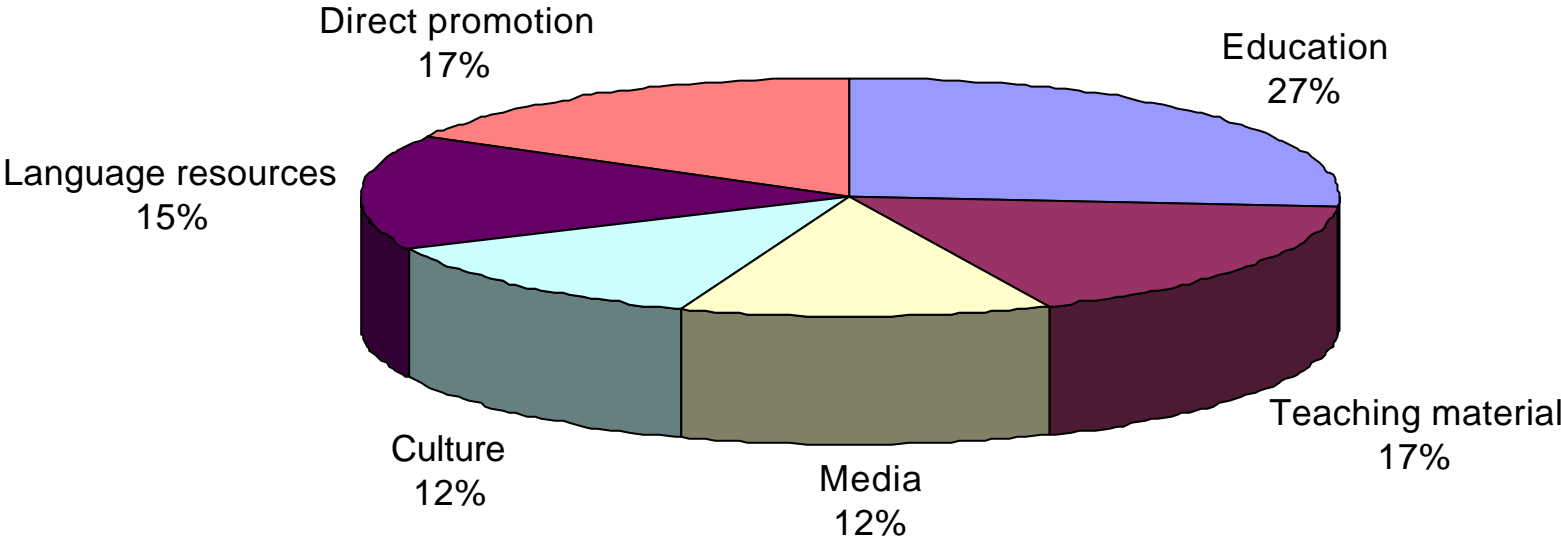
Background

- Court of Justice decision of 12 May 1998 suspends budget line
- Mesures préparatoires 1999-2001
Projects: annual call for proposals under budget line B3-1000
EBLUL/Mercator subsidised under budget line A-3015 (institutions of European interest)
- Preparations for adoption of legal basis interrupted following rejection by Legal Service of Article 149 (Education)

Projects by language

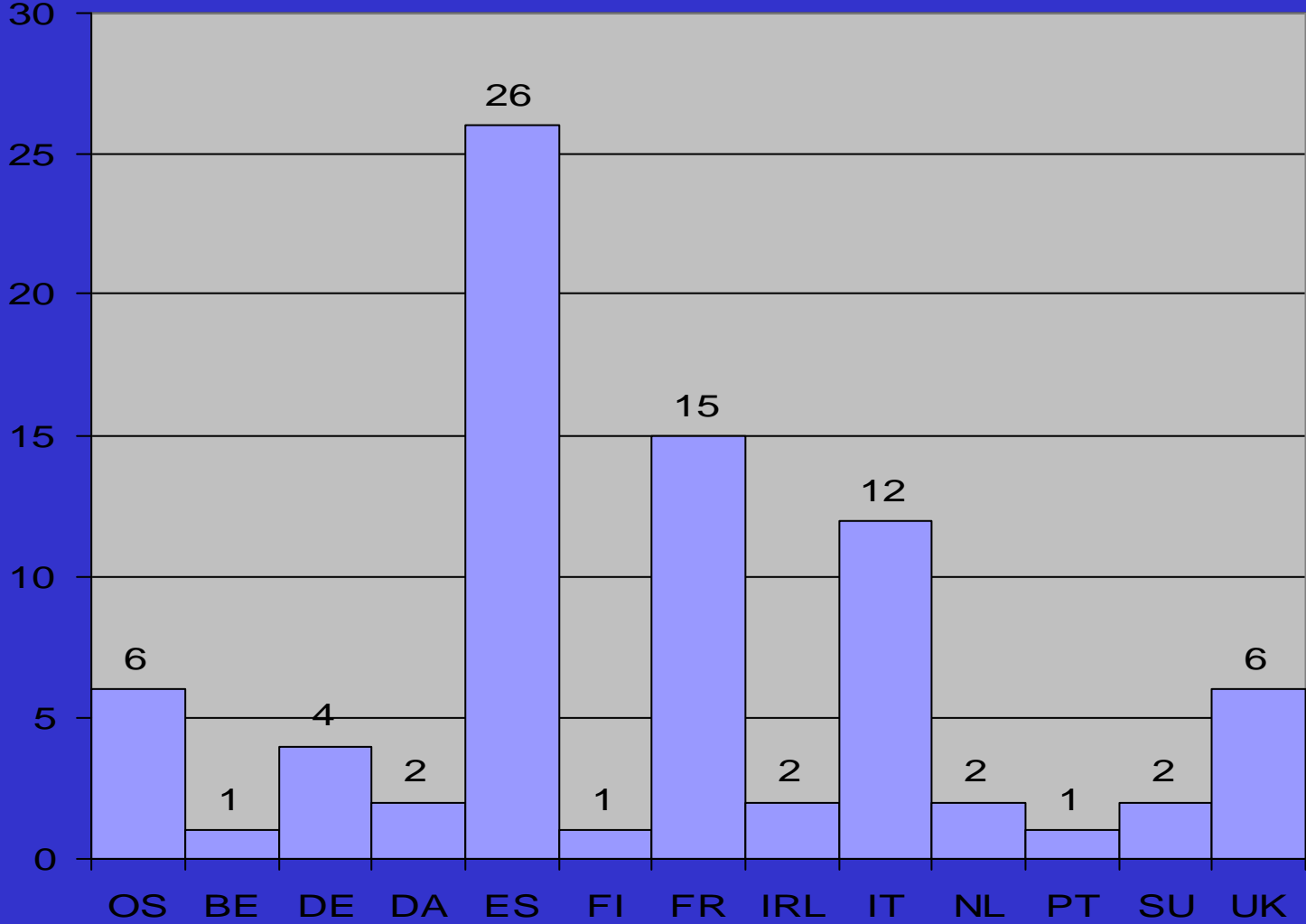
Albanian	3	Grico	5
Alsatian	1	Irish	3
Basque	15	Ladin	2
Berber	1	Moselfrankisch	1
Breton	9	Multilingual	44
Catalan	22	Niedersächsisch	1
Cimbri/Mocho	1	Occitan	11
Corsican	1	Roma	3
Creole	2	Saami	1
Croatian	4	Sardinian	2
Franco-provençal	2	Slovenian	3
Frisian	2	Sorbian	2
Friulian	3	Swedish	1
Gaelic	3	Welsh	4
Galician	3	Total	155

Breakdown by domain



Projects by country

No. projects



Budget 2000

Line	Description	Amount
A-3015	Institutions of European interest (EBLUL/Mercator)	1.0 million
B-3 1000 B	Actions to safeguard Community regional languages and cultures	2.5 million
B-3 1000 A	Study	0.13 million

Future

- Intended: presentation of proposal for multiannual programme in support of regional and minority languages and cultures at end 2001 (European Year of Languages)
- No budget for projects in 2001
- Probably final year of preparatory actions in 2002 to accompany adoption of programme

Future

- Proposal most likely based on Article 151 (Culture):
- “The Community shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and... bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore. Action by the Community shall be aimed at encouraging cooperation between Member States”
- Focus will therefore be on cooperation
- 2000 call for tenders indication of general outline of future programme

Call for proposals 2000

Objective

To strengthen the European dimension of activities to safeguard and promote regional and minority languages and cultures

Objective to be achieved via 5 types of activity in 5 fields of action

Call for proposals 2000

Types of activity (1)

(a) Exchanges of experience

Conferences, seminars, colloquia, study visits, traineeships, etc.

(b) Creating networks of key players

Networks of this kind can take a virtual form.

(c) Developing joint solutions

Projects whose outcome is designed to be of interest to, and which actively involve, several language communities.

Call for proposals 2000

Types of activity (2)

(d) Transfer of expertise

Projects comprising transfer of expertise to community concerned. Expert(s) concerned must take part at least in analysis, development and evaluation of project.

(e) Coordinated programmes

Integrated programme of activities mobilising various players and involving several types of activity and/or fields of action.

Call for proposals 2000

Fields of action (1)

- (a) Developing linguistic resources: lexicography, terminology, grammar, archives, corpora, linguistic research, etc.
- (b) Developing language skills: language teaching, teacher training, teaching material and methods, promoting bilingualism.
- (c) Direct language promotion: awareness, information and promotion campaigns, visual presence of language, language planning

Call for proposals 2000

Fields of action (2)

- (d) Social and economic aspects: presence and role of the language in economic and social life, languages and economic development, etc.
- (e) Culture and media: cultural events and live arts, circulation of literary, musical and audiovisual works, press, radio and television, etc.

Call for proposals 2000

Coordinated programmes

- New feature of AP2000
- May involve several organisations
- Should comprise several types of activity in several domains.
- Activities should complement each other: e.g. development of innovative teaching method/material, combined with teacher training and pilot courses and ending with seminar evaluating experience - cultural event preceded by artistic creation (workshops) and accompanied by educational activities

Study - Aim

- Strategic analysis to provide instrument for structuring Community aid for RMLs
 - a) to direct financial support to projects that are most cost-effective and most appropriate to the needs of language community, and
 - b) to language communities most in need of Community support

Study - Content

- What instruments are available to policy makers who wish to promote a regional or minority language?
- Which measures work best in which circumstances?
- Which are the most cost-effective measures?
- What is the place of a specific Community instrument in the general context of language promotion in Europe?
- How should it be structured to guarantee the greatest impact?

Other sources of funding for projects involving RMLs



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Main other sources of funding

- Structural funds (DG REGIO, DG AGRI, DG EMPL)
- E-content (2001-2005 DG INFSO)
- Culture 2000 (2000-2004 DG EAC)
- Media Plus (2001-2005 DG EAC)

Structural funds

- The structural funds have been the main source of Community funding for cultural projects.
- Between 1989-1993, ECU 400 million (est) was allocated to cultural projects
- ERDF, ESF, EAGGF and FIFG
- Structural funds are managed nationally, regionally and locally
- Increasing recognition of role of culture in economic development and employment

Structural funds 2000-2006

- Main focus on 3 priority objectives
- Objective 1 concerning regions lagging behind in development financed by ERDF and organised regionally
- Objective 2 concerning regions facing structural difficulties (areas of industrial decline, urban decay, rural underdevelopment and dependency on fisheries) financed by ERDF and organised regionally

Structural funds 2000-2006

- Objective 3 concerning Education, training and employment financed by ESF and organised nationally
- Main focus is economic development and employment.

Structural funds

Community initiatives

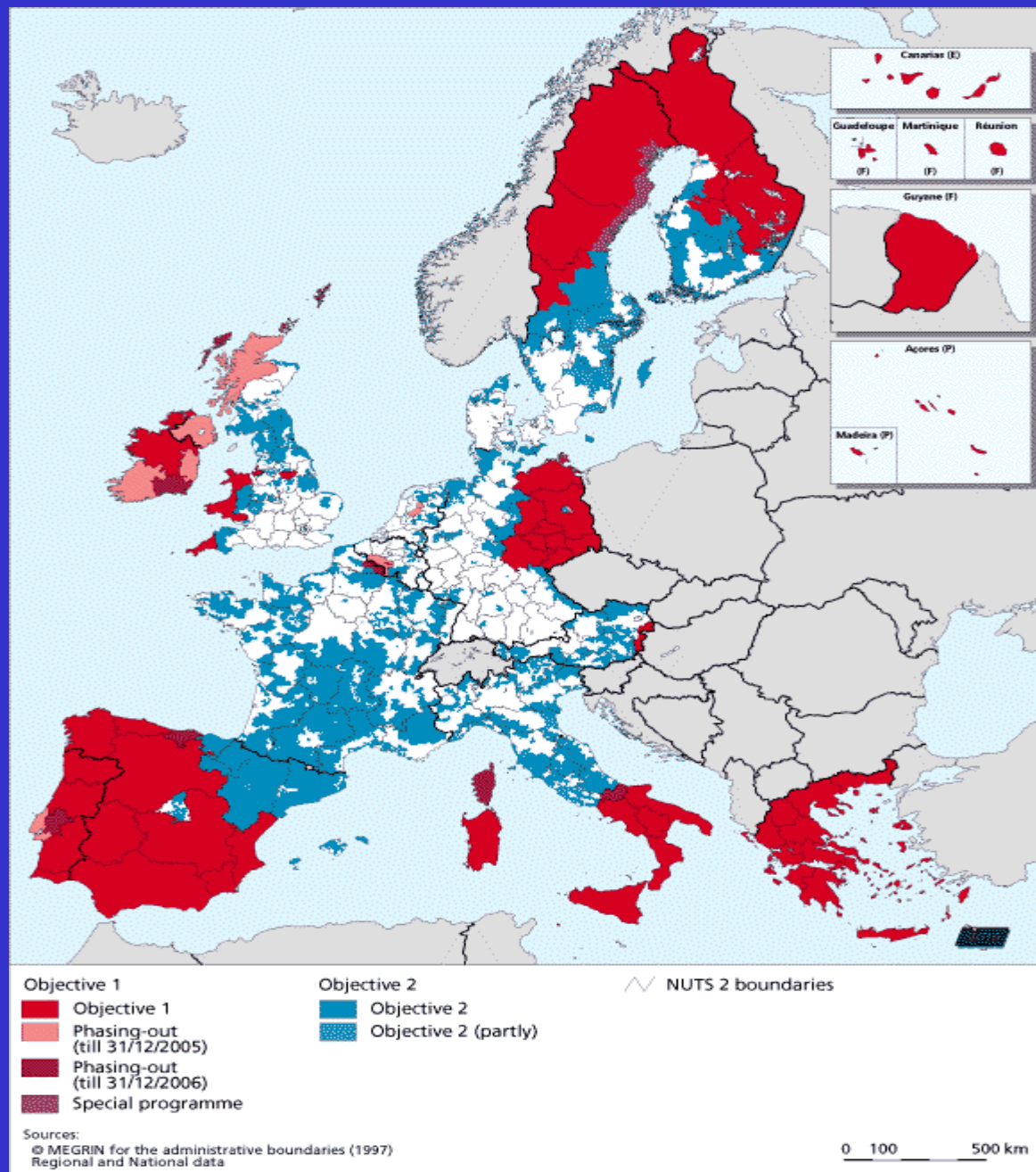
- Interreg III: cross-border, international and interregional cooperation financed by ERDF
- Leader +: innovative community-led rural development financed by EAGGF

Structural funds

Special programmes financed from Objective 1 resources

- PEACE: Northern Ireland and border areas of Ireland
- Coastal areas of Sweden

Objective 1 and 2 regions



Structural funds - Information

Regional development (ERDF, Interreg):

<http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int>

Rural development (Leader):

<http://www.rural-europe.aeidl.be>

DG Agriculture:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/agriculture/index_en.htm

DG Regional policy:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/index_en.htm

E-content (2001-2005)

Three intertwined Action Lines:

- AL1: Expanding supply
Commercial exploitation of public sector information
- AL2: Tailoring supply
Linguistic and cultural customisation to target markets
- AL3: Unlocking the market
Market enablers: access to capital, asset trading and digital copyright, market watch and consensus building...

AL 2: E-localisation

- Improve Europe's presence on the internet
- Enhance competitiveness and export
- Enable the implementation of "think global, act local" strategies (and other way round)
- provision of services tailored to national and linguistic communities
- Facilitate design, production and maintenance of localis(able)(ed) products and services; reduce cost and shorten time-to-market
- Support progressive SMEs and start-ups
- Proposed € 60 million over 5 years
- 1st call for proposals expected March 2001

E-content information

<http://www.cordis.lu/econtent>

<http://www.euractiv.com> → Information society →
e-content and languages

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/information_society/econtent/index_en.htm

Culture 2000 (2000-2004)

- Promotion of multilateral cooperation between European cultural operators
- Culture 2000 is a single programme englobing various predecessors, such as Kaleidoscope, Ariane, Raphaël, Connect...
- Covers virtually all areas of the arts and culture with priorities varying from year to year (announced in advance)
- Objectives: promotion of cultural dialogue, creativity, trans-national distribution, cultural diversity and common cultural heritage; improving public access to culture, inter alia..

Culture 2000 (2000-2004)

- Principles: multipartnership, transnational cooperation, project oriented
- 3 Actions: one-off projects (3 countries), multiannual cooperation (5 countries), emblematic european events (e.g. European cities of culture)
- Aimed at non-governmental organisations - operators not funding bodies
- Objectives: promotion of cultural dialogue, creativity, trans-national distribution, cultural diversity and common cultural heritage; improving public access to culture, inter alia..

Culture 2000 Information

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/culture/index_en.html

- Call for proposals for 2001 projects to be published in November/December 2000

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Main action lines

- Training of audiovisual professionals
- Development of works and firms
- Distribution and marketing
- Promotion, access to markets, festivals

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Training

- Integration of new technologies
- Awareness of the European market
- Financial and business management
- Writing techniques
- Networking of training initiatives
- Training trainers

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Development

- Support for project development
- Implementation of commercial development strategies (packages of projects)

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Distribution

- Support for distribution of works
- Boosting competitiveness of firms
- Networking and joint strategies
- Commercialisation of back catalogues
- Cofinancing of new works
- Support for cultural and linguistic diversity

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Promotion and festivals

- Promotion on European and international markets
- Databases and information aids
- Festivals :
 - support for events
 - support for cooperation projects
 - Européen prizes

MEDIA PLUS (2001-2005)

Budget

€ 400 million over five years (2001-2005)

Breakdown:

- Training: € 50 m
- Development & Distribution: € 350 m

Information:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/avpolicy/media/index_en.html

Education and Culture DG

Language Policy Unit

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