



Analysis on the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds across Romanian regions

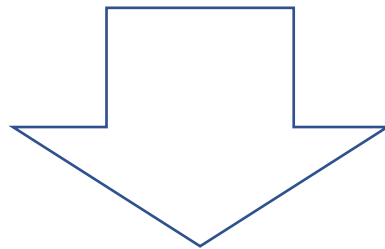
Marin Florian

European Economic and Social Committee



The importance of mountains areas in Romania

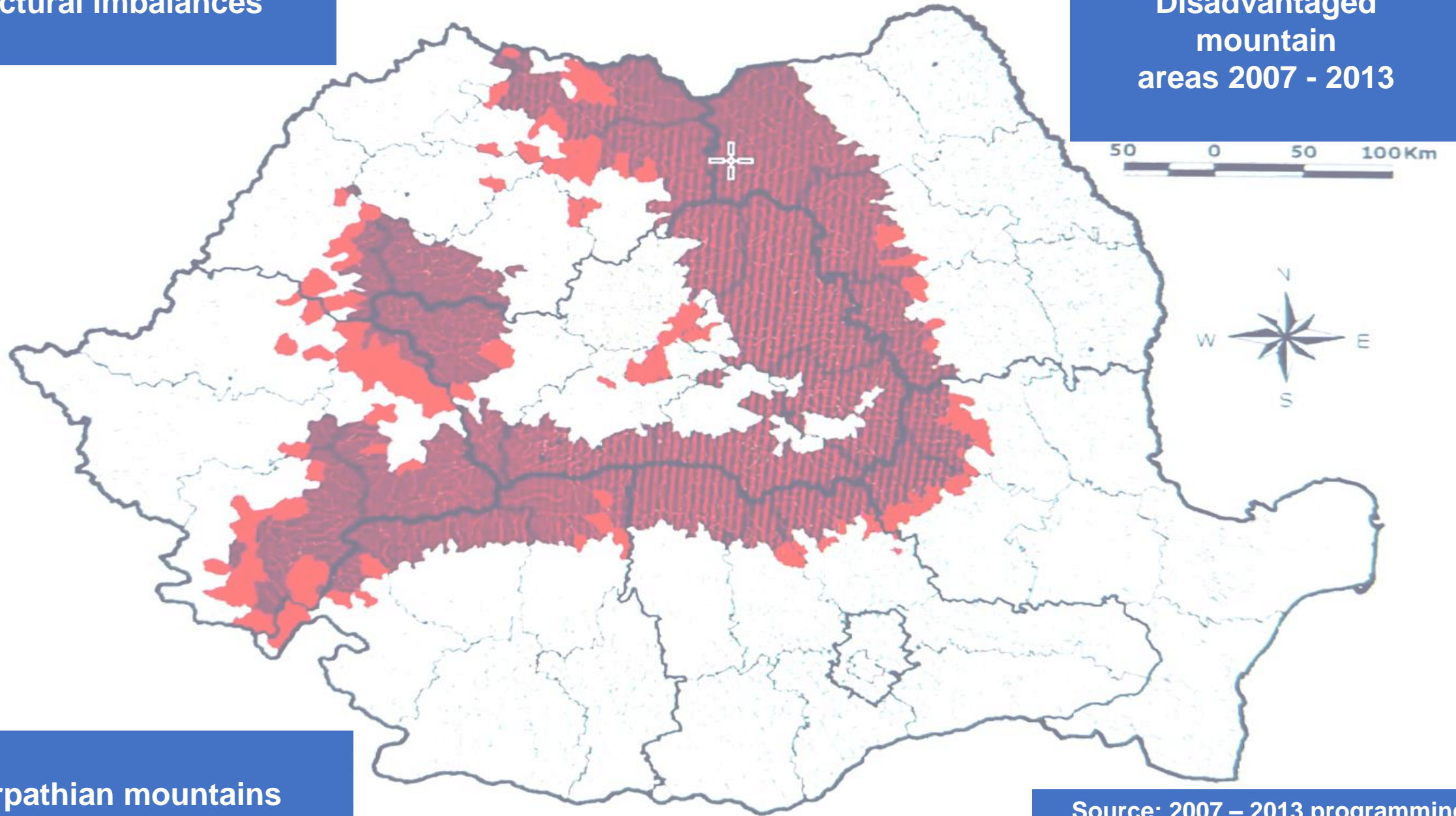
- 657 municipalities in disadvantaged mountain areas (20% of the total municipalities in Romania)
- 71.341 square kilometres – 30% of the total surface of Romania 238.391 square kilometres
- 3.270.793 habitants are living in disadvantaged mountain areas – 20% of the total population
- Romania has a balanced distribution of the relief forms



National Strategic Guidelines for the Sustainable Development of
Disadvantaged Mountain Areas (2014-2020)

Structural imbalances

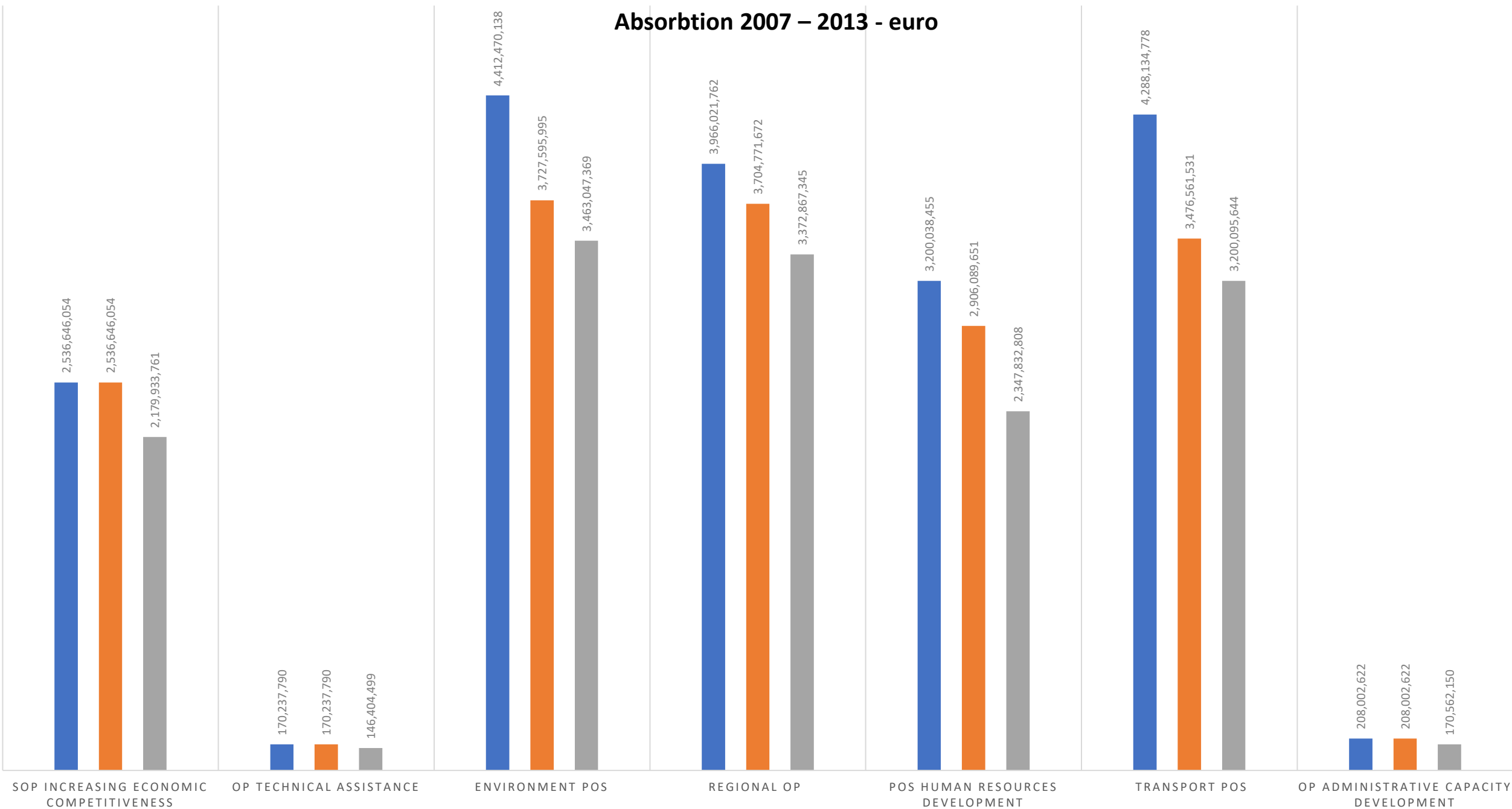
Disadvantaged
mountain
areas 2007 - 2013



Carpathian mountains

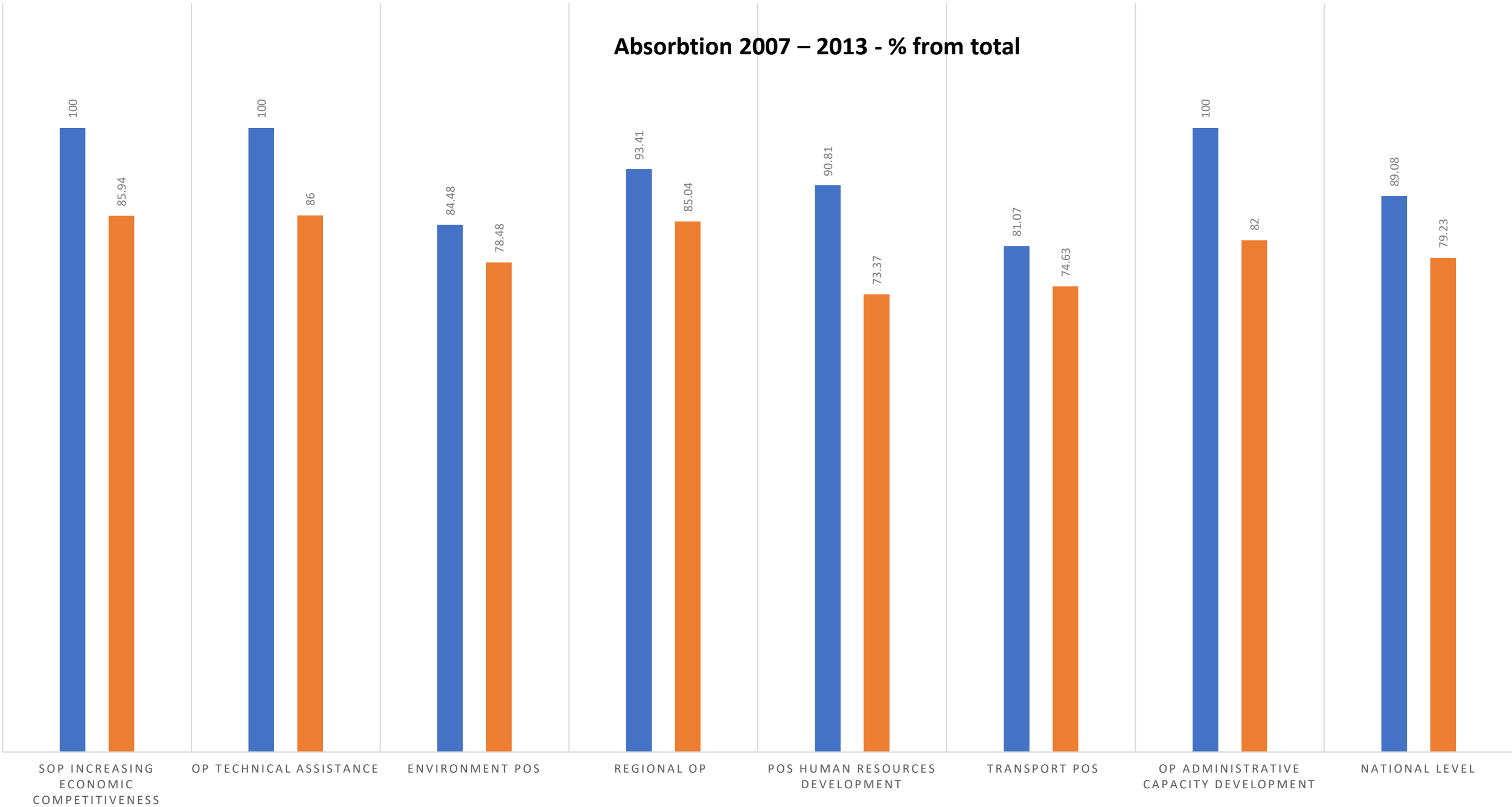
Source: 2007 – 2013 programming
period

Absorbtion 2007 – 2013 - euro

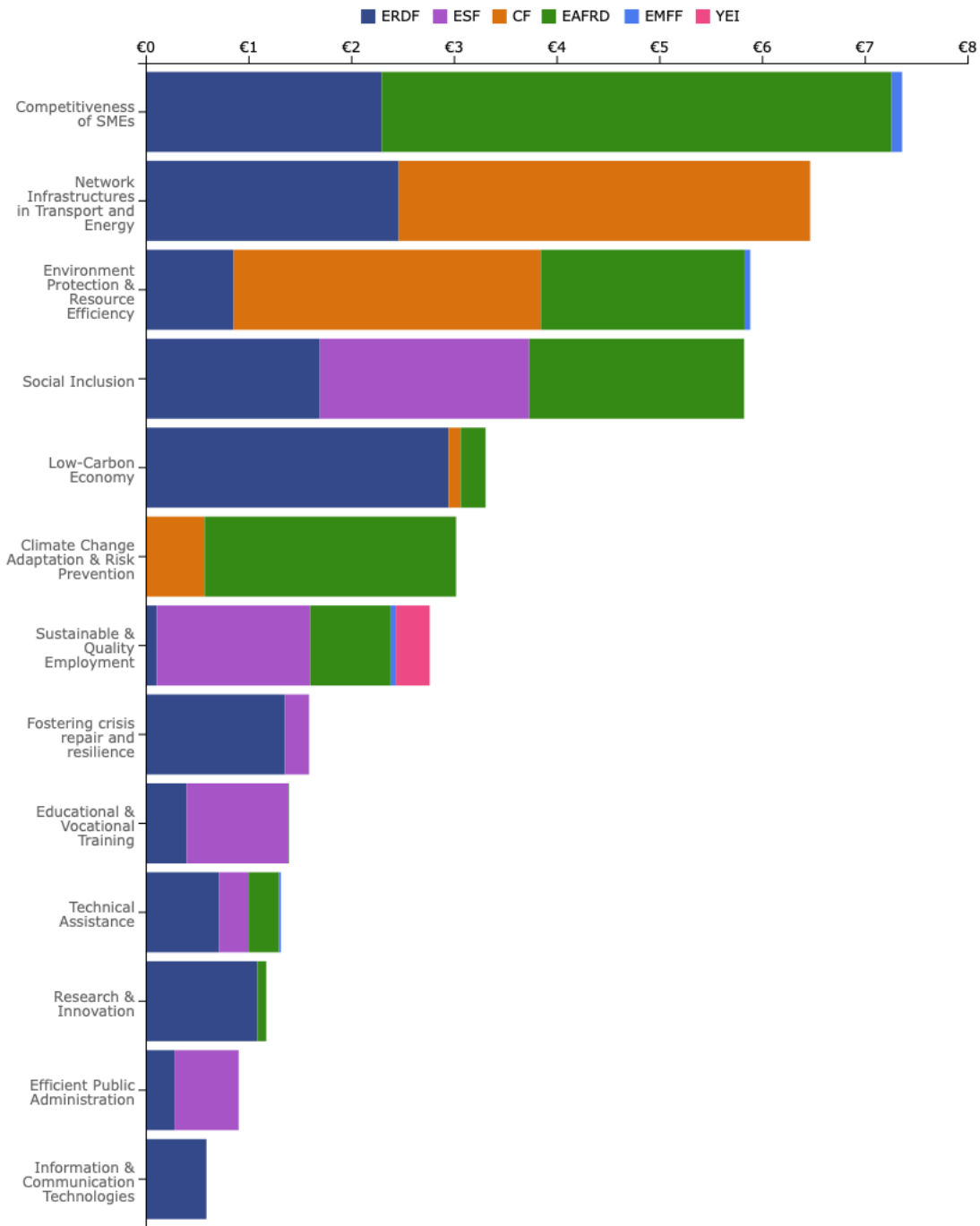


■ Current absorbtion ■ Effective absorbtion

Absorbtion 2007 – 2013 - % from total



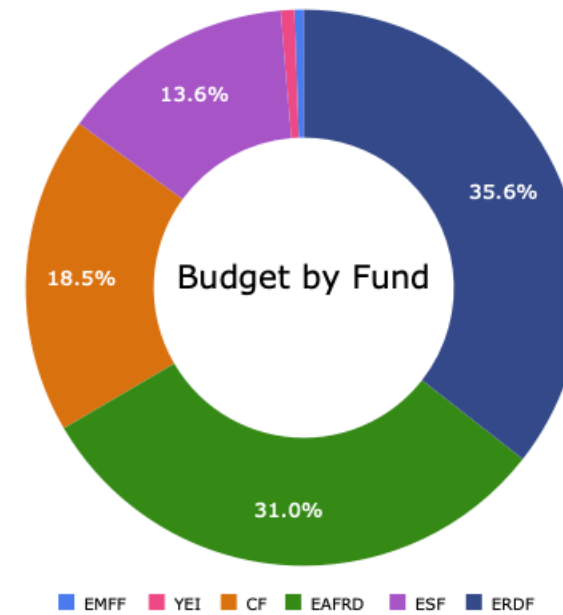
ESIF 2014-2020: Total Budget by Theme (daily update): Romania, EUR Billion



Refresh Date: 30/06/2022

Cohesion Policy in Romania 2014 - 2020

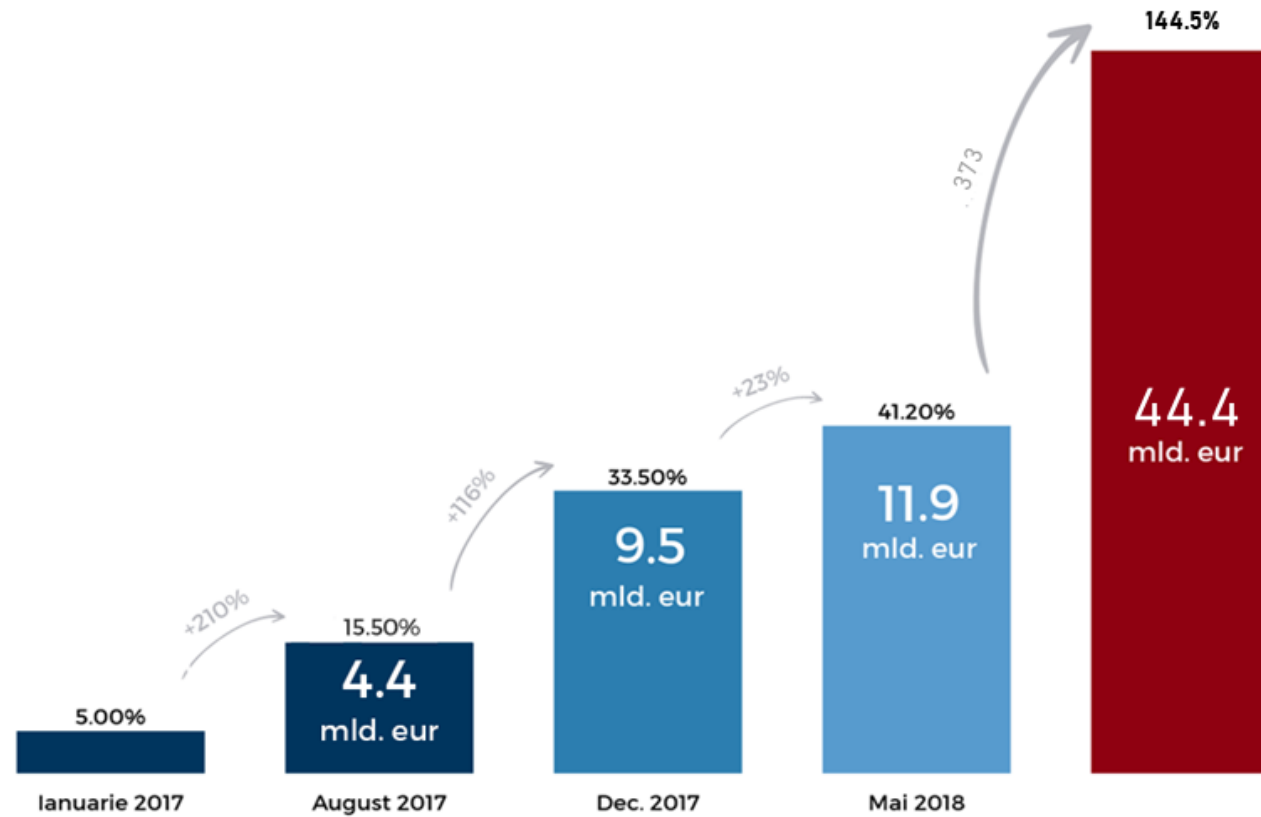
ESIF 2014-2020: Romania Budget by Fund, EUR (daily update)



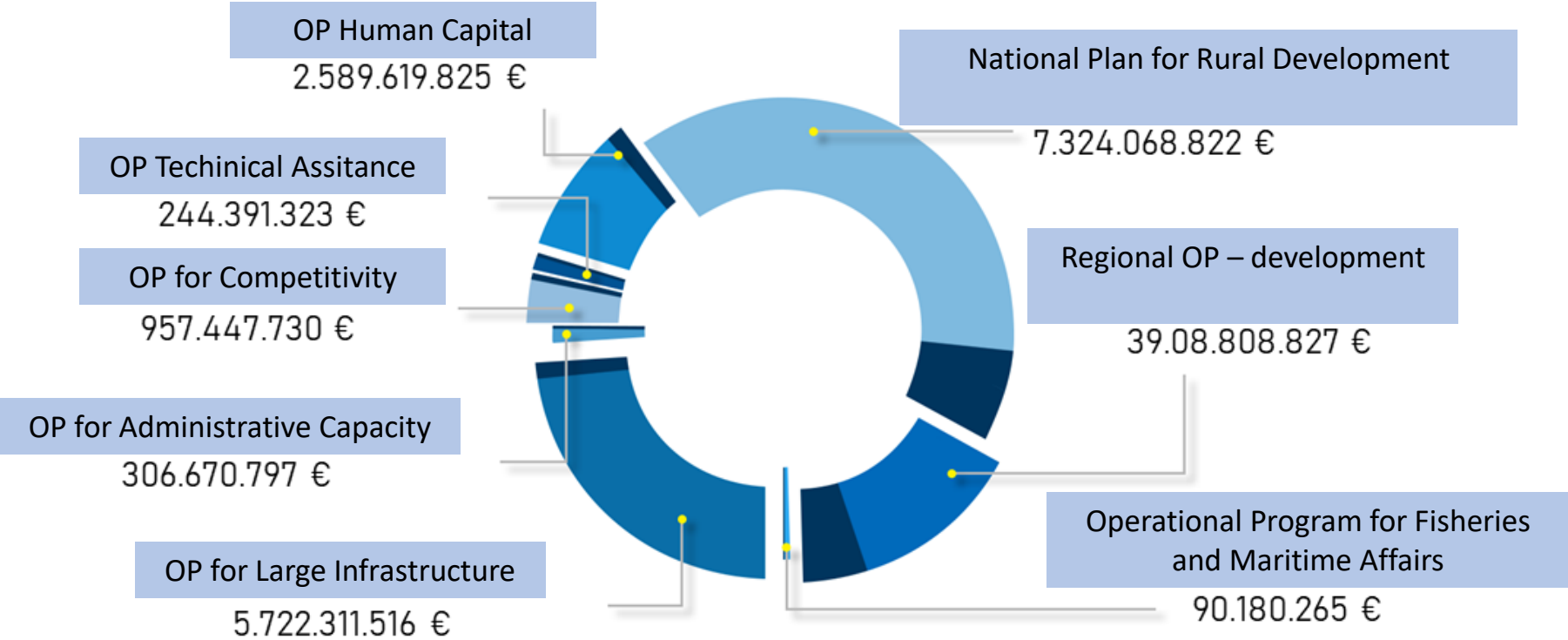
Refresh Date: 30/06/2022

Source: www.cohesiondata.eu

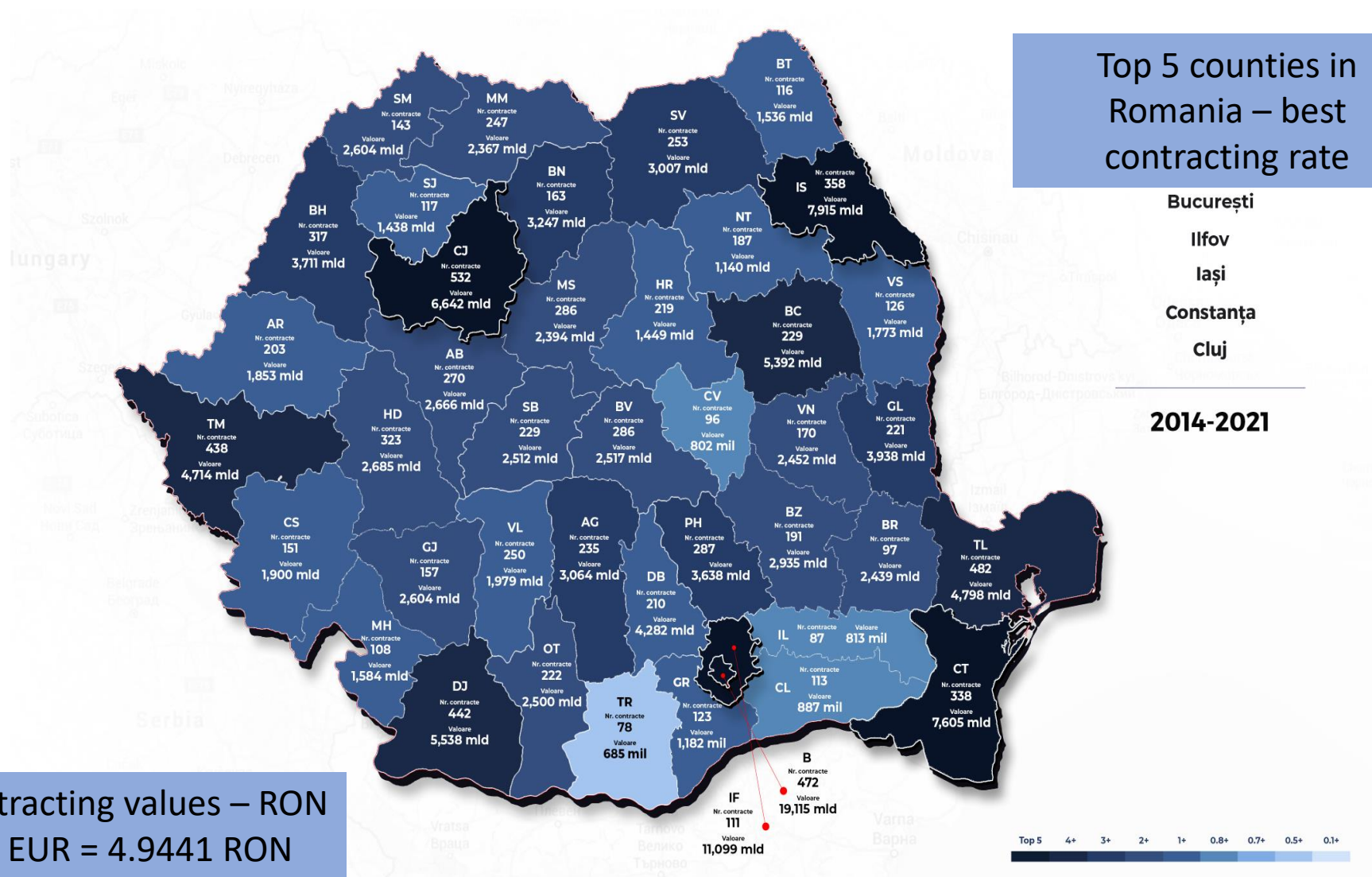
Dynamic of the contracting rate 2014 - 2020 - 30.09.2021



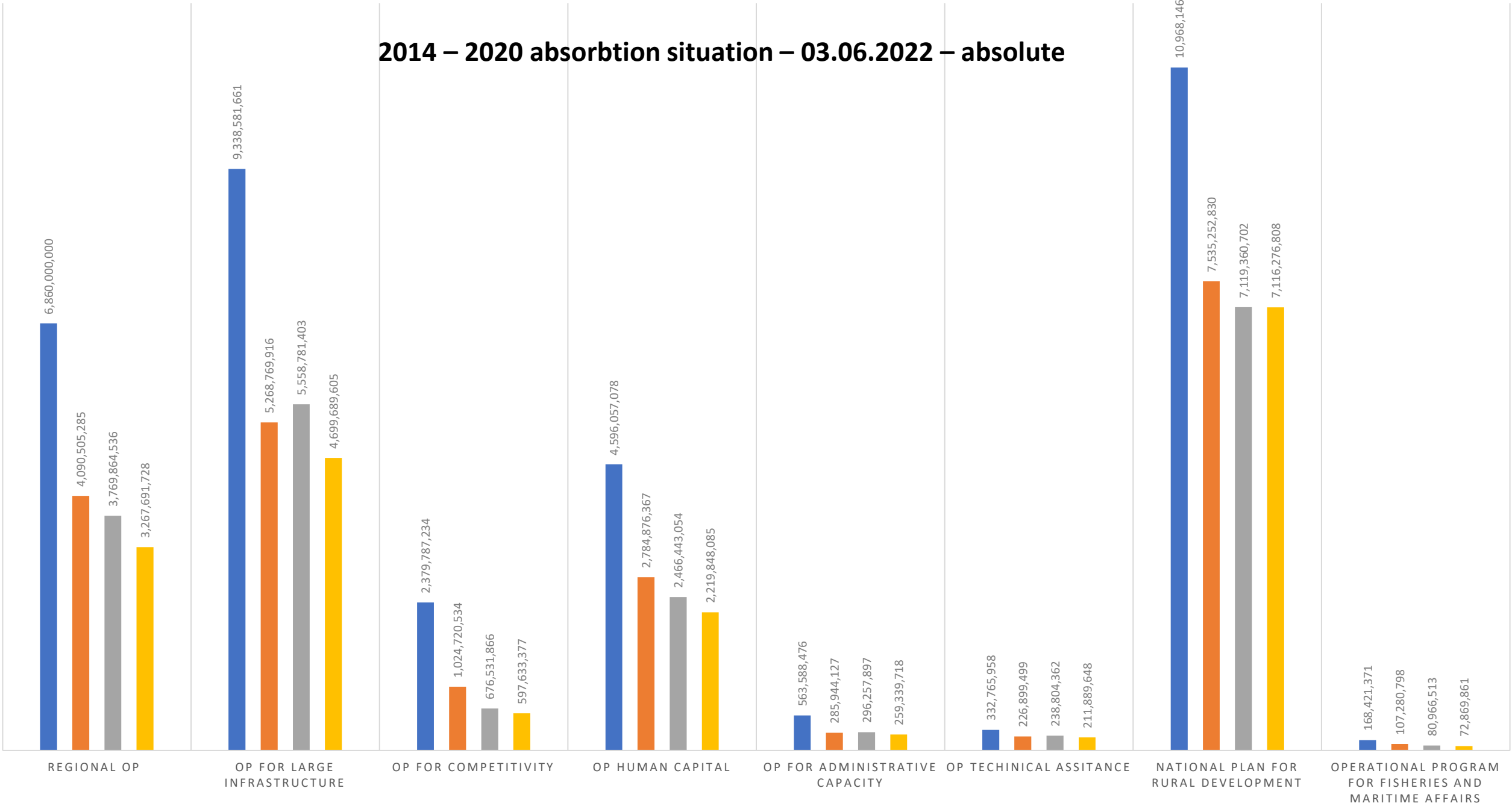
Funds allocation for every operational program



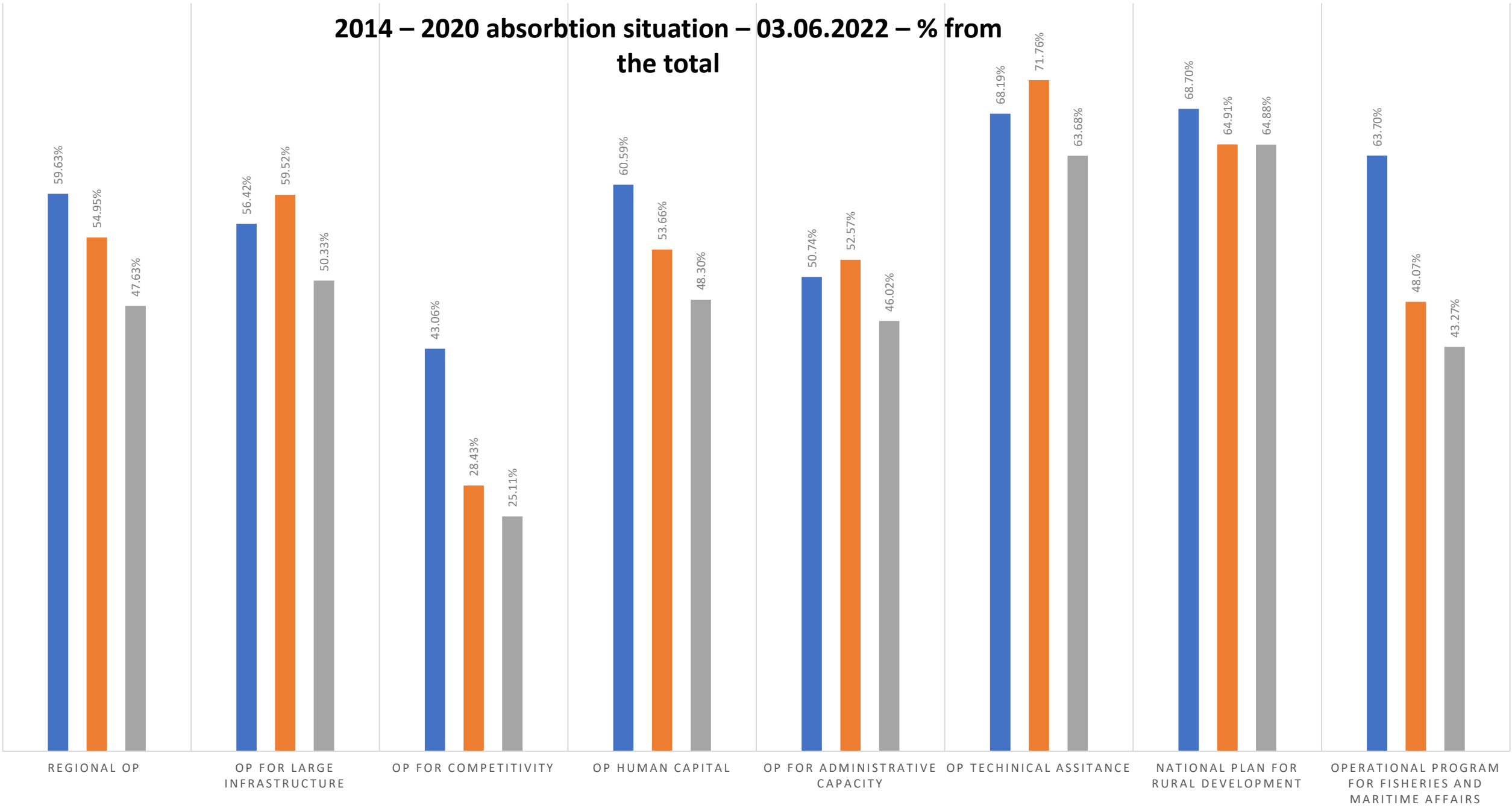
Contracting rate 2014 – 2021 – 30.09.2021



2014 – 2020 absorbtion situation – 03.06.2022 – absolute



2014 – 2020 absorbtion situation – 03.06.2022 – % from the total





Problems

- Access to expertise and specific experts
- No clear image of the private and public property
- More coherence between calls for proposals from different operational programs
- A weak link between the immediate needs of the mountains areas and what is financed by the EU is important
- Difficult to compete with other regions – competition principle – at the call for proposals level
- Lack of institutional capacity; lack of liquidities

Solutions

- Improving access to expertise
- An integrated approach between the project financed by EU funds
- Balanced approach between all the ingredients of the sustainable development
- Assuring enough human resources for supporting the absorption
- Complementarity between different regions
- Be part in thematic networks

Increasing the exposure of the mountains area specificity in the strategies and relevant documents of the programming period
2014 - 2020, 2021 - 2027

Partnership agreement – mentions linked to mountains area – 2014 - 2020



Only 4 mentions linked to mountains areas

Need of integrated forest management

Recognising the specificity of the mountain areas

Need of an integrated approach, especially for high or isolated mountains area

Common Agricultural Policy is supporting mountains areas through some measure for compensatory payments – weak isolation of the mountain areas, more exactly urban/rural distribution is more important

Policy principles for mountain areas



The principle of sustainable development

Giving equal opportunities to a decent standard of living for all inhabitants

Partnership - public participation and stakeholder involvement

The principles of precaution and prevention

Programmatic approach

Maintaining the ecological balance of ecosystems, conserving biodiversity and a natural habitats



Objectives for the mountains areas

Improving the quality of environmental factors in the disadvantaged mountain area
and conserving biodiversity

Conservation and capitalization of cultural resources

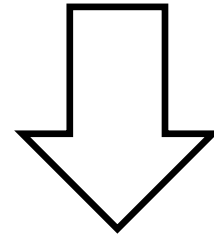
Increasing economic competitiveness

Increasing the attractiveness of the disadvantaged mountain area and stabilizing the
mountain population

National Strategic Guidelines for the Sustainable Development of Disadvantaged Mountain Areas (2014-2020)

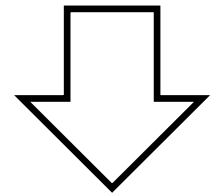


Weak link with the operational programs



No clear link with the call for proposals

No clear transferals to the project evaluation criteria

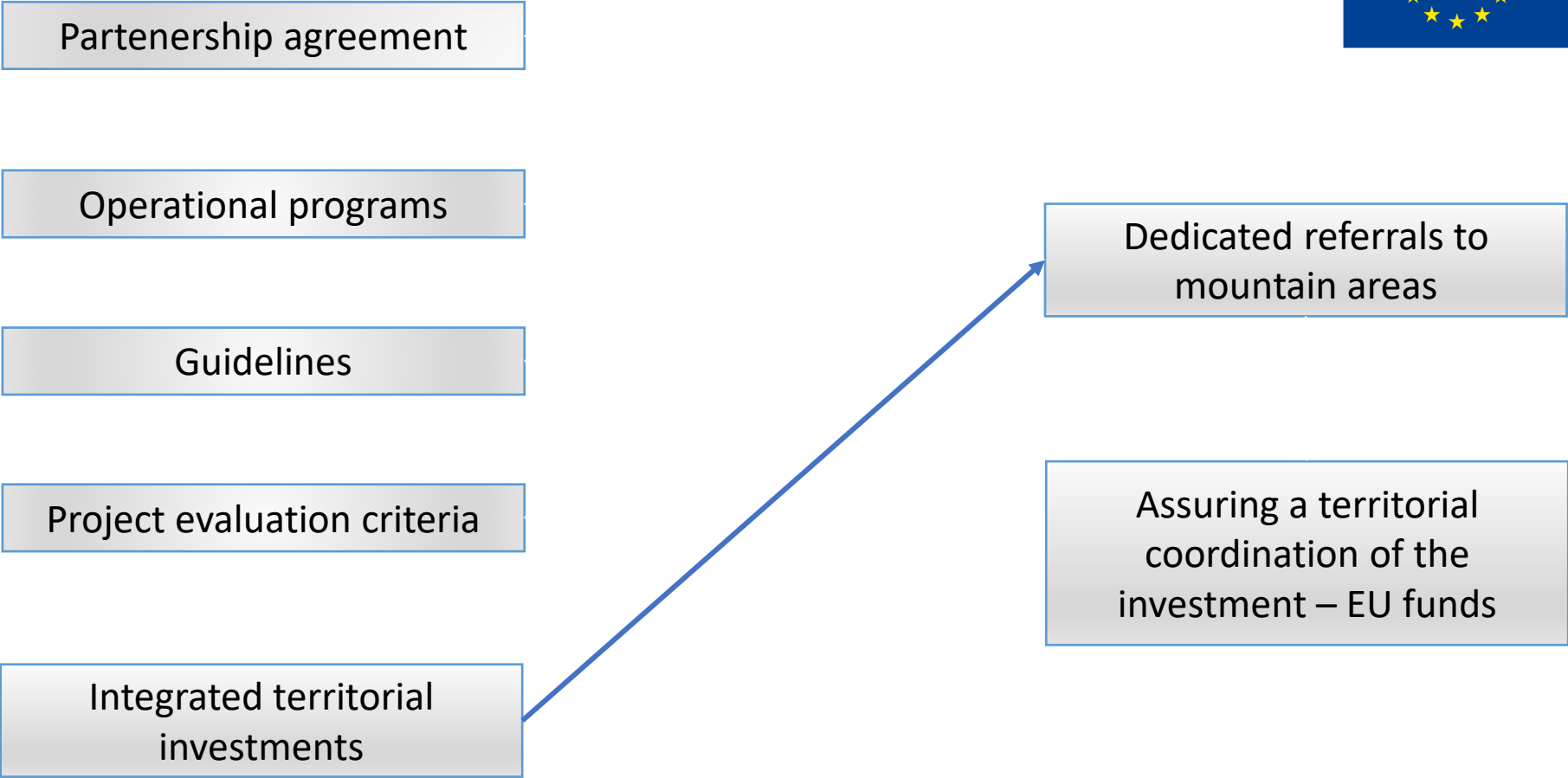


No additional points dedicated to mountain areas

Weak social criteria

Weak environmental criteria

Favorising mountain areas in ESIF



No policy can be territorial blind anymore!!!!!!



Ideas for mountains areas

Integrated territorial investments instrument
dedicated for a specific mountain area

ITI Tara Făgăraşului – 2021 – 2027
programming period

Dedicated operational program

ITI Moşii Ţara de Piatră – 2021 –
2027 programming period

Prioritary axis for mountain areas

Better approach in the competition
principle – ESIF system

Better approach in the
complementarity principle – ESIF
system

Thank you!

