For more information about the ERDF in Brandenburg and about co-financed projects, including a list of all the projects funded by the ERDF there, go to www.efre.brandenburg.de. There you will also find a list of ERDF co-financed projects in Brandenburg.

Applications and advice
ILB (Brandenburg’s business development and promotion bank) manages all funding programmes co-financed by the ERDF in Brandenburg. For information on how to apply, contact ILB’s customer service representatives.

Investitionsbank des Landes Brandenburg (ILB)
Steinstraße 104-106
14480 Potsdam
Phone: (0331) 660 2211
E-Mail: kundenberater@ilb.de
Internet: www.ilb.de

Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of the state of Brandenburg
Managing Authority ERDF
Heinrich-Mann-Allee 107
14473 Potsdam
Phone: (0331) 8 66 - 17 13
E-Mail: efreinfo@mwe.brandenburg.de
Internet: www.efre.brandenburg.de

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Revised: June 2015
The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is the European Union’s main instrument for regional development. It is intended to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by eliminating inequalities between the various regions.

In the 2014-2020 programming period, Brandenburg is set to receive €845.6 million from the ERDF. This means that, together with the necessary co-funding from the government of Brandenburg, Germany’s federal government and the project applicants, all in all about €1 billion can be invested in projects benefiting the region.

The aim of Brandenburg’s ERDF allocation is to strengthen the region’s international innovation capacity and competitiveness in order to create sustainable, self-supporting economic structures. This is to be achieved through a raft of measures pooled into four priority areas where action is urgently needed. In some cases, these areas build on work carried out in connection with previous funding programmes.

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**Priority areas of ERDF funding**

**Strengthening applied research, development and innovation (R&D&I)**
- Expanding the R&D&I infrastructure of Brandenburg’s universities and research institutes
- Improving the R&D&I capacity of businesses in Brandenburg
- Support for applied research at research institutes
- Strengthening the innovation capacity of the private sector by means of better networking with cluster actors and technology transfer

**Raising the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)**
- Support for start-ups and innovative young companies
- Strengthening the international competitiveness of SMEs through market development activities
- Building up the growth and innovation capacity of SMEs in Brandenburg

**Promoting efforts to reduce CO₂ emissions in all economic sectors**
- Expanding storage capacity and control systems for energy generated locally
- Improving energy efficiency in private enterprise
- Increasing energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in public infrastructure (e.g. residential districts, individual buildings, landfills)
- Support for sustainable mobility

**Integrated development of urban and rural areas**
- Improving and protecting the urban environment through the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources
- Investing in the structural improvement of selected inclusive schools
- Economic improvement and stabilization in selected urban-rural areas

**ERDF funding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Financial volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research and development</td>
<td>€346 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SME competitiveness</td>
<td>€179 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO₂ reduction</td>
<td>€160 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban-rural development</td>
<td>€127 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical assistance</td>
<td>€34 million</td>
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</tbody>
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