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EU Cohesion Policy and Territorial Development

The European Union's cohesion policy represents the largest investment framework aimed at supporting regions and cities across the Union. Its primary objective is to promote balanced, sustainable and inclusive development by addressing economic, social and territorial disparities between different areas.

Through cohesion policy, the EU provides targeted financial resources to support job creation, enhance competitiveness and foster innovation, while also strengthening social inclusion and environmental sustainability. Particular attention is given to regions facing structural challenges, such as lower levels of economic development, demographic decline or the need to transition towards a low-carbon economy.

Investment priorities under cohesion policy include the modernisation of transport and energy infrastructure, the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency, the digital transformation of public services and businesses, and the reinforcement of skills and human capital. These interventions are designed to improve the quality of life of citizens while increasing the long-term resilience of regional economies.

A key feature of cohesion policy is its place-based approach, which ensures that strategies and investments are tailored to the specific needs and potential of each territory. The policy is implemented in close cooperation with national, regional and local authorities, as well as with economic and social partners, in order to maximise impact and ensure effective use of resources.

By combining strategic programming, multi-level governance and long-term investment planning, EU cohesion policy plays a crucial role in strengthening territorial cohesion and supporting regions in responding to global challenges such as climate change, digitalisation and economic transformation.