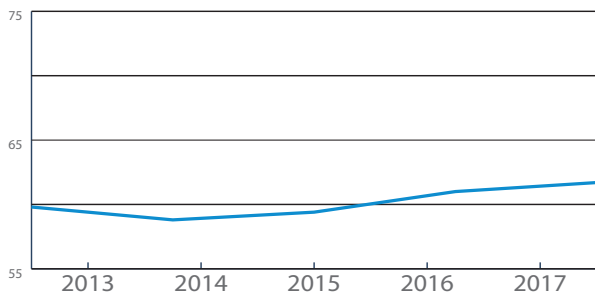




Croatia joined the European Union on 1 July 2013. For the Member State to catch up with the EU average in terms of growth and income, the EU invested massively via its Cohesion Policy and, since 2014, via the Investment Plan for Europe, the Juncker Plan. These investments have had very positive results on the ground, not only thanks to EU funding but also to the efforts of Croatia to reform and become an attractive place for investors and businesses.

Convergence: since 2013, Croatia's GDP per capita has grown by **2** percentage points compared to the EU average.

Croatia - GDP/head (PPS), index EU-28=100



Growth: Croatia's GDP per capita grew by **15%** over the period 2012-2018.



€11.34 billion

is invested in Croatia under the European Structural and Investment Funds for the period 2013 until 2020

€917 million

of additional investments mobilised in Croatia under the Juncker Plan since 2014

Since the beginning of the Juncker Commission in 2014, the European Structural and Investment Funds and the Juncker Plan have supported **8,241** Croatian small and medium businesses.

Since 2014, the EU has been providing structural funding equivalent to **80%** of all public investment in Croatia.

The EU invests the equivalent of **€2,504** per Croatian citizen in structural funding

The EU finances cohesion projects in Croatia to **85%** of their value



1,200 researchers with improved R&D infrastructure



315,000 households with access to broadband



6,880 businesses will receive support

Expected results of cohesion investments by 2020



2 million people with improved water supply and wastewater treatment



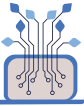
The EU-funded e-Schools project aims to increase digital technology use in 150 Croatian schools. Classes are equipped with tablets and computers, which are now part of the pupils' everyday lives.



EU funds helped develop an innovative robotic system for neurosurgery applications in Zagreb. The new system is made of a 'master robot' for the navigation and an assistant robot, which handles complex medical instruments, enabling it to perform actions that require incredible precision and accuracy. The system helps improve patient safety.



The Cohesion Fund invested in the upgrade of water supply and waste water networks in Croatia's Slavonia and Istria regions and on the island of Krk. In Slavonia, 125,000 people will benefit from better access to drinking water. The vast majority of the island of Krk will be connected to better drinking water and sewage networks once the project is completed in 2020.



BUILDING EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Croatia received €71.9 million under the EU research and innovation programme Horizon 2020. Within Horizon 2020, a programme called 'Spreading Excellence and Widening' is dedicated to capacity building in universities and research organisations. All Member States that joined the EU after 2004 can get financial support, create partnerships across Europe and build research centres under this programme. Croatia received €5.8 million of funding in this context.

Enlargement benefits all. By extending the Single Market, it opens new markets to companies in the EU and in the incoming countries. With higher income in these Member States thanks to EU investments, trade and investment opportunities increase everywhere in the EU. EU investments in these countries can contribute to jobs and growth in other Member States even more directly, when a company works as a contractor in an EU-funded project across the border.

For example, it is estimated that almost a third of the impact of Cohesion Policy on Germany's GDP comes from the funding programmes implemented in other Member States.

Finally, a larger Single Market is more attractive to investors worldwide: Foreign Direct Investment to the EU has more than doubled as a percentage of GDP since the 2004 enlargement – from 15.2% of GDP in 2004 to 40.9% of GDP in 2017.