

What are European Union funds?

EU funds are an instrument for the implementation of the European Union's economic and social cohesion policy, the objective of which is to eliminate differences in the levels of development among the EU regions and member states and the relative primitiveness of the most disadvantaged regions.

The Czech Republic is one of the less wealthy European Union states and between 2007 and 2013 it can draw approximately EUR 26.7 billion, i.e. approximately CZK 753 billion, from EU funds in order to improve the standard of living of its citizens. For comparison: the Czech Republic's budget for 2007 is CZK 1 040.8 billion. In other words, the amount of the Czech Republic, entitled to draw from EU funds between 2007 and 2013, corresponds to almost three quarters of the Czech Republic's state budget for 2007. To make the use of the funds successful, the Czech Republic has to infuse about CZK 133 billion from its national resources to co-finance the projects, as the European Union finances a maximum of 85% of eligible costs.

WHO CAN ASK FOR SUPPORT?

Projects can be submitted by municipalities, regions, ministries, businesses, transportation infrastructure owners, non-profit organisations, schools, research institutions and many others.

HOW ARE THE RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED?

The resources are provided from three funds:

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The European Social Fund (ESF)

The Cohesion Fund (CF)

Projects co-financed from EU funds are implemented by means of sectoral and regional operational programmes.