



## Structure

- an over view of the Highlands & Islands of Scotland – issues and opportunities
- how we have used EU funds to date good and bad.
- opportunities for 2014-2020 programming

#### HIE Area



## The Highlands & Islands

- characterised by mountains and islands
- fragile (but often not fertile) environment
- sparsely populated and scattered settlements
- past dominance of primary industries – farming and fishing
- SMEs dominate









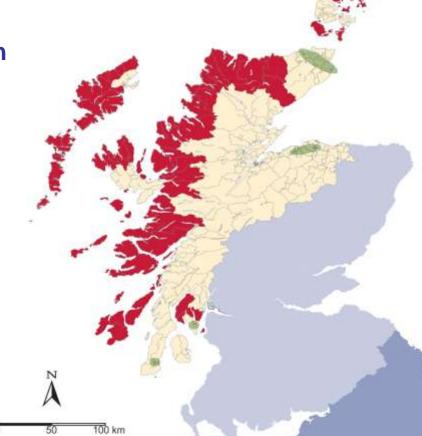




# **Priority Areas**

Fragile Areas

Areas of employment action





Map © Ashworth Maps and Interpretation Ltd 2009. Based on Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown Copyright Highlands and Islands Enterprise 100020539











# EU Programmes in the Highlands & Islands 2007 -2013

- H&I Structural Funds Programme (Convergence)
- €180M (€120M ERDF, €60m ESF)
- 2 Strategic Delivery Bodies (HIE, University of the H&I plus competitive funding rounds

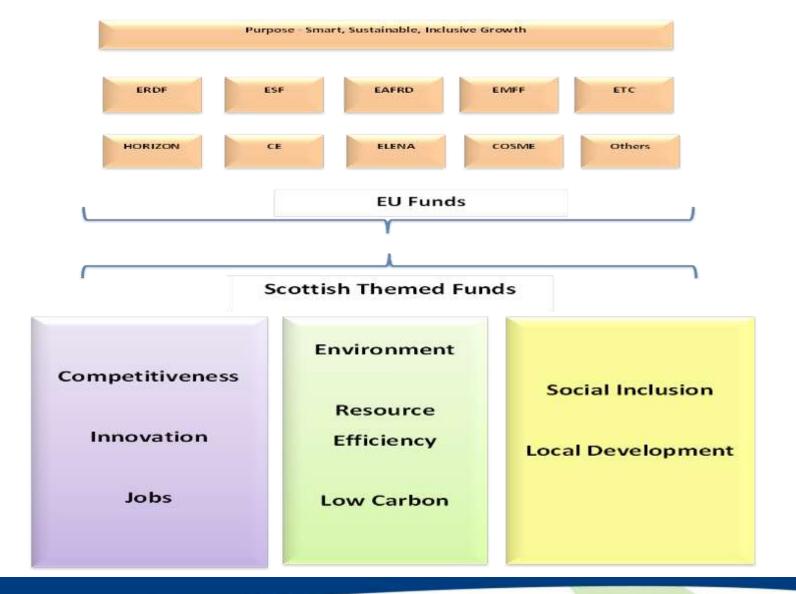
\_\_\_\_\_

- Scottish Rural Development Programme €600m split across 4 axes.
- Continuous approval of forestry and some environmental programmes. Competitive funding rounds for farm / business investment
- LEADER 6.5% of funds



### Lessons Learned 2007 - 2013

- there needs to be a clear strategic rationale for intervention. Programming suffered when this was not evident
- national delivery must take account of regional circumstances
- poor integration means missed opportunities
- strategic focus, not spreading funds thinly



#### Governance SG/Managing Authority Partnership Agreement Operational OP OP OP OP OP Programme Partnership Agreement Monitoring Committee Fund for: Fund for: Fund for: Competitiveness Environment Social Inclusion Innovation •Resource Efficiency Local Development •Jobs Low Carbon



DA

#### What we like...

- a drive to integrate funding to focus on key EU2020 / Scottish themes
- a focus on outcomes and impacts what difference is EU funding going to make?
- Extended use of strategic delivery
  mechanisms...combined with the possibility of using
  new tools...from national to local level

#### ...and what we don't

- an all Scotland approach makes it more difficult (though not impossible) to address the specific issues and opportunities of the Highlands & Islands
- a governance structure which could exclude some stakeholders
- uncertainty and audit concerns do not encourage use of new tools

# Thank You

robin.clarke@hient.co.uk



