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## **BUSINESS PRINCIPLES FOR EU COHESION POLICY**

- Concentrate resources in a few priority areas, clearly helping to improve regional competitiveness. Implementation should be geared towards growth-driving and value-adding activities;
- Progressively move away from a one-off grant culture and enhance the leverage of structural funds. Existing instruments such as JEREMIE, should be revised to improve their uptake;
- Introduce a results-oriented approach, with independent evaluations and effective monitoring, rewarding best performing programmes;
- Ensure that the impact of structural funds is maximised by guaranteeing funds to all companies, based on the quality of the investment and its economic impact;
- Enhance business participation by further simplifying procedures and reducing administrative hurdles;
- Increase structural conditionality to strengthen institutional capacity, ensure a proper transposition of European legislation, and meet underlying conditions that ensure the success of projects. In the case of macroeconomic conditionality, BUSINESSEUROPE alerts to the risk of affecting end-beneficiaries unduly;
- Better coordination between regional projects and the National Reform Programmes through development and investment partnership contracts between the Commission and the member states.

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