

CZECH REPUBLIC AT THE TOP IN EU FUNDS SPENDING!



In recent years, the Czech Republic has been among the leaders in the use of European funds that have long helped to reduce disparities across regions and the entire European Union. We are currently succeeding in using up all of the funding of the previous programme period 2014–2020, and the start of the new 7-year period is also going well.

100%
of funds for the
2014–2020 period
spent

The 2014–2020 programme period is closing - we'll use it up!

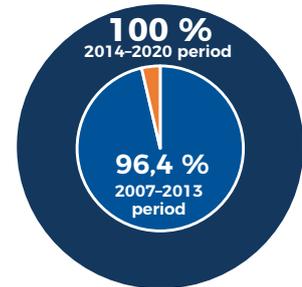
By the end of April 2024, over CZK 674 billion was paid out to Czech beneficiaries, so it can currently be expected that 100% of the funds allocated for the 2014–2020 programme period will be absorbed.*

This success speaks primarily to the high ability of Czech beneficiaries **to effectively spend funds on projects beneficial to citizens**. Equally important is the quick and precise administration of the steps involved in the preparation of payment requests, both by the beneficiaries and by the grant providers.

The majority of the funds, namely **34.1%**, were spent by state **organisational units**, another **28.9% by municipalities and regions**, and **22.4% by companies and commercial enterprises**. **7.4%** of all funds were used **by schools and research institutions**, a further **6% by associations, churches and foundations**, and **1.1% by cooperatives and homeowners associations**.

Thanks to effective absorption, meaningful projects are implemented throughout the country. They boost the growth of Czech regions.

COMPARISON OF SPENDING SUCCESS RATE IN PROGRAMME PERIODS

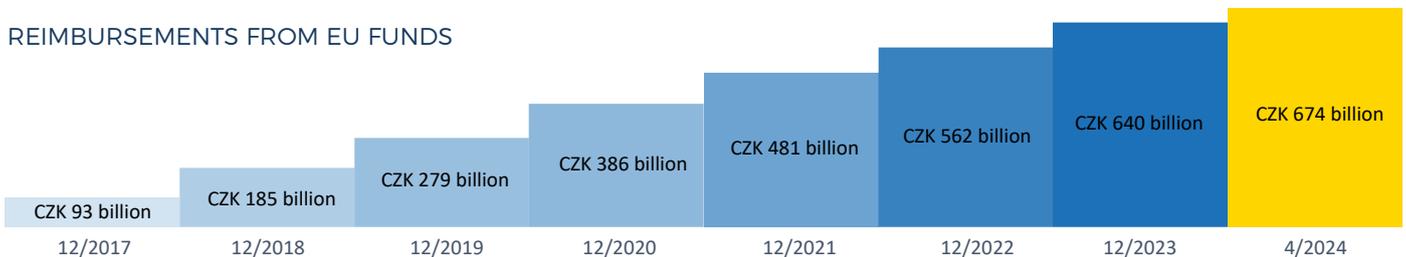


This result is also excellent compared to the previous period 2007–2013, when the Czech Republic used 96.4% of the negotiated allocation, namely EUR 24.8 billion.

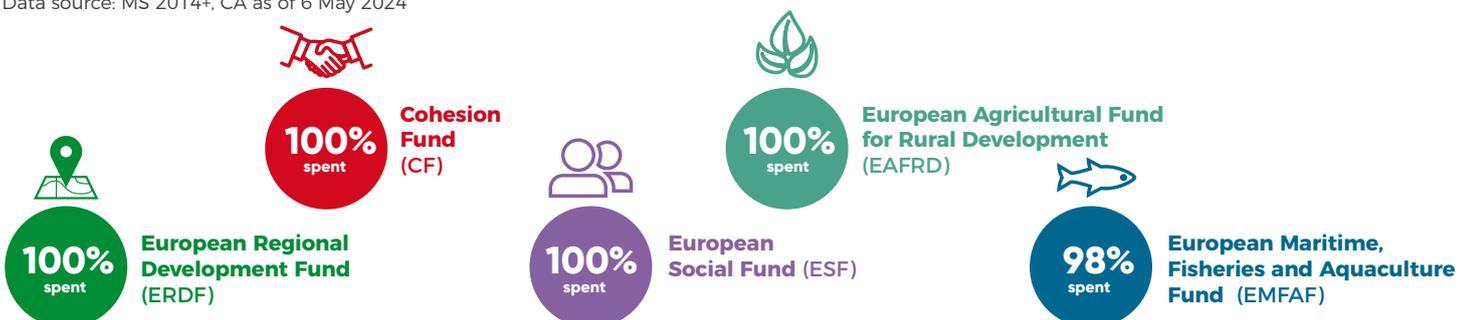
What will be next?

Aid beneficiaries had to complete their projects by the end of December 2023, and during January and February they submitted their last requests for payment to the grant providers. **The next milestone will be the sending of payment requests to the European Commission and their reimbursement to the Czech state budget with a final deadline of 31 July 2024.**

REIMBURSEMENTS FROM EU FUNDS



Data source: MS 2014+, CA as of 6 May 2024



*The final figure will be specified after closing the accounts and after any corrections by the European Commission.

European funds have improved our lives in a number of important areas since 2004.

Where have they helped Czechia the most?

Safer and faster journeys



Czech residents travel more safely and quickly on new sections of high-capacity roads and on a modernized railway network, travel times are shortened.

EU funds have helped to:

- upgrade or build **5,710** km of roads and motorways
- upgrade or build **1,090** km of railway lines
- build or modernize **248** terminals
- residents of **25%** of municipalities in Czechia to save an average of **4.3** minutes on travel time to their regional capital

Cleaner air, energy savings



Air pollution by pollutants from industry and local heat sources has significantly decreased, wastewater treatment is more effective, newly constructed and refurbished buildings are more energy efficient.

EU funds have helped to:

- modernize or newly build **721** wastewater treatment plants
- support **6,089** energy efficient building projects
- reduce the number of Czech residents affected by an exceeded nuisance limit of PM2.5 in the air to the current **1.4%**

Introducing innovation and supporting business



EU funds support applied research and development results and strengthen cooperation between research organizations and the application sector in specific projects. They help companies to kick-start their businesses and introduce innovations.

EU funds have helped to:

- publish **48,972** specialised publications and research results
- start business for **663** companies
- create or innovate **19,412** products

BEFORE & AFTER successful implementations

See examples of more than **150,000** projects implemented with the help of EU funds. The selected examples were supported from the Integrated Regional Operational Programme that has the largest financial allocation among programmes administered by the Ministry of Regional Development.



More up-to-date and comfortable travel

The Šumperk bus station has a newly reconstructed terminal, a modernized area in front of the station, an information system and furniture.



New exhibition spaces of a museum

After a fundamental reconstruction, the farmstead in Rymice became home to the depository of collection items and the exposition of the Museum of Kroměříž region.



European funding helps wherever we look.

Look around (also on the internet): kdefondyEUpomahaji.cz

Better education for all



Investing in education and ensuring equal opportunities for all students regardless of their individual needs or disadvantages. The quality of teaching staff, school management and the overall functioning of the education system is improving.

EU funds have helped to:

- support **12,185** kindergartens, primary and secondary schools and vocational colleges
- enable **4,840** students with specific needs to use counselling and assistance services
- support **313,226** extracurricular activities such as reading clubs or tutoring

More accessible and modern Integrated Rescue System and health care



The Integrated Rescue System (IRS) in Czechia is better equipped, faster and its services are more accessible to everyone. New segments of health care have also emerged, such as mobile palliative care or deinstitutionalized psychiatric care.

EU funds have helped to:

- buy **2,126** new vehicles for the IRS units
- modernize or newly build **675** facilities for the IRS units
- support **142** healthcare facilities
- establish **30** new Mental Health Centres

Innovation in social inclusion and employment



Investing in social inclusion and employment support brings real changes and strengthens social cohesion in our society. New solutions for social inclusion and employment support are piloted and the quality of work with people from target groups is improved.

EU funds have helped to:

- create **6,146** jobs for disadvantaged people, such as disabled or long-term unemployed persons
- support or newly create **113** community centres providing social and other services
- help **83,081** parents to work thanks to new kindergartens and other facilities caring for preschoolers

Data updated as of 30 April 2024



Better psychiatric care in Ostrava

The construction of a new psychiatric care pavilion at the University Hospital Ostrava significantly expanded the spectrum of services for local adult and child patients, the number of beds almost tripled.



Modern equipment for pupils

Primary school Nuselská in Havlíčkův Brod obtained new, modernly equipped laboratories and specialized classrooms, as well as a greenhouse, a roof garden and an observatory for practical teaching.



On 1 May 2024, the Czech Republic celebrated its 20 years' membership in the European Union.

One of the main goals of the European Union is **to raise living standards** through cohesion policy. That seeks **to balance the differences between regions** with the support of EU funds.

Czechia's successful start of the 2021-2027 period

The new period started even better. The Czech Republic has so far reimbursed beneficiaries with almost **twice as much funding** as in the previous programme period 2014-2020. As of the end of January 2024, it was almost **9% of the total allocation**. The large number of submitted projects and the triggered reimbursement process are proof that we have **learnt to use European funds to the full**. But it is no less important to monitor the results and long-term impacts that the investment brings.

The future after 2028?

Among the other European instruments, cohesion policy plays a vital role in the sustainable development of regions, is an important instrument for public investment, supports the functioning of the single market and the growth of EU competitiveness. Its **preservation** after 2028 is **a clear priority** for the Czech Republic.

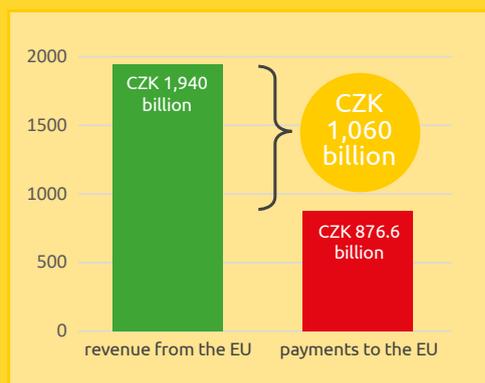
We currently have **the largest amount of aid** at our disposal, but this will change in the next programme period where funds will significantly decrease. **The challenge now is to find a recipe** for the necessary change in the way EU funds are used.

One such way will be to focus on **financial instruments** as repayable forms of aid. The Czech Republic will continue to promote the setting of **stable** and **simple** rules, the greatest possible degree of **flexibility** in harmonizing national and EU priorities and maintaining support for all regions.

We are Europe modern, stable, fair

Since the beginning of using EU funds, Czechia has been a **net recipient**. This means that it receives more from the European purse than it contributes to it.

From May 2004 to December 2023, the Czech Republic received a total of **CZK 1.94 trillion** from the EU budget. While it paid CZK 876.6 billion to it. Overall, the net revenue of the Czech Republic since joining the EU reached CZK 1.06 trillion.*



* if we include income from NGEU (the EU recovery instrument), it is CZK 1.14 trillion

Benefits of EU funds in figures

What has been supported in Czechia and in what areas can we verifiably observe the positive effects of European grants? The new evaluations provide concrete answers:



Summary of
evaluations



Co-funded by
the European Union



MINISTRY
OF REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT CZ



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