



EUROPEAN UNION



Lessons learned from closing the operational programmes and launching the new competitiveness operation programmes

**Ministry of Economy**

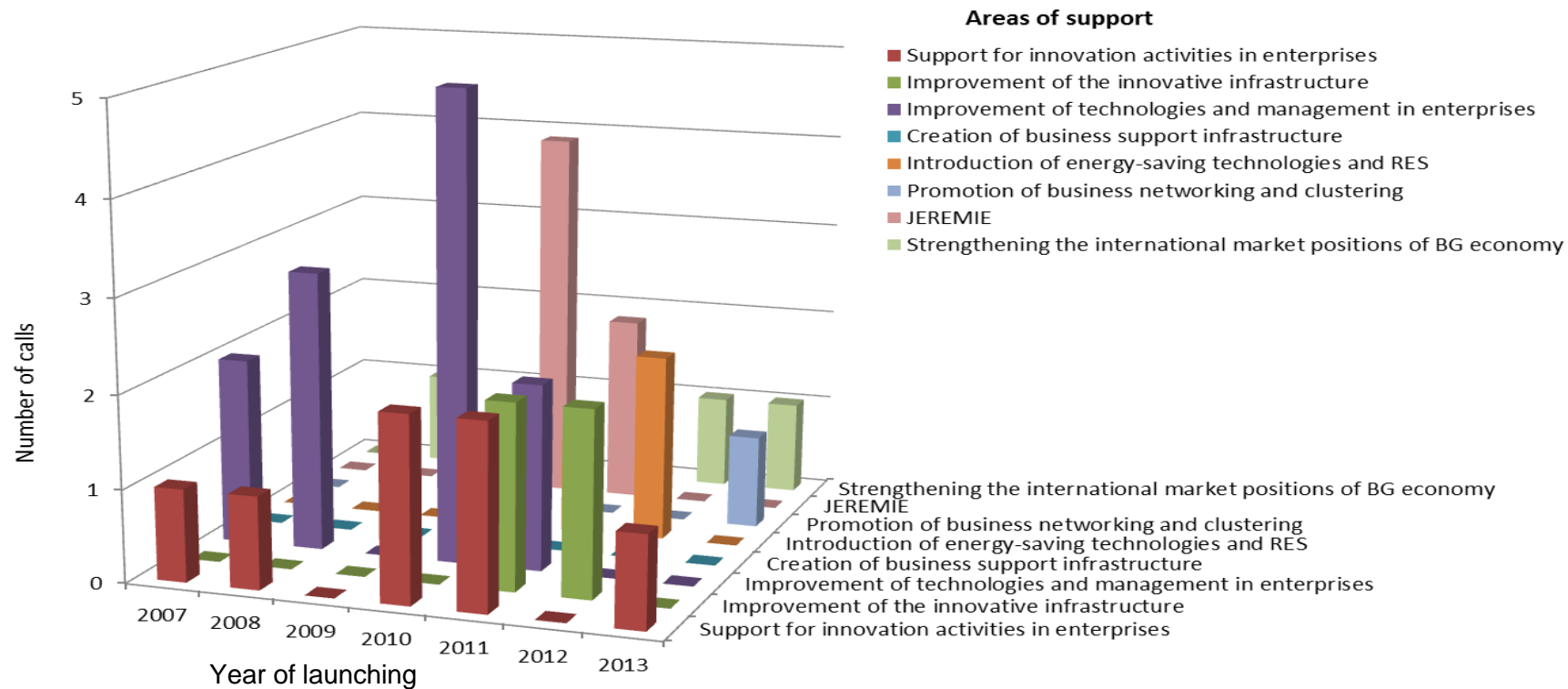
**MA of OP Competitiveness 2007-2013  
and OP Innovation and  
Competitiveness 2014-2020**

April 2015

# Where are we now ?

Area of support	Contracted budget	Share of contracted
Support for innovation activities in enterprises	188 063 019	138.59%
Improvement of the innovative infrastructure	76 007 594	101.34%
Improvement of technologies and management in enterprises	300 252 146	116.38%
Creation of business support infrastructure	5 426 031	30.14%
Introduction of energy saving technologies and RES	182 972 148	76.88%
Business networking and clustering	16 914 089	112.76%
JEREMIE	349 790 412	99.94%
Strengthening the international market positions of Bulgarian economy	37 076 367	98.46%
TA	38 370 403	110.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 194 872 210</b>	<b>102.81%</b>

# The way we passed through



# Bottlenecks and measures 2007-2013 1/3

**Heavy administrative structure**  
- presence of MA and IB  
(24 - 30 signatures to approve project report )



**Merging the two structures in one body since 2012 and constant effort to improve the work process within MA**

**Shortage of own funds of beneficiaries under PA1 & PA2 –**  
(more than 30 % from the contracts were terminated due to that reason)



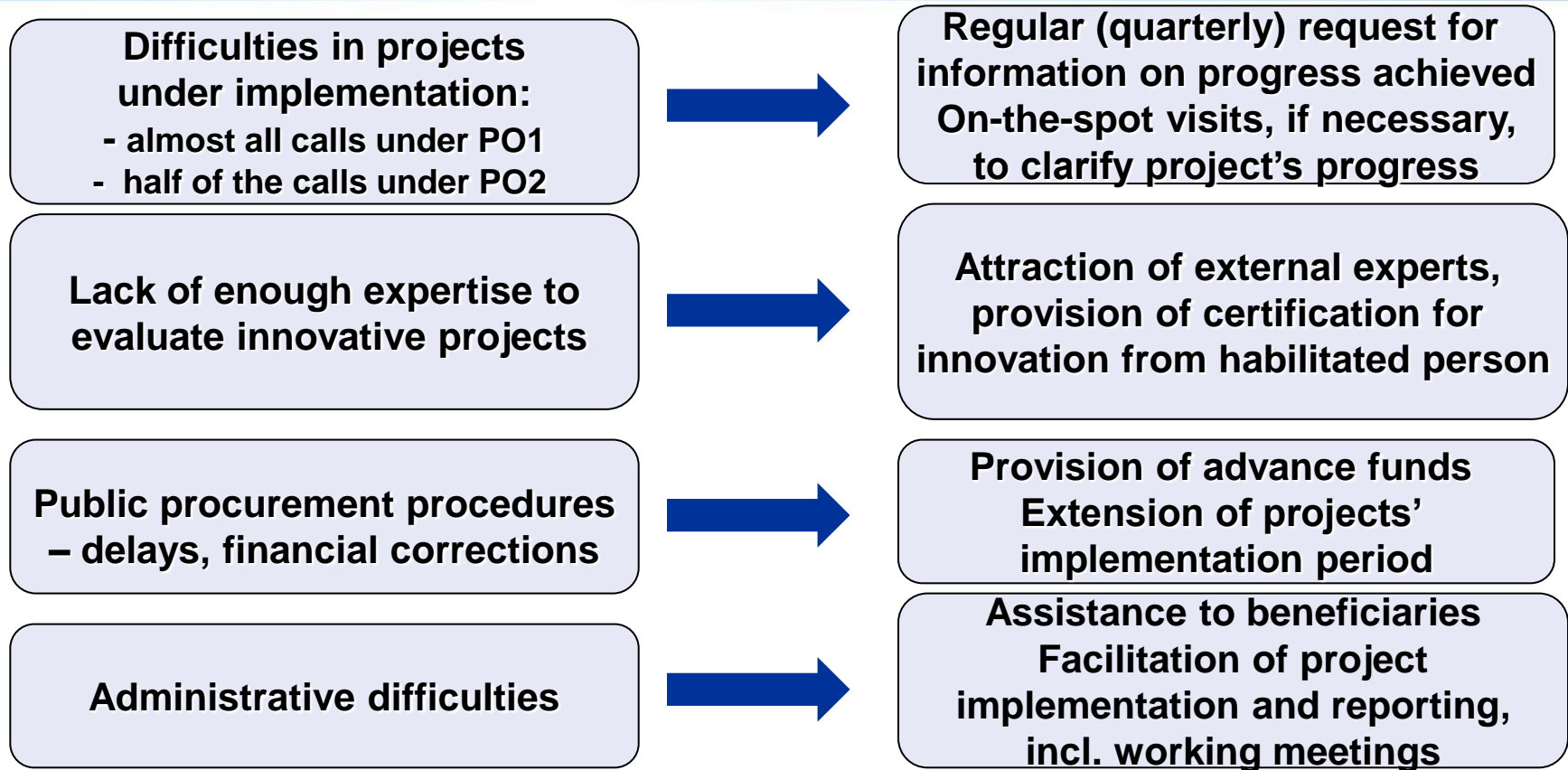
**Increase of the advance payments from 20 to 65%;**  
**Timely verification of the received claims for payments**

**Too narrow definition of “innovation” under PA 1 (only Innovation developed by applicants themselves)**



**Modification of the OP**  
(included possibility for purchase of innovation from third parties on market principles)

# Bottlenecks and measures 2007-2013 2/3



# Bottlenecks and measures 2007-2013 3/3

**Difficulties to attract private capital on behalf of the selected financial intermediaries**



**New FI where the attraction of private capital is made at the level of enterprise**

**Too late start of some of the measures under the OP  
(Energy and resource efficiency)**



**New design of the calls;  
Outsourcing of some of the activities to other structures.**

**Low level of absorption of the PA for the institutional beneficiaries and the one for innovations**



**Modification of the OP to increase the share of the FIs**

**Risk of loss of funds**



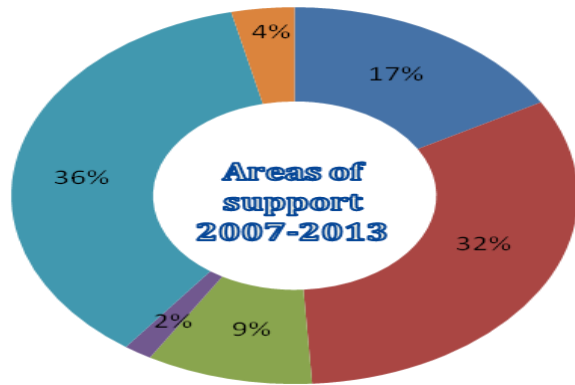
**Overcontracting**

# Achieved results 2007-2013

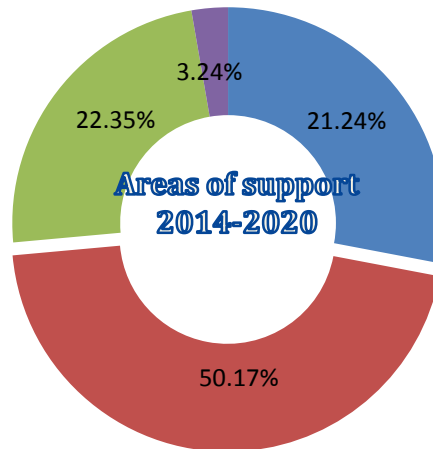


- Optimization of the grant procedures and decrease of the administrative burden for the candidates and beneficiaries of OP;
- Considerably improved design of the grant procedures;
- Less number of projects rejected on the basis of formal criteria;
- Increased interest for innovative projects as result of the modification of the OP;
- Accelerated reporting and verification of projects;
- Decreased number of terminated projects with every following procedure;

# What is the money for?



- Innovation and R&D support
- Technology modernization and QMS
- Energy efficiency and green economy
- Business infrastructure and cooperation
- Financial engineering instruments
- Business support services



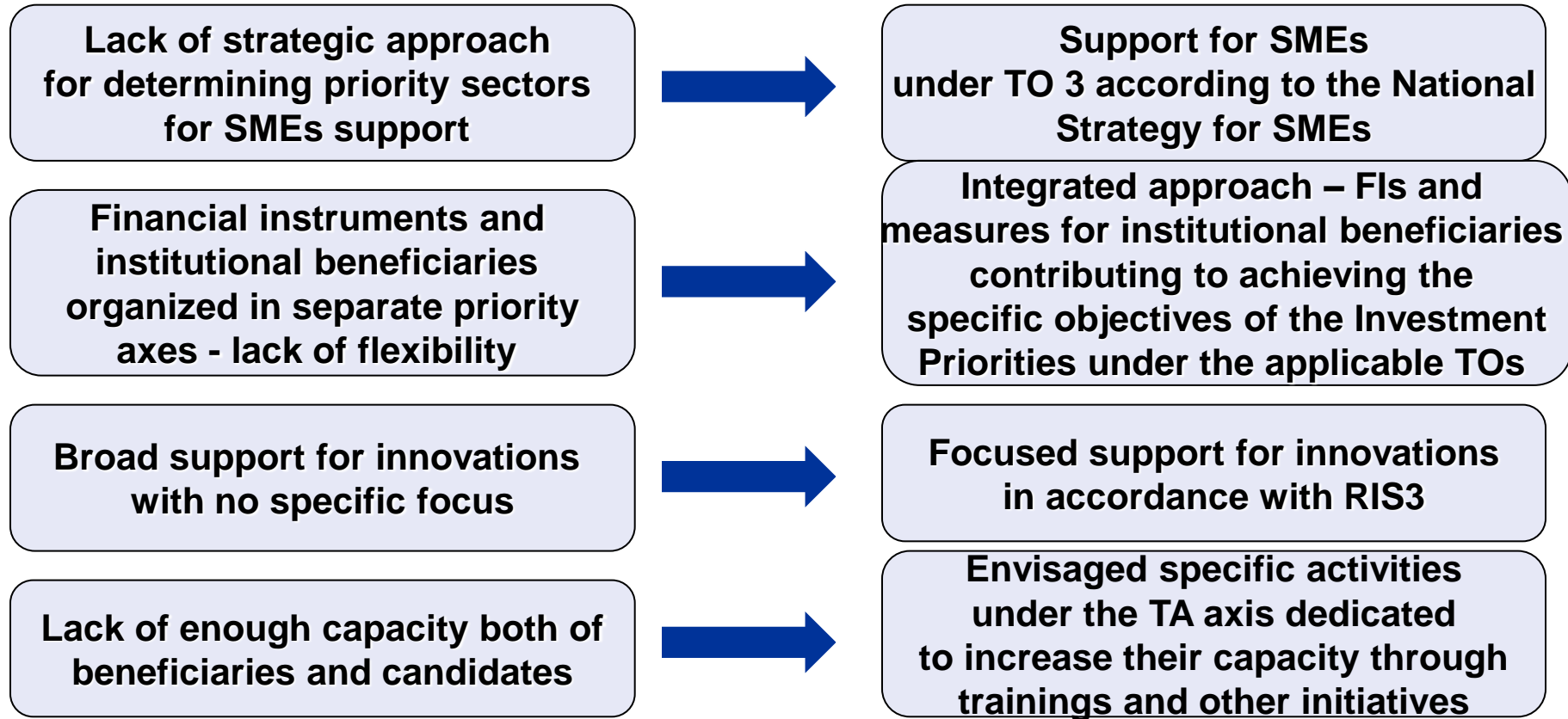
- TO 1: Technological development and innovation
- TO 3: Competitiveness of SMEs
- TO 6 and 7: Low carbon economy and Resource efficiency
- T07: Removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures



# Launching the new programming period

- OP “Innovation and competitiveness” 2014-2020 was approved from the EC on 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2015;
- The first grant scheme under the new OP is under public discussion;
- Two other grant schemes are in process of designing and ready to be launched till the end of year;
- The unified management information system (UMIS 2014-2020) is already designed and will be operational until June 2015 allowing on-line application, evaluation and reporting;

# Identified issues in OP 2007-2013 and their translation in the new OP



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

GENERAL DIRECTORATE “EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR  
COMPETITIVENESS”

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