



EUFEST

Celebrating the EU through
Teaching and Learning

Module 4

The EU Budget and Funding Opportunities



MODULE 4

The EU Budget and Funding Opportunities

Understanding the EU Budget and Funding Opportunities



In this module you will explore:

How the EU budget is financed and structured

The Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

Key EU spending priorities

Funding opportunities for schools and teachers

Erasmus+, Jean Monnet and eTwinning

Matching educational needs with EU funding opportunities

Why Does the EU Have a Budget?

The EU budget is not just accounting — it is a policy tool

It funds:

- education and training
- research and innovation
- agriculture and rural development
- regional development
- climate and digital transition

It directly impacts citizens and organisations across Europe

Key Principle

The EU budget is:

Long-term planned (7-year framework)

Shared between EU and Member States

Focused on European added value

It is called the **Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)**

Purpose: Long-term stability, political priority alignment, and financial discipline

Main EU Spending Priorities



The EU budget supports 3 big priorities:

1. Smart and Sustainable Growth

- Horizon Europe (research)
- Digital Europe Programme
- Erasmus+

2. Cohesion and Regional Development

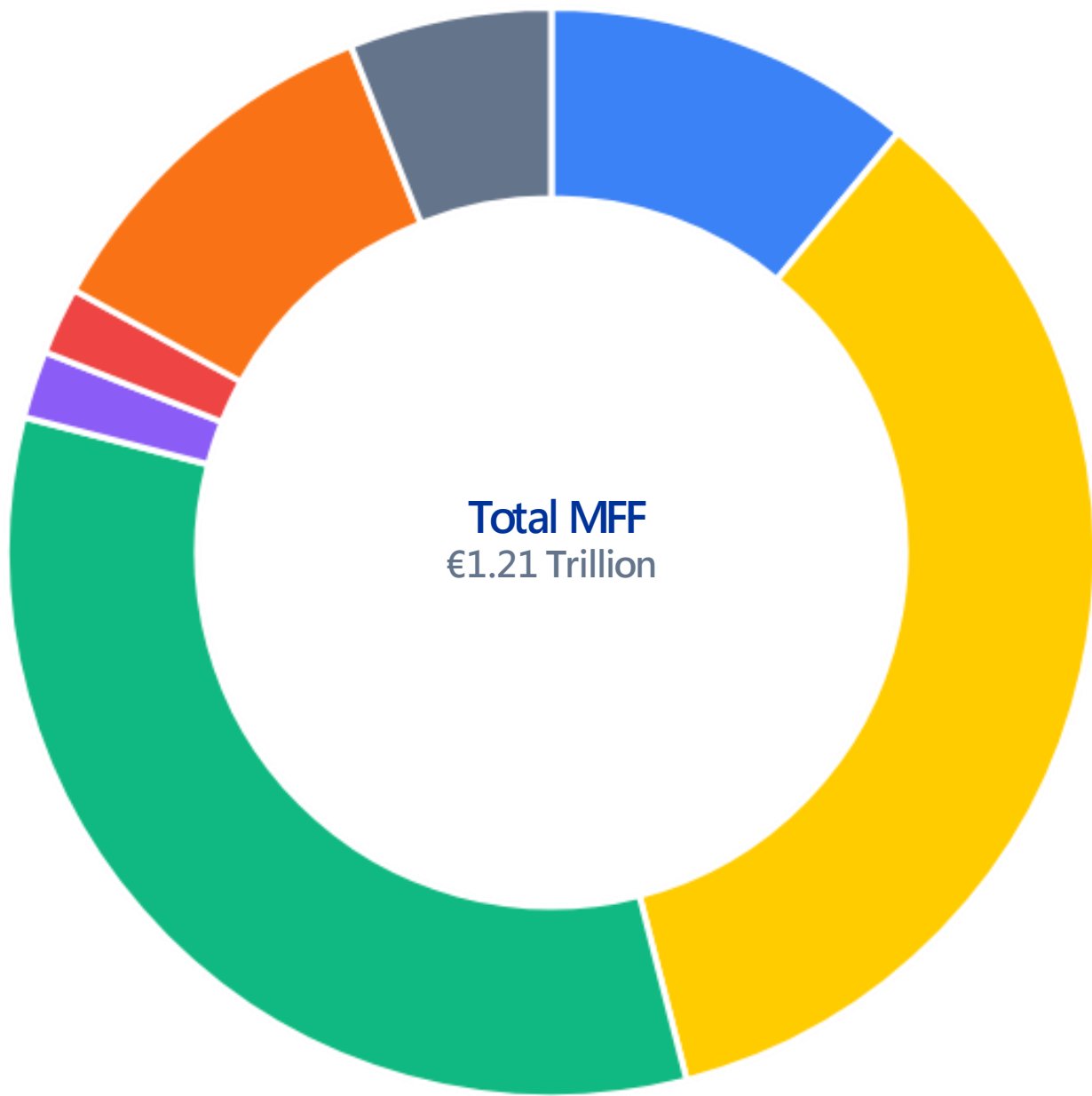
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

3. Natural Resources & Environment

- Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- Climate transition funds

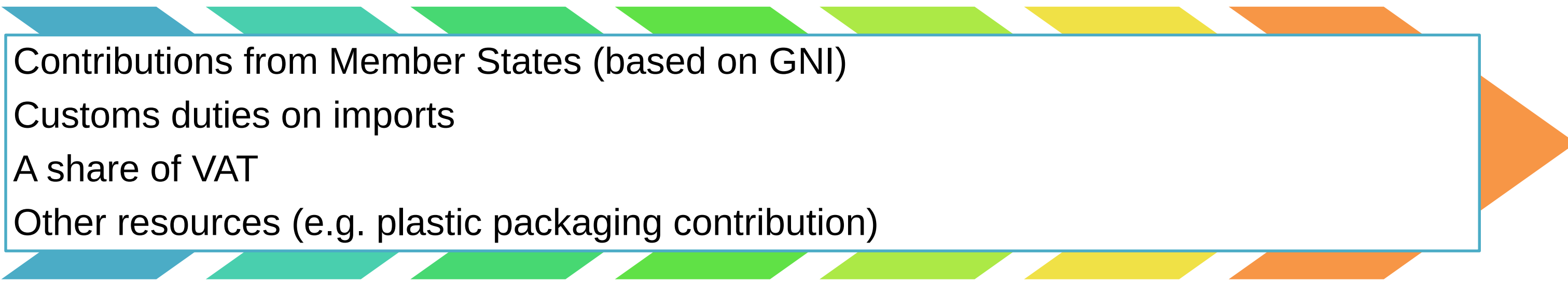
Where Does the Money Go? (The 7 Headings)

- 1. Single Market, Innovation & Digital
- 2. Cohesion, Resilience & Values
Our Focus! (Includes Erasmus+)
- 3. Natural Resources & Environment
- 4. Migration & Border Management
- 5. Resilience, Security & Defence
- 6. Neighbourhood & The World
- 7. European Public Administration



Where the Money Comes From

Main sources of EU revenue:



- Contributions from Member States (based on GNI)
- Customs duties on imports
- A share of VAT
- Other resources (e.g. plastic packaging contribution)

The EU does NOT mainly rely on direct taxation of citizens

Who Manages EU Funds?



Direct management

- European Commission

Shared management

- Member States + EU (most funds)

Indirect management

- International organisations

Most funding you access locally = shared management

Activity

The €10 Billion Challenge

What Are EU Funding Opportunities?



EU funding supports

Schools and VET providers

NGOs and municipalities

Universities and researchers

SMEs and startups

Typical formats

Grants

Calls for proposals

Tenders

Partnerships

Key EU Programmes (Examples)



Erasmus+

Education,
training, youth

Horizon Europe

Research and
innovation

European Social Fund+

Employment &
inclusion

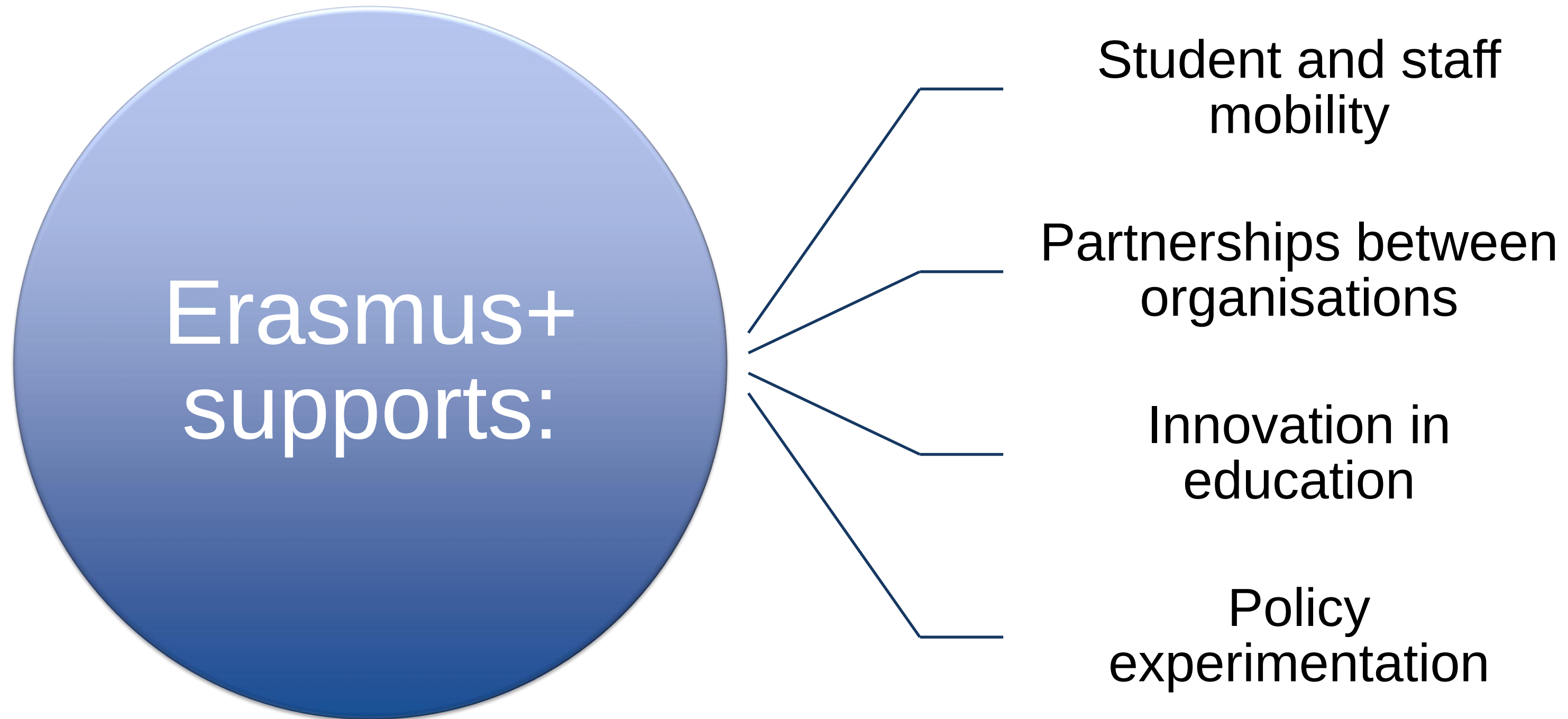
Interreg

Cross-border
cooperation

LIFE Programme

Environment
and climate

Erasmus+ as an Example



Co-funded by
the European Union

Erasmus+ as an Example

KA1: Learning Mobility



Focuses on the mobility of individuals. Supports **teacher training, job shadowing**, and professional development across Europe.

KA2: Cooperation



Encourages collaboration among organizations.
Enables **school partnerships**, sharing best practices, and driving innovation.

Jean Monnet Actions



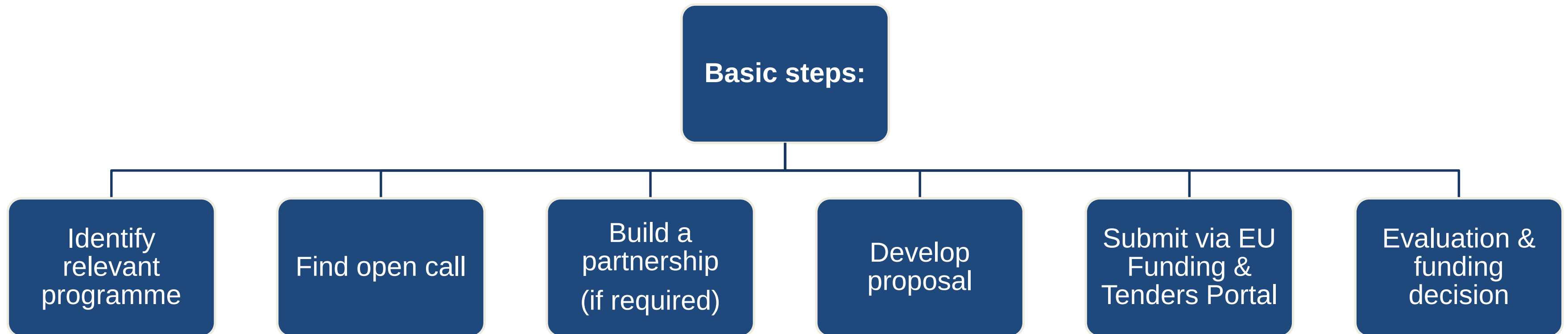
Promotes excellence in **teaching EU topics** in the classroom. Fosters European citizenship and integration awareness.

eTwinning Platform



The **digital gateway** for all projects. Provides a secure platform for virtual collaboration, networking, and joint projects.

How to Access Funding



Conclusion



Key Takeaway

The EU budget is a powerful **tool for school transformation** and European integration.

The EU budget
translates
policies into
action

Funding supports
education,
innovation, and
cohesion

Opportunities
exist at local and
European level

Success
depends on
preparation and
partnerships

Activity

Funding Matchmaker activity

Activity

Reflection

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