













Werner **Hoyer**

President of the European Investment Bank

he EIB is the EU bank, owned by the Member States of the European Union. We provide finance and advice for investment projects which improve the quality of life for people in Europe and in many other parts of the world.

We support small businesses, finance large-scale infrastructure, back research, development and innovation (RDI), and reinforce action against climate change. Since our foundation in 1958 by the Treaty of Rome, we have helped finance over 10 000 projects from motorways in Italy to universities in the UK, from wind farms in Portugal to RDI in Denmark or small and medium-sized companies (SMEs) in Romania.

Partnerships are the cornerstone of our success. Our work would not be complete without the European Investment Fund (EIF) providing specialised support for SMEs, entrepreneurship and innovation. Partnerships with other EU institutions and member states to adapt our financial solutions to specific needs have yielded programmes such as *Skills and Jobs – Investing for Youth, and InnovFin - EU Finance for Innovators*.

Recently, we have worked closely with the European Commission to develop and implement the Investment Plan for Europe. As a result of this partnership, the EIB and the EIF will use the EU budget guarantee under the *European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)* to mobilise EUR 315 billion of additional finance and provide much-needed investment for European businesses

Most of our activity is focussed within the EU but we also invest in a wide variety of projects around the world. Outside the EU, we work to promote prosperity for Europe's neighbours and trading partners. As the world's largest international public lending institution, we also play a major part in the global response to the great challenges of our time: the migration crisis; the economic downturn in emerging economies; and the need both to mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects.

The EIB's role is to help build a future which is competitive, innovative and sustainable.

Individual stories speak far louder than figures and charts. This booklet tells the stories of a small selection of our projects. I hope you will find that it gives you a sense of how our work touches people as they go about their daily lives.

SMEs and midcaps

Austria

Motorcycle RDI

Having indulged in motorcycle racing for most of his life, Stefan Pierer is now CEO and Chairman of KTM AG, an Austrian midcap developing and producing race-ready off-road and street motorcycles. A loan from the EIB helped him fine-tune his research and innovation plans.

Stefan describes KTM as a "niche world leader". The company is export oriented and over half of its revenues come from outside Europe. KTM's business in the US stands at 20% of its total business volume. Competing globally to provide improved cost-efficiency, safety and better materials has been a constant challenge.



KTM received an EIB loan of EUR 75 million for research and development. This will enable the company to hone its international competitiveness by focusing on the development of technologies with an emphasis on road safety, fuel economy, lightweight construction, e-Mobility and zero-emissions concepts. In particular, KTM is working on vehicle-to-vehicle communication, a technology which enables cars and motorcycles to communicate with each other and which will help reduce the number of road accidents.



EIB lending by sector in Austria from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 20%
- Transport, telecommunications 39%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 6%
- Industry, services, agriculture 9%
- Education, health 5%
- Small and medium-scale projects 21%





- Hydropower plant in the Vorarlberg region
- Producing energy from sewage sludge in Vienna
- The extension of Austria's western rail line
- Support for Austrian small businesses and midcaps

Benefits

- Support for the international competitiveness of a European midcap
- Reduced CO₂ emissions and decreased road accidents due to targeted RDI



Belgium

Renovating Brussels' sewer system

The Greater Brussels area has over 2 000 km of sewers carrying wastewater and rain water to the two treatment plants located to the south and north. At over 100 years old, time was beginning to tell and unplanned maintenance was costing EUR 8 million per year. It was clear that repeated repairs would become more costly than a long-term investment programme.

In total, more than 500 km of pipes across the city needed to be repaired or replaced. The EIB provided loans of EUR 168 million and EUR 250 million to Brussels Regional Government and the capital's water operator Hydrobru to help finance the work. Between 2010 and 2013, 80 km of pipes were rehabilitated and 5 km were added. To minimise disruption, work will be spread over 20 years at a rate of around 25 km per year, and is being carried out in cooperation with other infrastructure operators in Brussels, from roads to public transport operators via gas, electricity and telecoms.

Recurrent flooding problems in certain areas have also been addressed through the upgrading programme. An extra 75 000 m³ of storm water storage capacity will be provided as part of the project.

Benefits

- Improved sewerage and wastewater services and safety
- Reduction in flooding
- Creation of skilled jobs



One million consumers will benefit from an improved service and safer wastewater and storm water systems as a result of the renovation work. Furthermore, the competitive terms of the EIB loans have helped minimise the knock-on effect for household water bills in Brussels. The impact on local subcontractors has been positive with the creation of dozens of additional jobs, notably of an engineering and technical nature





- Hospitals at Knokke-Heist, Sint-Maarten Mechelen, Liège
- A series of municipal investments on the theme of "smart cities" and "sustainable development"
- RDI in the field of automotive transmissions and powertrains



Bulgaria

Turning waste into valuable resources

Until 2010, the city of Sofia consigned all of its solid waste to landfill. This situation not only resulted in the loss of valuable resources and energy, but caused problems for local residents.

n EIB loan meant that the city was able to finance a series of municipal waste treatment facilities able to process approximately 500 000 tonnes of municipal waste per year, of which about 60% is composted, recycled or energetically recovered

A composting plant converts about 20 000 tonnes per year of bio-degradable waste from parks and gardens into compost which is sold to farmers and residents. The plant will produce 13 000 tonnes of compost and 30 tonnes of ammonium sulphate, a commonly used soil fertilizer, per year at maximum capacity. Returning nitrogen and other minerals to the soil helps maintain a healthy environment.

An anaerobic digestion plant processes some 24 000 tonnes of food and kitchen waste which is then turned into energy used for the plant's own consumption and sold to the grid. At maximum capacity, the plant will produce over 855 kWh of electricity per year.

Benefits

- Reduction in landfill usage
- Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- Circular economy: production of compost, fertilizer, recyclable materials, and electricity
- Creation of skilled jobs



A mechanical biological treatment plant, inaugurated in September 2015, will process 410 000 tonnes of mixed waste per year to produce compost and recyclable materials as well as refuse-derived fuel for use in cement kilns and power plants. 40 000 tonnes of recyclable materials will be collected and reintroduced into the overall economy.







- Sofia transport fleet renewal purchase of rolling stock and development of traffic management system
- Support for SMEs across Bulgaria
- Investment in RDI for automotive interiors and electronics

EIB lending by sector in Bulgaria from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 0.2%
- Transport, telecommunications 31%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 18%
- Industry, services, agriculture 7%
- Small and medium-scale projects 44%

By diverting biodegradable materials away from landfills these plants help to limit greenhouse gas emissions and help Bulgaria meet its international environmental and climate change obligations. In addition, they re-inject valuable materials back into the economy, thus contributing to the circular economy, saving energy, and avoiding the production

of greenhouse gases from virgin mining. The new system is expected to create a total of 150 jobs for engineers, biologists, energy specialists and finance and logistics experts.

Climate action

Croatia

Rooftop-based renewable energy

Croatia's islands benefit from some of the highest levels of insolation in Europe. Through one of our climate action financing partners — the Green for Growth Fund, Southeast Europe — the EIB has been able to provide solar solutions that generate both green electricity and a sustainable return for investors.

hanks to funding from one of Green for Growth's partner banks, Privredna banka Zagreb (PBZ), around 100 households on the island of Lošinj in the Adriatic Sea are able to benefit from clean, emissions-free electricity generated by rooftop solar systems.

The solar energy system, developed by a client of PBZ in collaboration with a local hotel chain, involved installing solar panels on leased rooftops in a true win-win scenario. The Croatian islands are an optimal location. Their high irradiation levels, due to the mirror effect of the sea, ensure dependable returns for PBZ's client. Using existing hotel rooftops allows for easy, environmentally-friendly installation requiring little in the way of additional infrastructure or materials.

For the hotel chain, the venture is a win because it contributes to overall profitability by generating additional revenue, without upfront investments or

Benefits

- Increased use of renewable energy
- Supporting tourism in remote areas



operating expenditures. When the lease expires, the hotel chain may also benefit from owning the plant directly and using sun-generated power to cover its own needs. This type of arrangement could prove especially attractive as in the summer months the hotel's energy demand matches daytime peak power generation.





EIB lending by sector in Croatia from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 0.1%
- Transport, telecommunications 8%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 19%
- Industry, services, agriculture 1%
- Education, health 2%
- Small and medium-scale projects 70%



- Reconstruction, extension and rehabilitation of the General Hospital in Pula
- Loans for the expansion and upgrading of Zagreb and Dubrovnik airports
- Support for SMEs and midcaps



Innovation and skills

Cyprus

University of Cyprus

Since admitting its first students in 1992, the University of Cyprus has gone from strength to strength and now ranks amongst Europe's leading new universities. With student numbers growing steadily, the university risked being a victim of its own success and developed a plan to expand, renovate and rationalise its facilities.

he university aims to provide a state-of-the-art learning and research environment for its students and staff. 97 000 m² of university buildings will be renovated or purpose-built thanks to an EIB loan of EUR 80 million.

The Athalassa campus' new learning resource centre and library designed by renowned architect Jean Nouvel, and offering 900 study places, is due to open in 2016. A total of 108 new laboratories will be built for the faculties of engineering, biological sciences and medicine, along with five engineering research centres and common teaching facilities comprising 2 150 seats.

Environmental considerations were paramount in the design of all the new facilities. Aging buildings on the university's Academia campus will be extensively renovated and enhanced with energy-efficiency and anti-seismic features. A 10 MW photovoltaic power plant will provide the Athalassa campus with all its electricity needs as part of the university's plan to become a net-zero energy institution.

Benefits

- Improved study environment with increased capacity
- Reduced carbon footprint for the university
- Creation of 400 jobs by 2020



Once the works are complete, the university will be able to meet its objective of increasing student numbers by 40% by 2020, and will consequently hire around 400 more staff. 90% of buildings will be concentrated on the Athalassa campus, delivering significant efficiency gains compared to the current 30 or so locations. The increase in university places means that fewer Cypriots will have to travel abroad to study and more foreign students will have the opportunity to study in Cyprus.





- Framework Loan supporting EU Co-Financing Funds for strategic infrastructure projects
- Support for SMEs



EIB lending by sector in Cyprus from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 10%
- Transport, telecommunications 8%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 28%
- Industry, services, agriculture 3%
- Education, health 15%
- Small and medium-scale projects 36%

SMEs and midcaps

Czech Republic

Engineering and production jobs for young people

For over 20 years, Ecos Choceň has been manufacturing automotive components, principally for buses, in its factory an hour's drive from Prague. The company used EIB finance obtained via Komercni Banka to support its plans for expansion.

cos Choceň is a private family-owned engineering company. Having started out in rented premises with 10 staff members, the firm now occupies 10 000 m² of production and warehouse space and employs a total of 275 people. In addition to automotive component manufacture, Ecos Choceň provides a range of structural design, production and product completion services both for the local market and for export to other EU countries.



In order to remain competitive, Ecos Choceň needed to expand and introduce new technology. Due to its commitment to employing young people, the firm was able to support its plans for expansion with an EIB loan of EUR 737 572 from Komercni Banka. The loan was granted under the Jobs for Youth Initiative, which provides finance for small companies hiring people under the age of 29, offering vocational training programmes or internships or cooperating with a technical college, school or university.



EIB lending by sector in Czech Republic from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 16%
- Transport, telecommunications 15%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 3%
- Industry, services, agriculture 19%
- Small and medium-scale projects 47%





- Electricity transmission network modernisation
- Prague metro
- Backing for SMEs

Benefits

- Support for the competitiveness of a small company
- Retention of jobs for young people



Innovation and skills

Denmark

A new generation of hearing devices

Around 10% of the population of the developed world suffer from some degree of hearing loss. A EUR 110 million EIB loan is supporting the development of a new generation of hearing devices with the potential to improve the daily lives of millions of people.

William Demant Holding A/S is one of the world's leading manufacturers of hearing devices. The company's EIB-backed research and development programme will harness both basic and applied research into low power radio technologies and digital signal processing techniques to develop more effective hearing implants and instruments. These devices will enable people suffering from hearing disabilities to participate more fully in social and business life, making life easier for them by enabling smartphones to control hearing devices and helping to eradicate the stigma of hearing aids.

500 patent applications



Benefits

- Enhancement of the competitive position of an EU knowledge-based, R&D-driven enterprise
- Strong social and economic benefits through the increased inclusion of people in social and business activities
- Support for skilled job opportunities



The programme will be carried out by researchers in Denmark, France and Poland and is expected to generate around 500 patent applications. It will help the company to maintain its strong position in a highly competitive market and enhance Europe's position as a major technology supplier. By supporting skilled employment opportunities, the project will strengthen Europe's global competitiveness in an area that makes a real difference to the lives of hard-of-hearing people.





EIB lending by sector in Denmark from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 7%
- Transport, telecommunications 26%
- Industry, services, agriculture 42%
- Small and medium-scale projects 25%



- Support for Danish SMEs and midcaps
- Upgrading and expansion of high-speed mobile broadband
- Loans for RDI in the development of vaccines for prostate cancer and Ebola



Strategic infrastructure

Estonia

Upgrading urban infrastructure in Tallinn

Tallinn's 400 000 strong population represents almost one-third of the population of Estonia. This bustling city needs modern infrastructure to improve quality of life for its inhabitants and boost the competitiveness of local businesses.

In 2012, the EIB provided a EUR 67 million loan to help finance the rehabilitation of Tallinn's infrastructure under the municipality's four-year investment programme. The funds were earmarked for small to medium-sized schemes aimed at upgrading roads, transport, public open spaces, education and sport facilities, social and health facilities, social housing and cultural heritage sites.



High-quality urban road infrastructure will underpin the long-term economic and social development of Tallinn by reducing generalised transport costs. What is more, the renovation of streets and roads will contribute to improved driving conditions and thus reduce vehicle operating costs and energy consumption, resulting in a positive environmental impact.

The EIB and the Municipality of Tallinn have a history of successful cooperation. A 2008 loan to the City of Tallinn supported a number of road transport projects in the city.



Reduced energy consumption







EIB lending by sector in Estonia from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 30%
- Transport, telecommunications 10%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 14%
- Industry, services, agriculture 7%
- Education, health 28%
- Small and medium-scale projects 11%

- 4G mobile network
- Backing for new technology parks providing premises for innovative companies, start-up incubators and research organisations
- Support for numerous energy infrastructure projects



Climate action

Finland

Underground wastewater treatment

With winter temperatures dipping to -25°C, the Finnish town of Espoo is a great place for winter sports but the climate has its drawbacks for the treatment of wastewater. This is mainly because the sludge and the equipment used to treat it freezes and has to be warmed up at considerable cost.

hat problem is being overcome by a EUR 371 million project financed with up to EUR 200 million from the EIB to build a wastewater treatment plant inside the bedrock beneath Blominmäki, just west of Espoo. "Inside the rock the temperature is very pleasant," says Jukka Piekkari, director of the Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority, which is building the treatment plant. "It's really magical in there."

Benefits

- Double capacity for wastewater treatment
- Preservation of delicate Baltic Sea ecosystem and local endangered wildlife habitats
- Production of fuel, heat and fertilizers

The Blominmäki facility will replace an outdoor plant built in 1963, doubling its capacity to treat the wastewater of 550 000 people. Though some of the energy-efficient facility will be above ground – mainly for administration and storage of biogas – all the water treatment will take place inside the rock. That also allows for the preservation of the forest on the site, a habitat for the vulnerable Siberian flying squirrel.





In recognition of the sensitive ecosystem of the Baltic Sea, the plant is designed to treat the wastewater to very high standards, surpassing the goals of EU urban wastewater treatment legislation and local environmental objectives. The sewage sludge will be treated and digested to produce biogas. Heat produced during the plant's operation will also be recovered efficiently, resulting in thermal energy generation in





EIB lending by sector in Finland from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 2%
- Transport, telecommunications 23%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 11%
- Industry, services, agriculture 25%
- Education, health 33%
- Small and medium-scale projects 6%



excess of the plant's consumption. Residual solids will be processed further into agricultural fertilizers with a high organic and nutrients content.

From the waste sludge, the new treatment plant will recover 300 tonnes a year of phosphorus for fertilizers; another 300 tonnes annually of nitrogen for fertilizers; and methane to generate enough electricity for 20 000 homes



- EUR 75m loan for an energy-from-waste plant at Lahti
- Numerous loans for university premises across Finland
- Support for hospitals at Oulu and Jyvaskyla



SMEs and midcaps

France

Backing clinical research

Transgene is a French biopharmaceutical company based in Strasbourg and Lyon which specialises in RDI in targeted immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases.

The EIB provided a EUR 20 million loan under the InnovFin Infectious Diseases Finance Facility to help finance Transgene's new clinical developments for the treatment of infectious diseases, including chronic hepatitis B, virus-induced cancers such as HPV (human papilloma virus) and multidrugresistant tuberculosis.

With over 20 years' experience and numerous patents to its name, Transgene's research has the potential to provide solutions to a range of unmet medical needs, improving the quality of life of large numbers of people. The EIB's loan will provide Transgene with crucial additional resources to ensure that its research programmes are successful.

Benefits

Development of treatments for infectious diseases





EIB lending by sector in France from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 10%
- Transport, telecommunications 36%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 8%
- Industry, services, agriculture 10%
- Education, health 16%
- Small and medium-scale projects 20%





- Innovative public transport solution for the city of Metz
- Loan for RDI in medical technology in the areas of cardiovascular, critical care and surgical workplaces
- Extension and renovation of port infrastructure at Caen and Cherbourg



EUR 20m to find new medical treatments



Climate action

Germany

A wind farm in the Baltic Sea

In the Baltic Sea, 32 km north of the German island of Rügen, stand the 80 wind turbines which make up the EnBW Baltic 2 wind farm. Constructing a wind farm in up to 44 m of stormy seawater brings a raft of technical challenges which can mean that such projects are prohibitively expensive. However, an EIB loan meant that the project could go ahead.

ff-shore wind farms are needed to help Germany fulfil its plans to boost green electricity production to meet national and EU targets. Private funding for these complex and expensive projects can be hard to find, particularly since the crisis. Very long-term finance is often required and new technology cannot always be relied upon to give quick results. The EIB specialises in meeting such challenges and had already successfully supported the Baltic 1 wind farm. The Bank decided to help out with a EUR 500m loan, representing over 40% of the total project cost.

Both the location and scale of Baltic 2 posed a number of challenges for the constructors. The turbines are spread over $27~\rm km^2$, in a zone where the sea can be up to 44 m deep, meaning that different types of foundation structures had to be used to suit the conditions at each turbine.

The EnBW Baltic 2 wind farm is one of the largest wind farms in the world. At full capacity, it will feed sufficient energy into the German national grid to power 340 000 homes, avoiding the production of 900 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.







EIB lending by sector in Germany from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 9%
- Transport, telecommunications 13%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 11%
- Industry, services, agriculture 36%
- Education, health 6%
- Small and medium-scale projects 25%



- Renovation of Schleswig-Holstein University hospital
- Public transport infrastructure in the State of Brandenburg
- High-speed broadband expansion

Strategic infrastructure

Greece

Athens metro

Athens is home to about four million people and two million cars. Before the metro was built, the city was as famous for its traffic congestion and pollution as for its Parthenon.

oday, the 30 km-long Athens metro network is one of the most up-to-date in Europe and has been described as a monumental achievement. The metro carries at least 650 000 passengers a day, effectively taking 200 000 cars out of circulation and reducing CO₂ emissions. Since opening, the metro has made life easier for over 200 million passengers, while reducing traffic jams and slashing commuting times.

The metro's development has been supported by a succession of EIB loans totalling some EUR 1.5 billion. Most recently, the Bank helped finance the design, construction and commissioning of the extensions of Lines 2 and 3, as well as the acquisition of rolling stock.

Benefits

- Reduced traffic congestion
- Reduced CO₂ emissions
- 1 450 jobs created

The metro has brought a new lease of life to the areas surrounding the stations. Improved accessibility has seen some previously difficult to reach neighbourhoods become attractive places to live and work. In terms of employment, the extension of the Athens metro and the planned construction of another metro in Thessaloniki will create 1 450 jobs.



Last but not least in a city full of archaeological wonders, the building of the metro has led to new finds. A 4th century BC necropolis, the ruins of a 6th century BC aqueduct, and parts of an ancient Roman wall are just some of the 30 000 fascinating discoveries that have come to light in the course of the project.









Total:

EUR 5 881 million

Other projects

- Support for efficient and clean energy projects in Greece
- Upgrading the Greek motorway system
- A modern waste management plant for western Macedonia

EIB lending by sector in Greece from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 29%
- Transport, telecommunications 23%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 8%
- Industry, services, agriculture 11%
- Education, health 5%
- Small and medium-scale projects 24%

Innovation and skills

Hungary

Student loans

At a time of high youth unemployment, access to higher education has the potential to improve the social and economic prospects of young people. The EIB has been successfully supporting student loans for a decade, thereby enabling students to enrol on university courses.

Student loans hold the key to equal educational opportunities. Diákhitel Központ Zrt. (Diákhitel), Hungary's student loan company, has been helping students pay their expenses and continue with their higher education programmes since 2001. Diákhitel first called on the EIB to help ensure that their financing capacities could meet student demand in 2005. Over the following nine years, with financing totalling almost EUR 500 million, the Bank was behind almost half of all student loan disbursements in Hungary.

Benefits

Improved access to higher education

The Bank and Diákhitel set out to provide competitively priced loans, with the not-for-profit company passing the financial advantages of EIB funding on to students. We continued to work together throughout the financial crisis to ensure that students would not be unduly affected by the credit crunch. In the latest of a series of loan contracts, loans are assigned to the benefit of the higher education facility meaning that the student in effect enhances the university's financial efficiency. The mutual benefit for student and university alike underscores the EIB's support for youth skills and educational improvements as a driver of European growth and jobs.



EIB lending by sector in Hungary from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 5%
- Transport, telecommunications 25%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 16%
- Industry, services, agriculture 22%
- Education, health 10%
- Small and medium-scale projects 22%







- Loan to the City of Budapest to improve transport infrastructure and implement urban regeneration schemes
- Co-financing with EU funds in the areas of transport, water and waste management, nature protection and low carbon economy
- Loans to the Hungarian Academy of Sciences to support fundamental research activities, the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund and a library and digital information centre.
- EUR 200 million loan to Eximbank to support SMEs and midcaps



Strategic infrastructure

Ireland

East-West electrical interconnector

The East-West Interconnector is Ireland's first electricity link with Great Britain and marks the first successful launch of an EIB-backed EU recovery plan energy project. It is one of the largest single pieces of energy infrastructure to be built in Ireland since 1929.

he East-West Interconnector runs between Deeside in north Wales and Woodland, County Meath, in Ireland. A EUR 300 million EIB loan helped to build an underground and undersea link of approximately 260 km in length, with the capacity to transport 500 megawatts – enough energy to power 300 000 homes. This will benefit consumers by helping to improve security of supply, increasing competitiveness and encouraging the growth of renewable energy generation.

The Interconnector will help ensure Ireland is able to access more energy in the future. Ireland is still largely dependent on imported fossil fuels but has huge potential for wind power. With the Interconnector in place, reliance on wind-generated electricity can be increased as additional supplies can be imported as a back-up for wind power and called on during calm days in Ireland. Likewise, when excess electricity, including wind-generated electricity, is produced in Ireland it can be exported to Great Britain.

TIDOM

Benefits

- Improved security of energy supply
- Increase in transmission capacity between the Irish and UK markets
- Increased exploitation of renewable energy sources and reduction of traditional sources

The Interconnector is a two-way street, bringing the Irish and British energy markets closer together, enabling Ireland to exploit and to export its enormous resources of renewable energy whilst also giving the country access to energy from Britain and mainland Europe.





EIB lending by sector in Ireland from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 20%
- Transport, telecommunications 21%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 17%
- Education, health 20%
- Small and medium-scale projects 22%



- Support for Irish midcaps and SMEs via the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland
- Renovation and construction of energy-efficient social housing
- Flood protection and prevention programme for the period 2015–2020



Strategic infrastructure

Italy

Florence – Bologna motorway

Crossing the Italian Tuscan-Emilian Apennines between Florence and Bologna has always been a challenging task. Thanks to EIB financing, a new road between these two cities has improved traffic fluidity and road safety.

In the 1960s when it was built, the A1 between Florence and Bologna was a thoroughly modern motorway but its sharp bends made this stretch particularly dangerous to drive. By 2014, the volume of traffic had reached more than twice the level for which the road was originally designed, and it had one of the highest accident rates in Italy, with over 2 000 incidents in the preceding decade.

An EIB loan helped Autostrade per l'Italia to build an innovative and safer motorway that can accommodate traffic volumes up to four times those of the original A1, with lower vertical gradients, steep curves and modern systems for traffic control and road safety. Located approximately 225 m below the level of the earlier A1, the new road was opened in July 2015 and runs through 44 tunnels and crosses more than 40 viaducts, completely transforming the journey through the heart of the Apennine mountains.

Crossing one of the most geologically complex areas of Europe, the highway provided plenty of technical challenges, not least of which was the scale of the excavation work required. The land contains explosive gases as well as surface and groundwater, and has a high risk both of seismic activity and landslides. Bridges required foundations up to 30 m deep. Viaducts needed seismic isolators to minimise structural movement in the case of earthquakes.

The new motorway has reduced the journey time from Bologna to Florence to less than 50 minutes. It used to take an hour and a half.



EIB lending by sector in Italy from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 20%
- Transport, telecommunications 18%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 8%
- Industry, services, agriculture 11%
- Education, health 3%
- Small and medium-scale projects 40%





- Renovation of school buildings
- Extensive lending in support of SMEs and midcaps
- Upgrading and modernising energy infrastructure



Benefits

- Improved road safety on a notoriously dangerous stretch of road
- Increased capacity
- Reduced journey times

SMEs and midcaps

Latvia

A family-owned company producing doors

In 2009, with some 30 years of experience in the carpentry industry, Dzintars Abele decided to found his own company. Finding customers was no problem but the company's potential for growth was hampered by the difficulty of raising the necessary finance.

In Latvia, the family owned company Liva AB Nord is one of the country's leading door producers. Founder Dzintars Abele originally set up the company to work as a subcontractor for large local construction companies on ambitious projects. The production took place in relatively small buildings, which didn't allow the growing company to meet the increasing demand for its products.

Thanks to a EUR 200 000 loan from the EIB and partner bank ALTUM, the company has been able to purchase the new buildings it needed to expand its production process, and its 40 employees now enjoy improved working conditions. To build on further growth opportunities, Liva AB Nord is exploring export possibilities and trying to take its first steps into other markets in western and northern Europe.





EIB lending by sector in Latvia from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 25%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 14%
- Industry, services, agriculture 14%
- Education, health 89
- Small and medium-scale projects 39%







- Support for SMEs, including via JEREMIE
- JASPERS advice on Riga mobility plan
- Finance for municipal drinking water supply and wastewater treatment



Benefits

An opportunity for a small company to explore opportunities for growth

Strategic infrastructure

Lithuania

Securing and diversifying the energy supply

Until very recently, Lithuania was dependent for its energy on supplies of gas from Russia. Loans from the EIB have been instrumental in enabling the country to put in place the infrastructure necessary to diversify and secure its energy supply whilst helping its fellow Baltic states do the same.

A EUR 29 million EIB loan is helping Amber Grid, Lithuania's natural gas transmission network operator, build a 110 km gas pipeline, connecting the Lithuanian port of Klaipeda to the city of Kuršėnai. The pipeline will allow natural gas to be supplied to the rest of Lithuania, as well as to Latvia and Estonia.

The pipeline's starting point is the liquefied natural gas (LNG) import facility at Klaipeda, which was partly financed by the EIB via a EUR 87 million loan in 2013. Amber Grid's pipeline will enable the LNG terminal to function at full capacity bringing gas imported from a number of different sources into the country and introducing the potential benefits of competition.

Benefits

- Increased diversification and security of energy supply
- Improved supply of gas to all Baltic states



EIB lending by sector in Lithuania from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 25%
- Transport, telecommunications 22%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 18%
- Industry, services, agriculture 2%
- Education, health 7%
- Small and medium-scale projects 26%





These projects are vital in enabling Lithuania to diversify and secure its energy supplies as well as providing backup in the event of gas supply failures.

Other projects

- Modernisation and upgrading of Lithuanian railway infrastructure and rolling stock
- JESSICA support for renovation of multi-apartment buildings and student accommodation in Vilnius
- JEREMIE support for entrepreneurship through the EIF



Innovation and skills

Luxembourg

Building and renovating school buildings

The EIB is helping Luxembourg to bring its education sector up to the highest possible level by launching a co-financing partnership with the country's authorities to provide modern, energy-efficient school buildings.

he education sector is vital to creating a knowledge economy, which is one of the top priorities of the EIB as the EU's bank. High quality teaching structures and state-of-the-art sustainable facilities are key to meeting the challenge of training and ultimately providing jobs for young people.

Under its education facilities construction and refurbishment programme, the Luxembourg government has launched around EUR 679 million worth of projects which are supported by a EUR 300 million EIB loan. This co-financing partnership will reinforce the already excellent relations between the Luxembourg authorities and the EIB, which is headquartered in Luxembourg, and will benefit from the EIB's unique technical expertise.

The operation will cover the costs of building, equipping and refurbishing six new and ten existing schools. These include a new agricultural college and a new high school in cities to the north of the country as well as the capital's Atheneum. The costs of constructing or refurbishing these three buildings alone will account for half of the total amount of the loan, which will also finance the construction of the new Luxembourg National Library. Construction work for the different schemes is scheduled for completion in 2020.



- State-of-the-art learning environment for school students
- Increased student numbers
- High levels of energy efficiency
- Reduced CO₂ emissions



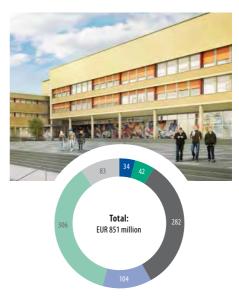


As well as increasing the capacity of the school system, the new buildings will meet very high energy performance standards. This will help Luxembourg cut energy bills and reduce carbon emissions in line with national and European goals under the energy efficiency directive.



Other projects

- Supporting SES Astra's satellite fleet
- Housing the European Parliament



EIB lending by sector in Luxembourg from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 4%
- Transport, telecommunications 5%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 33%
- Industry, services, agriculture 12%
- Education, health 36%
- Small and medium-scale projects 10%

Strategic infrastructure

Malta

Renovating the historic centre of Valletta

Malta's capital Valletta has a rich cultural heritage which attracts tourists from all over the world. But Valletta is also a working city which needs to keep pace with the demands of the modern world. A loan from the EIB enabled the city to make the necessary renovations without losing its character.

s a UNESCO world heritage site Valletta is a major attraction for many of the 1.5 million tourists who visit the islands of Malta each year. However, it is also a busy modern capital city where people live and work. The EIB provided a EUR 40 million loan in support of plans to renovate the Valletta Gate area of the city's historic centre, home to the Maltese parliament.

The main aims of the project were to provide the parliament with a purpose-built, modern building and piazza; build a new city gate; convert the site of the former Royal Opera House into an open air theatre; and to revitalise the area by creating new green and pedestrian public spaces. The redevelopment will make the area more appealing to visitors while optimising the available space and creating a number of jobs in the new parliament and theatre facilities.

Benefits

- Increased potential for tourism
- Creation of jobs



EIB lending by sector in Malta from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 60%
- Small and medium-scale projects 40%







- Finance for the laying of a submarine cable linking Malta with Sicily for electricity transmission
- First InnovFin deal in Malta a EUR 20 million loan in support of GO Plc's multi-year investment programme aimed at improving the availability and quality of mobile and fixed high-speed broadband services.
- Implementation with the EIF and the European Commission of the SME Initiative aimed at supporting European SMEs through risk-sharing financial instruments



The new open-air performance space, Pjazza Teatru Rjal, is already proving to be a major attraction, hosting 50-60 productions per year and bringing increasing numbers of visitors to the area. A formal system for hiring out the venue to third-party producers is proving successful both in diversifying the cultural programme and in growing audience numbers.



Strategic infrastructure

Netherlands

Modernisation of drinking water supply

Vitens is the Netherlands' largest water supply company, serving 5.5 million people in the country's northern and eastern provinces. Ensuring that its vast supply network and technical facilities remain in the peak condition necessary to supply high-quality drinking water is a costly undertaking. A long-standing relationship with the EIB means that Vitens is sure of the financial support it needs to satisfy its customers.

Vitens delivers some 330 million cubic metres of water each year and takes pride in the quality of the water delivered to its customers. A EUR 150 million loan from the EIB will support the company's investment and modernisation programme for the coming five years. The plan is geared towards maintaining the quality and security of supply, including compliance with national and EU legislation, as well as some infrastructure extension in areas under development.

The main elements of the modernisation investment plan concern the upgrading, renewal and extension of groundwater abstraction and treatment facilities, storage reservoirs, pumping stations, pipelines and household connections and the replacement or upgrading of water meters throughout Vitens' service area. Vitens' maintenance plan will ensure that water supply services continue to improve, operational efficiency increases and the system is made resilient to the effects of climate change notably through investments in the relocation of certain well fields.



EIB lending by sector in Netherlands from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 19%
- Transport, telecommunications 20%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 7%
- Industry, services, agriculture 2%
- Education, health 5%
- Small and medium-scale projects 47%





- Construction of a new sea lock at IJmuiden, the principal access to the Port of Amsterdam
- Construction and operation of an offshore wind park in the North Sea
- Acquisition of rolling stock for commuter and regional rail services

Benefits

- Improved standards of water supply
- Increased resilience to the effects of climate change



Innovation and skills

Poland

RDI in biological drugs

Innovative pharmaceutical company Polpharma aims to provide patients with wider access to modern treatments. Research and development in the area of new therapeutics is one of the most costly and risky areas of knowledge creation. This means that it is often hard to obtain investment.

Polpharma is the largest Polish manufacturer of medicines and a leader in the Polish pharmaceutical market. Its research and development programme aims to produce biosimilar drugs which will provide patients with more affordable alternatives to current treatments. Polpharma aims both to provide patients with wider access to essential, modern biological drugs and to address unmet medical needs in the area of severe life-threatening diseases such as cancer, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis.



EUR 45m for research on biosimilar drugs

Benefits

- Creation of skilled jobs
- Increased access to biological drugs
- Widespread transfer of knowledge and expertise

The project will be implemented in the company's facilities in Poland, safeguarding and creating employment opportunities for the skilled workforce in the country. Given Polpharma's collaboration with universities, the knowledge acquired through the research activities will also be widely disseminated across Europe.



- Significant investment in Poland's SMEs and midcaps
- Loan to modernise five university hospitals around Poland
- Support for research and innovation activities in universities, businesses and research institutes



EIB lending by sector in Poland from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 9%
- Transport, telecommunications 47%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 5%
- Industry, services, agriculture 17%
- Education, health 3%
- Small and medium-scale projects 19%

The development and manufacturing of biosimilar drugs requires strong research and development efforts, such as optimising production in a sensitive cell culture and extensive clinical trials proving therapeutic equivalence to the original biological drugs. The work is both costly and risky and it can be hard to find the necessary financial backing.

Total:

EUR 26 474 million

The EIB supported Polpharma with a loan of EUR 45 million under the InnovFin Large Project facility, which is specifically dedicated to improving access to risk finance for research and innovation projects originating from larger firms in the EU.

Climate action

Portugal

Wind farms in Portugal

Portugal is already a large consumer of renewable energy and the government aims to ensure that by 2020, 31% of total energy consumption is from renewable sources. The EIB gave the country's sustainability drive a push by funding an ambitious wind energy programme and adapting its lending to an exceptional economic environment.

Ind energy projects require large upfront investments. Amid challenging market conditions, the EIB proposed a tailor-made financing solution which provided venture company Eneop2 with over EUR 498 million of loans to set up 22 wind farms, comprising a total of 243 turbines with a combined capacity of 486 MW. The loans supported the project by funding a whole range of different elements, from studies and engineering to the manufacture and installation of the wind turbines themselves.



Wind energy not only brings huge greenhouse gas emission savings, but is also commercially sound given that Portugal is otherwise heavily dependent on imported energy. Elsewhere, the country is also investing in energy storage, notably through pumped storage hydro power, which will allow it to make more of the renewable energy it produces, even opening up the prospect of exporting electricity to neighbouring countries.



- Reduction of CO₂ emissions
 - Contribution to national target of 31% of energy from renewables by 2020







- Support for SMEs
- EUR 35m to Corticeira Amorim for its RDI programme
- Loan for energy generation and transmission in the Azores



EIB lending by sector in Portugal from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 12%
- Transport, telecommunications 10%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 7%
- Industry, services, agriculture 5%
- Education, health 4%
- Small and medium-scale projects 62%

SMEs and midcaps

Romania

A small industrial manufacturer

Many small businesses start as an idea, with little or no backing. This was certainly the case of Romanian husband and wife team Adrian and Adela Cățoiu, who embarked on their business careers with starting capital of only USD 100.

ver 25 years ago, as young mechanical engineers on their first professional placement in a carbon steel fittings factory, Adrian and Adela Căţoiu found themselves faced with the stark reality of their chosen industry. Whilst elsewhere in Europe large companies had access to the resources necessary to keep up with the times, in Romania the fittings industry was underdeveloped and did not meet the needs of its potential clients. The factories were old and the technology used was obsolete.

In 1991, the Căţoius set up their own company in the small town of Buzău. Their business, which they named SARA, produces carbon steel fittings for a range of industrial uses in chemical industry installations, refineries, shipyards and water supply systems.

The Căţoius realised that to move forward SARA would need to start contracting loans. They began their partnership with EIB intermediary CEC Bank, which accepted their business acumen as their capital. In total, SARA has received loans amounting to EUR 6.9 million and, despite its humble beginnings, it now figures among the world leaders in its sector, employing almost 200 people. The company plans to create more jobs in the coming years and is investing in capacity-building to develop employee expertise.



EIB lending by sector in Romania from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 9%
- Transport, telecommunications 24%
- Industry, services, agriculture 28%
- Small and medium-scale projects 39%





- Thermal rehabilitation of residential buildings in Bucharest
- Co-financing priority projects under the Romanian Rural Development Plan in conjunction with EU funds
- Urban infrastructure projects in Oradea
- Support for three wind farms

Benefits

 Provision of financial stability necessary for the growth and competitiveness of small companies
Creation of up to 400 jobs



Climate action

Slovakia

Sustainable forestry

Well-managed forests hold the key to protecting ecosystems and providing global ecological benefits. In Slovakia, forests play a particularly important role in maintaining the delicate environmental balance making up 69% of the country's Natura 2000 network of protected areas, against an EU average of 51%.

Investment in sustainable forestry is a growth area for the EIB, which provided EUR 120 million of finance to the Slovak Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development's inaugural comprehensive rural development programme. The loan will contribute to afforestation projects, improved forest protection and management and the upgrading of agricultural infrastructure.

The project's final beneficiaries consist of a wide range of public and private entities, including over 2 000 farmers whose land will benefit from the modernisation of on-farm facilities to improve their environmental performance. On-farm use of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies will be promoted, and better nutrient management will reduce surface and groundwater pollution from livestock farming activities to improve the management of water resources.





An important facet of the loan will be to contribute to the rehabilitation and improved management and protection of more than 300 000 ha of forest damaged by storms, pest outbreaks and fires in recent

Increase in potential for agro-tourism





years. 40 km of forest access roads will be built or repaired to facilitate forest conservation and management operations. During implementation, the project will create new jobs in the rural economy, supporting growth and employment. Moreover, the nationwide forestry programme represents an important step in the development of a new age of agro-tourism in this central European country.

EIB lending by sector in Slovakia from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 14%
- Transport, telecommunications 16%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 22%
- Industry, services, agriculture 13%
- Small and medium-scale projects 35%



Other projects

- Upgrading of rail infrastructure
- Numerous credit lines for SMEs
- Construction of a wastewater treatment plant in northern Slovakia



SMEs and midcaps

Slovenia

Support for small companies and midcap projects

Small companies are the backbone of the Slovenian economy in terms of both providing employment and fostering economic growth. In 2015, the EIB provided a EUR 20 million loan to Banka Sparkasse d.d. (BS) to co-finance projects carried out by Slovenian SMEs, midcaps and public sector entities in the areas of the knowledge economy, energy, environmental protection, health and education.

he loan aimed to improve access for SMEs and midcap companies to the long-term finance vital for the development of the Slovenian economy. Through its cooperation with Banka Sparkasse the EIB has ensured that the benefits of granting loans on favourable terms are passed on to eligible beneficiaries, in particular smaller companies which can otherwise find it hard to access the finance necessary to grow their businesses.

This was the second tranche of a EUR 50 million loan. The first instalment of EUR 30 million, provided in 2013, supported SMEs in the fields of energy, metal industry, waste processing, road transport and information technology.

Benefits

Providing small companies with access to finance



EIB lending by sector in Slovenia from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 11%
- Transport, telecommunications 15%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 32%
- Industry, services, agriculture 6%
- Education, health 49
- Small and medium-scale projects 32%





The EIB has so far provided some EUR 2 billion in credit lines for co-financing projects promoted by SMEs and midcap companies in Slovenia, representing around 35% of the Bank's lending commitments in Slovenia since the start of its operations in the country in 1991.

Other projects

- Loan for the expansion of the Port of Koper
- Finance for Renault's research and innovation activities in Slovenia
- Support for SMEs in a wide range of economic sectors



SMEs and midcaps

Spain

A one-woman micro-enterprise

Interior designer Elisabete Azkoaga's life-long ambition was to move her one-woman company into purpose-built premises and bring her design ideas to a wider public. The only thing standing in her way was a lack of finance. Thanks to a loan obtained via EIB partner bank MicroBank, she was able to put her plan into action.

fter working from home for two years, Elisabete found that she needed more space to display her products and present her services to potential customers. As she developed her business plan, she realised that she would need financial support to stock her shop with a sufficiently varied range of textiles, wallpaper and other materials. A friend recommended that she take a micro-loan and mentioned that MicroBank worked in partnership with the EIB.

A EUR 15 000 loan from MicroBank meant that Azkoaga Interiorismo opened its doors in Bilbao in 2015.

Benefits

Support for a new micro-enterprise





The company offers interior design services incorporating second-hand furniture and objects designed in Africa sourced via an association dealing with local projects.

The EIB has a long-standing partnership with Micro-Bank which is the Social Bank of CaixaBank Group and specialises in micro-finance. EIB funds are used to provide loans on attractive terms to micro-enterprises and entrepreneurs' start-ups in Spain.







- Support for SMEs and midcaps in a range of sectors
- Finance for RDI in inflammatory diseases, orphan diseases, and biotherapeutics
- Implementation of an interoperable dual gauge railway line along the Spanish Mediterranean coast and construction of a connection with the high-speed line Madrid-Barcelona-French border





EIB lending by sector in Spain from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 11%
- Transport, telecommunications 19%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 5%
- Industry, services, agriculture 10%
- Education, health 4%
- Small and medium-scale projects 51%

Strategic infrastructure

Sweden

Stockholm metro

The population of greater Stockholm is expected to increase from 2 million to 3 million by 2050. Currently, over two-thirds of journeys in and around the Swedish capital are made using public transport — buses, rail and ferries. Keen to consolidate this trend, Stockholm County Council took out a SEK 7 billion (EUR 800 million) EIB loan to help increase the capacity of the metro's red line by replacing the existing signalling system, acquiring new rolling stock and building a new underground depot.

tockholm's metro system currently carries 1.1 million passengers per day on its three lines. The Council decided to upgrade the busiest line, the red line which runs from Mörby and Ropsten north of the city centre to Fruängen and Norsborg to the south-west. Work on the EIB-financed project began in 2011 and will run for ten years.

The project will bring numerous benefits to the users of the 50-year old red line. A new communications-based train control system will replace existing signalling, boosting the line's capacity. Measures are being taken to allow partially automated train operation. 48 new two-vehicle trains will be purchased, each able to transport up to 700 people, increasing both the capacity of the trains and passengers' level

Benefits

- Creation of new jobs
- Increased capacity, reduced car use
- Reduced journey times
- Increased comfort for passengers



EIB lending by sector in Sweden from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 7%
- Transport, telecommunications 32%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 14%
- Industry, services, agriculture 35%
- Education, health 7%
- Small and medium-scale projects 5%





of comfort. New rolling stock servicing facilities will be built, partially underground due to the scarcity of land, and an existing depot will be upgraded. Wellmaintained trains running at optimal speeds will minimise noise and energy use. An efficient service should entice even more drivers out of their cars.

Efficient public transport is good news for business as it opens up markets and eases commuter stress. It

cutting pollution.

Other projects

- Loans for RDI in sectors including household goods, medical technology, mining and construction equipment
- Modernisation and reorganisation of two hospitals in Skåne, the southernmost region of Sweden
- Renovation and upgrading of municipal infrastructure in a number of cities including Uppsala, Västerås, Örebro and Norrköping to create a sustainable urban environment



also ensures that residents of outlying communities have access to the services they need, an important aspect of social cohesion.

This is one of a series of EIB investments in sustainable transport projects in Sweden. It will create 113 new jobs directly, mainly for train drivers, and is in line with several EU objectives: protecting and enhancing the urban environment; creating sustainable communities; acting against climate change.

Strategic infrastructure

United Kingdom

Transformation of a derelict industrial site into a university campus

Swansea University's Bay Campus gives Swansea the distinction of being home to one of the few universities of global standing with direct access to a beach and its own seafront promenade.

In 2012, the EIB provided Swansea University with a GBP 60 million loan to support the construction of the Bay Science and Innovation Campus. The Bay Campus, which opened in 2015, provides 93 000 m² of buildings including teaching, study and research facilities, a library, accommodation for 1 462 students, sports facilities, students' union facilities, launderette and crèche.

The campus is the largest knowledge economy infrastructure investment in the UK and one of the top five in Europe. All the research space has been developed through a series of agreements with industry and business. World-class RDI facilities in a range of areas – including structural materials, engineering and energy safety – will incubate and commercialise cutting-edge industry-led research, weaving ever closer links between the university and industry.

The site on which the Bay Campus now stands in Neath Port Talbot was for many years used by the oil industry. Transforming the site for university usage represented a large-scale regeneration project, one of several aimed at revitalising the region's economy and community, and one which focused intensely on supporting local supply chains, jobs and skills. The total economic impact of the development is expected to be around GBP 3 billion with the potential to create up to 10 000 new jobs across the 10-year lifetime of this project and beyond. 3 400 jobs have been provided on site during construction.



EIB lending by sector in United Kingdom from 2011 to 2015 (in EUR m)

- Energy 28%
- Transport, telecommunications 25%
- Water, sewerage, solid waste, urban development 25%
- Industry, services, agriculture 7%
- Education, health 11%
- Small and medium-scale projects 4%





- Support for numerous universities including Aberdeen, East Anglia, Edinburgh, Leicester, Newcastle, Oxford, Ulster, University College London, Worcester
- Renovation of schools in the London Borough of Croydon
- New buildings for the Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children and Clinical Neurosciences and Liverpool's Alder Hey Children's Hospital
- Urban regeneration projects in Manchester and Greater Manchester

Benefits

- Potential to create 10 000 jobs
- Anticipated regional economic impact worth GBP 3 billion
- 93 000 m² of university buildings
- Regeneration of a former industrial site





The EIB is active in some 160 countries around the world.

As the EU bank, the EIB plays a unique role in implementing the EU's external policy objectives. Outside the EU, we invest in economically sound projects with a focus on private sector development, social and economic infrastructure, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and regional integration. We blend our loans with grants from the European Commission or EU Member States to provide the right financing mix for projects that couldn't otherwise go ahead. We also provide technical advice to help make sure that projects are both well designed and successful.

Here are a few of our investments outside the EU.

Lebanon

Educating Syrian refugees in Lebanon

The refugee crisis has thrown into relief the EIB's involvement in the Middle East. Our operations here aim to build the kind of stability that creates an incentive for refugees to remain in their region.

hen the school year started in September, only 200 000 of the 800 000 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon were able to attend local schools. ITWorx, an online education company, set up a school in a tent in a refugee camp in the Bekaa Valley village of Saadnayel. Within three weeks there were 50 students of all ages, many of whom had been unable to attend school for four years, studying a cloud-based version of the Lebanese curriculum on 60-dollar tablets with the aid of only a couple of teachers.

Backed by the Euromena Fund in which the EIB was one of the first investors, the ITWorx school is aimed at rebuilding the future of those who fled the civil



war in their homeland. It is based on a model which is easily and inexpensively expandable across the region and is also founded on the idea that helping refugees to stay in the region will make it more likely that they will return to participate in the reconstruction of Syria when the war is over.



A 60-dollar tablet is a child's passport back to education

Georgia

Flood relief and highway construction



n 13 June 2015, Tbilisi was hit by heavy rain which caused one million cubic metres of mud to slide into the river Vere, damming it in two places. The river burst its banks, flooding the centre of Georgia's capital. There were 19 dead and 22 000 of Tbilisi's 1.1 million people were without electricity. Day-to-day life was severely disrupted.

When the flood hit, the EIB was already in the process of finalising an operation to upgrade the country's municipal infrastructure. A second line of financing was swiftly added to the operation for use in countering the damage inflicted by the natural disaster.

The result was a EUR 100 million loan comprising EUR 50 million for flood relief and EUR 50 million for the upgrading of municipal and tourism infrastructure. The EIB's flood relief funds are being used not only to rebuild roads and other infrastructure damaged by the flood but to mitigate the risks of another such disaster occurring in the future.





Jordan

Drinking water supply

Jordan's hot and arid climate makes it the fourth most water-stressed country in the world. The recent influx of Syrian refugees is putting further pressure on the country's existing water resources and infrastructure but an EIB loan of USD 54 million will help to bridge the gap in drinking water supply in the Northern Governorates

Over 1.6 million people in the Northern Governorates of Jordan are currently dependent on scarce water reserves and an intermittent drinking water supply. The project co-financed by the EIB with the Agence Française de Développement and the EU Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF) will help build the infrastructure required to treat and convey 30 million cubic metres per year of fresh water from the King Abdullah Canal



in the Northern Jordan valley to the Zabda Reservoir. Water from the reservoir will benefit the Northern Governorate of Irbid which is the second most populous of Jordan's 12 Governorates and which has seen the arrival of large numbers of refugees from Syria.



Kenya

Lake Turkana wind farm

he Lake Turkana wind farm will be the largest single wind farm in sub-Saharan Africa. Situated in a remote area of northern Kenya which benefits from constant, high-speed winds, the wind farm is expected to generate around 20% of Kenya's power and provide over 300 MW of reliable, low cost electricity to the Kenyan national grid. The project involves building 365 wind turbines, as well as associated power and road connections.

In addition to boosting electricity supply across the country, the project will bring improvements to other services in the region making life easier for local communities. The fishermen of Lake Turkana, for instance, will now have access to the cold storage and transport they need to take their catch to market in the region's towns, maybe even as far away as Nairobi.

The EIB has provided EUR 200 million towards the cost of the wind farm: EUR 150 million from the Investment Facility revolving fund and a further EUR 50 million from the Bank's own resources. EIB finance was also blended with a EUR 25 million financial instrument from the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund under the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4AII) window.







EIB on the ground – A selection of our projects throughout the EU and beyond

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A selection of our projects throughout the EU and beyond

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