

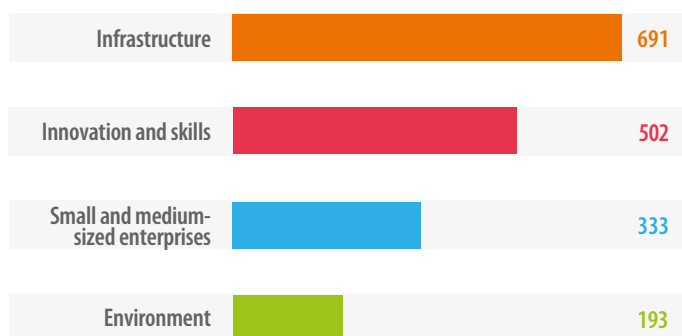


The EIB Group invested over €1.7 billion in Austria in **2019**

The EIB Group, consisting of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and European Investment Fund (EIF), significantly stepped up its operations in Austria in 2019. Last year the Group approved finance totalling almost €1.72 billion, €1.55 billion of which came from the EU bank. One of the Group's priorities was to support research, development and innovation, with the EIB and EIF providing €502 million in financing for this area in 2019. Other priorities included climate action finance, infrastructure projects and support for small and medium-sized enterprises. In total, EIB Group financing will unlock investment worth nearly €3.2 billion in Austria. The EIB Group is confident that its financing for the current year in Austria will be able to build on the success of 2019.

Total European Investment Bank Group financing in Austria in 2019

€1.719 billion



Source: EIB



THE EIB, THE EU CLIMATE BANK – A STRONG PARTNER TO HELP AUSTRIA COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

As the EU climate bank, the EIB will redouble its efforts to combat climate change. Over the next ten years, it will kick-start climate action projects amounting to €1 trillion, both inside and outside the European Union. It will also align all its financing with the objectives of the Paris Agreement by 2025, and will cease to finance conventional fossil fuel power plants from the end of 2021.

Austria has made a commitment to combat climate change, and the EU bank sees itself as a strong partner in this fight. Last year, the Bank granted a €90 million green loan to Energie Steiermark – a first for Austria. Under this financing the EIB issues green bonds, the proceeds of which go exclusively to sustainable climate action projects. The Bank also entered into Europe's first climate partnership with the City of Vienna. As part of this cooperation, the EIB is intensifying its examination of the City of Vienna's projects in the areas of housing, energy, waste management and transport to ascertain whether they are suitable for EU bank financing for climate action.



EIB PROMOTES INNOVATION – LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND QUALITY JOBS

Strengthening research, development and innovation is another of the EIB Group's priorities and a key prerequisite for ensuring sustainable growth and creating quality jobs. This is why the EU bank provided Bitmovin, an innovative developer of video streaming technology, with €20 million in financing. The company offers solutions for world-leading video streaming services that viewers access directly via the internet – known as over-the-top media services. The EIB loan will enable Bitmovin to intensify its research and development (R&D), expand its product development team in Austria and widen its sales network by investing in sales and marketing. Another €15 million loan went to Marinomed Biotech AG, a biopharmaceutical company based in Vienna developing innovative treatments for allergy, respiratory and eye diseases. And Linz-based Robart – which specialises in autonomous robotics solutions – received a loan of €9 million.

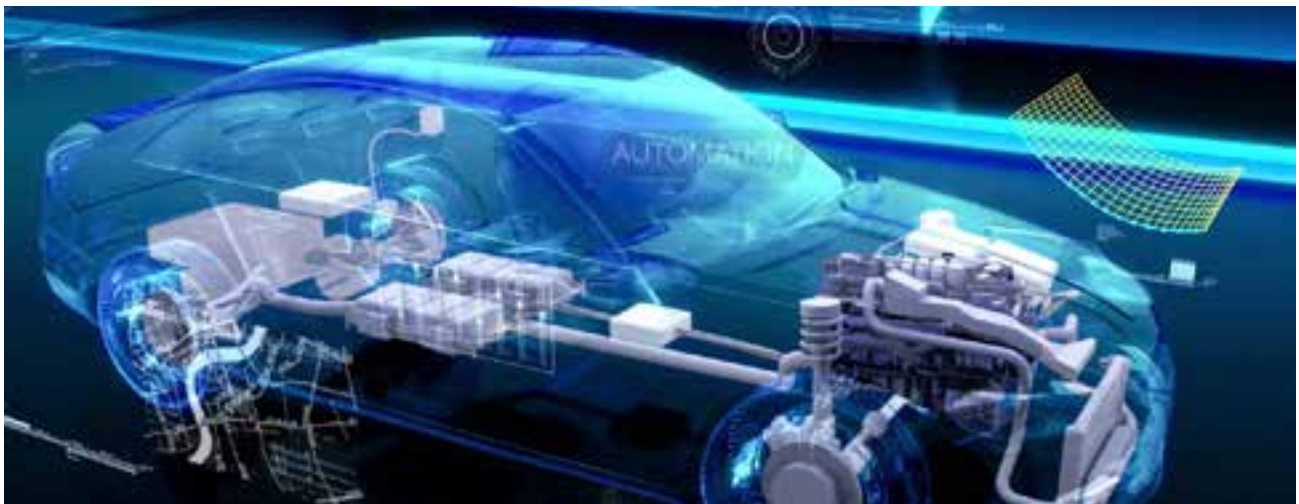


THE INVESTMENT PLAN FOR EUROPE IN AUSTRIA

In December 2014 the EU Heads of State or Government adopted the Investment Plan for Europe, whose centrepiece is the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). The EU Member States aim to use EFSI to mobilise additional investment of €500 billion to boost the competitiveness of the European economy, thereby addressing the persistent lack of innovation within the European Union.

The European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund are playing a key role in the Investment Plan. EFSI guarantees enable the EIB and EIF to take on a higher share of project risk, encouraging private finance providers to participate in the projects. Since launch, EFSI-backed transactions worth €84.2 billion have been made Europe-wide, triggering €458 billion of overall investment. EFSI is supported by a new European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH), which helps public and private sector promoters to prepare their investment projects with professional assistance. The Investment Plan also aims to make the regulatory environment in Europe more investment-friendly, especially in the digital, energy and capital market sectors.

By the end of last year, the EIB had approved 23 EFSI transactions in Austria with a total financing volume of €1.5 billion, which will mobilise investments of €4.8 billion. The EIF gave the go-ahead for five EFSI operations with €312 million of financing in 2019, generating €1.3 billion worth of investment. Since the launch of EFSI, the EIB Group has approved €1.8 billion in financing for a total investment volume of €6.1 billion.



The EIF in Austria in 2019



The European Investment Fund (EIF) belongs to the EIB Group and provides risk financing through guarantees for financial intermediaries (e.g. banks) and equity investment in funds, with the aim of supporting SMEs and mid-caps and fostering innovation in Europe. In 2019, the EIF provided €165 million in Austria, mobilising investment of €670 million.

The EIF made equity investments in Austria totalling €48 million spread over six funds supporting early and growth-stage companies. These participations helped the funds attract €270 million in financing. In addition, the EIF provided guarantees of €117 million and secured three transactions, facilitating new loans of €400 million to small and medium-sized enterprises.

Visit www.eif.org/austria for more information.

THE EIB GROUP IN 2019: AN OVERVIEW

EIB Group financing
stood at

€64.2 billion

By the end of 2019, the EIB Group had approved

€70.4 billion

under EFSI for more than 420 financing operations,
mobilising total investments of

€376 billion

€23.3 billion

was provided by the EIB Group to support
374 000 SMEs and **mid-caps**

€12 billion flowed into

infrastructure funding in the transport
and energy sectors, as well as urban infrastructure

€15.2 billion

for **environmental projects**
improving resource efficiency and sustainability

The EIB Group supported innovation and skills,
including education and digital infrastructure, with

€23.3 billion

The European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund at a glance

The EIB Group is the European Union's financing institution. It has moved from being a lender chiefly supporting long-term infrastructure projects to a modern public financial services provider with a broad and continually refined product range, including advisory services. The EIB, together with its subsidiary the EIF, is currently able to cover the entire value chain and the needs of players ranging from startups to large industrial companies and pan-European infrastructure projects. The Group only finances projects that have passed a strict due diligence process. At the same time, all the investments must be economically, financially, technically and environmentally viable. To achieve the maximum possible impact for growth and employment, the EIB Group focuses on four areas: climate action, innovation and skills, SMEs and strategic infrastructure in the European Union. To finance such projects, the EIB raises funds on the international capital markets as the world's largest multilateral borrower. Last year, the EIB placed issues totalling €50 billion. The Group is headquartered in Luxembourg and currently employs around 4 100 people, including engineers, economists and socio-environmental experts as well as finance experts. The EIB's balance sheet total stands at almost €600 billion.

For further information on the EIB's activities in Austria, visit www.eib.org/austria

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