



EIB Group activity in Germany sees marked increase in **2019**

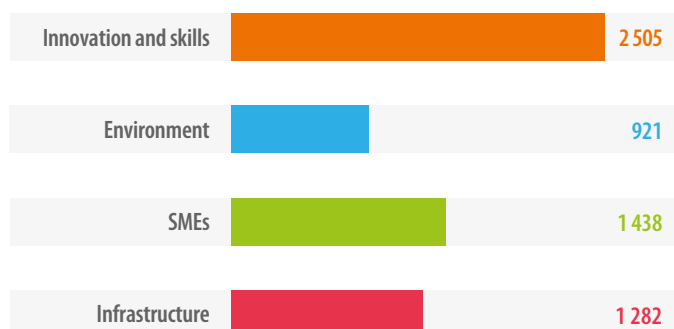
The EIB Group, consisting of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and European Investment Fund (EIF), significantly stepped up its operations in Germany in 2019. Last year, the Group provided total financing of over €6.1 billion (2018: €5.6 billion), including €5.2 billion from the EU bank – an increase of 13%. Its focus last year was on financing to strengthen research, development and innovation, for which it provided around €2.5 billion. Another area where the EIB and the EIF were highly active was the financing of climate protection: almost €1 billion of funds were dedicated to this objective. Additional priorities included the promotion of infrastructure and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The EIF also concentrated on SMEs and mid-caps with financing operations of over €900 million.

Overall, the EIB Group mobilised total investments of almost €13 billion in Germany last year. The EIB is confident that its result for the current year will be in line with the previous year.

EIB European Investment Bank Group
Total financing in Germany in 2019

€6.1 billion

(€ million)



Source: EIB





AS THE EU CLIMATE BANK, THE EIB WILL SIGNIFICANTLY STEP UP ITS CLIMATE ACTION EFFORTS

As the EU climate bank, the EIB will redouble its efforts to combat climate change. Over the next 10 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 Climate Agreement by 2025, and will cease to finance conventional fossil fuel power plants from the end of 2021. In the fight against climate change in Europe, Germany is key to achieving decarbonisation by 2050. The EU bank sees itself as a strong partner to Germany in the country's transition to a low-carbon economy. In 2019, it provided almost €1 billion for climate action projects there, primarily for improving energy efficiency.



The EIF in Germany in 2019

The 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, it provided €905 million in Germany, leveraging €4.4 billion of investment.

The EIF made equity investments in Germany totalling €567 million spread over 26 funds supporting early and growth-stage companies, enabling the funds to attract a total of €3.4 billion in financing. The EIF also issued guarantees worth €338 million and secured four transactions, which facilitated around €1 billion of new lending to SMEs.



For more information, please visit: www.eif.org/germany



INNOVATION – THE BASIS FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT

Strengthening innovation and competitiveness in Europe is one of the EU bank's priorities. It partners with many innovative companies to help them achieve sustainable growth and create more jobs in Europe through research and development, turning their ideas into business reality.

For example, last year the EU bank's operations in Germany included €50 million of financing for BioNTech. The international biotech company, which focuses on the clinical development of patient-specific immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer and other serious diseases, will mainly use the funds for research and development. In the current year, the Mainz-based company received an additional loan of €100 million for the development of its BNT162 COVID-19 global vaccine programme and the expansion of production capacity in Europe.

Another example of the Bank's support for innovation is its €110 million loan to Dräger, a leading medical and safety technology company. Based in Lübeck, Dräger is using the money to fund medical technology research into life-support systems, such as anaesthesia machines and ventilators. On the medical systems front, it will focus on developing and enhancing patient monitoring products, looking specifically at medical device networking and connecting devices to hospital IT infrastructure.

STRONG COMMITMENT TO BETTER DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

In addition to research, development and innovation, the EIB Group has been particularly active in promoting strategic infrastructure. For a high-tech country like Germany, the focus needs to go beyond making individual companies fit for global competition – we need to lay the groundwork for it to become a hub for the future by adapting infrastructure to the challenges of the coming years and decades. That is why, for example, the EU bank has provided Deutsche Telekom with €275 million for the development of its high-speed 5G network, while Telefónica Deutschland has received €450 million to go towards the installation of the next-generation 5G network.



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 start-ups 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 in Germany: www.eib.org/germany

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