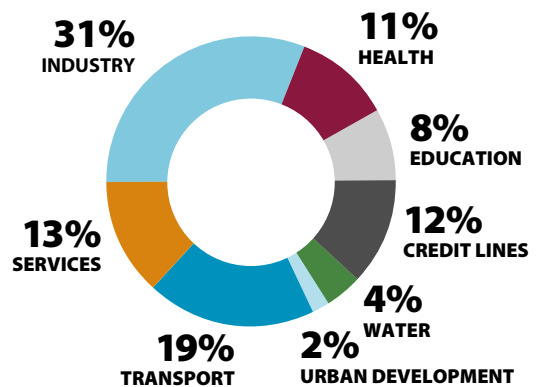




EIB Group activity in Sweden in 2020

EIB GROUP ACTIVITY IN SWEDEN 2020

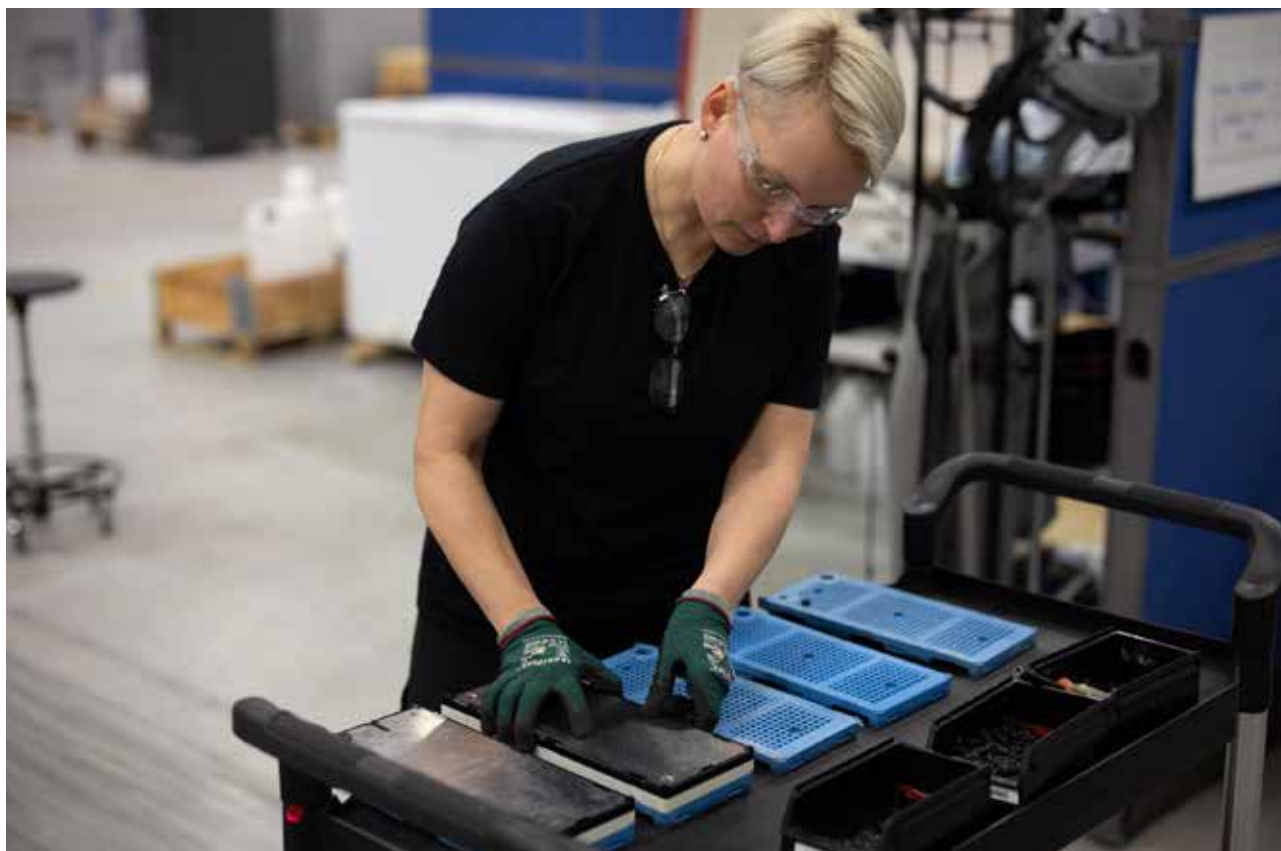
- Very good year for EIB Group financing in Sweden
- 70% of investments were climate-related
- Pandemic response sees substantial EIF support for micro- and small companies
- Support for hospitals, schools and education



2020 was a positive year for project financing in Sweden by the EIB Group (European Investment Bank and European Investment Fund), despite the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. Showing strong European support in different sectors, there was evidence of EIB and EIF financing all over Sweden: highlights include the Skåne University Hospital refurbishment, electric buses for Gothenburg's public transport network, and dedicated support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in various sectors. In total, the EIB Group signed €2.376 billion worth of operations in 2020, of which €270 million through the EIF.

In addition to lending activities for wastewater treatment, schools and urban renewal, the Group made financing available to Swedish SMEs affected by the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Group supported Swedish businesses through an inclusive finance agreement with Aros Kapital to back microfinance, a larger guarantee operation with Svensk Exportkredit, and several investments in Swedish-focused funds, such as EIR Ventures. Going forward, the EIB Group will continue to lend its support where it can.





(GREEN) POWER-UP

EIB continues support for Swedish battery producer Northvolt

\$350 million loan to establish the first European gigafactory for a new type of lithium-ion battery

In a year marked by difficulties, there were some positive firsts for Sweden nonetheless. For example, this year marked the arrival of Europe's first home-grown gigafactory for batteries. Northvolt Ett, built near the Swedish town of Skellefteå, was co-financed by the EIB with a \$350 million (around €300 million) loan following its financing of Northvolt's proof-of-concept factory in Västerås in 2018. With demand for electric vehicles on the rise, the need to produce strategic equipment such as batteries in Europe became clear. The European Commission, through its European Battery Alliance, backed the idea and began to garner support for this initiative. With a steady supply of renewable hydropower available in Sweden, the batteries will have a very low carbon footprint when they leave the factory. That's a (positive) first!

Annual EIB volume

Projects signed by the EIB in Sweden amounted to

€2.106 billion





ALL THINGS GREAT AND SMALL

EIF backs Swedish intermediaries to support small Nordic businesses in rough times

Several EIF guarantees, fund investments and inclusive finance deals to benefit micro-companies and SMEs

In 2020, the EIF made an additional €100 million of guarantee capacity available to Nordea Bank. This increase is expected to benefit more than 170 innovative SMEs and small mid-caps, leveraging up to €150 million of additional financing. Given Nordea's status as one of the largest financial groups operating across the Nordics, this specific COVID-19 assistance package will be offered in Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

Beyond SMEs, many new micro-companies (businesses with up to nine employees) have entered the scene in recent years, only to be hit hard by the pandemic. To help them out, the EIF signed a SEK 200 million guarantee agreement with Aros Kapital to provide small loans of up to SEK 275 000 for micro-enterprises in Sweden. The agreement will guarantee a portfolio of up to SEK 200 million of microcredit operations by Aros Kapital, making a significant contribution to the sector in terms of access to finance. By offering low interest rates and reduced collateral requirements, it becomes easier to provide liquidity to companies in need.



European Investment Fund

The EIF supported Swedish projects by committing

€270 million



OVERALL EIB GROUP ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020

Supporting good projects

Projects approved by the EIB Group amounted to

€76.6bn

both inside and outside the European Union

Climate action

Last year, no less than

70%

of all EIB projects in Sweden were climate-related

COVID-19 related financing

EIB Group COVID support totalled

€25.46bn

Investment Plan for Europe

The European Fund for Strategic Investments supported

€3.9bn

worth of projects in Sweden between 2015 and 2020

Significant financing

EIB Group financing for Swedish projects equalled

0.51%

of Sweden's GDP in 2020

20 555

jobs supported

in 2020 alone by EIF activities in recent years

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