SUSTAINABILITY

REPORT 2025



European Investment Bank | Group

SUSTAINABILITY
REPORT 2025



European Investment Bank Group Sustainability Report 2025

© European Investment Bank, 2026
All rights reserved.
All questions on rights and licensing should be addressed to publications@eib.org.

European Investment Bank
98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer
L-2950 Luxembourg

Photo credits: EIB Group, Getty Images, Unsplash.
Authorisation to reproduce or use these photos must be requested from the copyright holder.

For further information on the EIB Group, please consult www.eib.org and www.eif.org.
You can also contact us directly through the EIB website and EIF website.

Published by the European Investment Bank.

Printed on FSC® Paper.

pdf: QH-01-26-043-EN-N ISBN: 978-92-861-6230-5 ISSN: 2362-9746 doi: 10.2867/4132022

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY v

BASIS FOR PREPARATION xix

GENERAL DISCLOSURES 1

1. GENERAL INFORMATION 3

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION 79

2. SUPPORTING THE GREEN TRANSITION 83
3. TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE 97
4. FIGHTING POLLUTION 125
5. PRESERVING WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES 135
6. PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS 147
7. FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY 163

SOCIAL INFORMATION 175

8. IMPROVING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, COHESION AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT 179
9. SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES 191
10. BOOSTING QUALITY EMPLOYMENT 207
11. EMPOWERING OUR WORKFORCE 223

GOVERNANCE 245

12. DRIVING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT 249

ANNEX 263





PART I

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The European Investment Bank Group finances projects that deliver concrete results for people, the environment and the economy across the European Union and worldwide. Continuing on the path set by the first consolidated Sustainability Report covering 2024, this year's EIB Group Sustainability Report reaffirms the Group's commitment to high standards of accountability and transparency in its sustainability disclosures.

A central milestone this year is the completion of the Group's first double materiality assessment, in line with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the draft simplified European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) published by EFRAG, Europe's advisory body for financial and sustainability reporting standards, on 4 December 2025. It represents an important step forward in the Group's continuous alignment with EU sustainability reporting requirements and underscores its strong commitment to sustainability and the green transition, as reflected in its strategy and business model.

This assessment identifies the sustainability topics material to the Group by considering both the impacts of its activities on the environment and society, and the sustainability-related risks and opportunities it faces.

Guided by the outcome of this assessment, the report provides a clear and comprehensive view of the Group's sustainability performance and the tangible impact of the projects it finances. Across the European Union and in 130 countries worldwide, the Group's engineers, technical experts and financial specialists work every day to deliver on Europe's values.

INVESTMENTS DRIVING REAL CHANGE

In 2025, the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group signed a record €100 billion in new financing for high-impact projects, further strengthening its contribution as the European Union's financing arm. Of this total, €57 billion supported the green transition, demonstrating the Group's commitment to the objectives set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. These objectives were reaffirmed and fine-tuned in the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, published in October 2025, covering the period 2026-2030.

In the same year, the Group also reached record levels of investment in four key areas: energy grids and storage, technological innovation, housing, and security and defence. This reflects a shift in EU priorities towards competitiveness, resilience and strategic autonomy.

These investments are driving real change. From 2020, the European Investment Bank phased out support for electricity generation projects based on unabated fossil fuels and significantly increased its support for renewable energy. As a result, the average greenhouse gas emissions intensity of electricity generation projects in the Group's portfolio fell by approximately 80% between 2018 and 2025.

In 2025, water became a core pillar of the European Union's agenda for security, competitiveness and climate resilience. Through the Bank's investments, more than 32 million people will gain access to cleaner and safer water and sanitation.

Sustainable economic growth depends on inclusive and resilient communities. It requires investment in social infrastructure, affordable and sustainable housing, gender equality, education and healthcare. In 2025, the Group significantly increased support for affordable and sustainable housing, helping to address one of Europe's most pressing challenges. Over the year, financing for housing rose by nearly 50%, reaching around €5 billion.

This performance highlights the EIB Group's central role as a trusted strategic partner, mobilising targeted investment to advance the European Union's priorities in climate, innovation and social cohesion.

A MATERIAL COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

The double materiality assessment aims at identifying the sustainability topics that are most significant to the Group and its stakeholders. It helps inform strategic decision-making by highlighting where the Group's activities create the most significant impacts and where sustainability-related risks and opportunities may influence its long-term success.

The outcomes of the EIB Group's double materiality assessment are fully consistent with its strategy and business model.

All environmental topics covered by the revised European Sustainability Reporting Standards were assessed as material to the EIB Group. This outcome demonstrates the Group's commitment to support the transition to more resilient and sustainable societies. Simultaneously, it also reflects the fact that nature degradation and biodiversity loss constitute systemic threats to the economy in general and the banking sector in particular.

Climate stands out with the highest material impacts, risks and opportunities. It underlines the EIB Group's role and progress as the EU climate bank, with climate mitigation and adaptation remaining central to its strategy. Biodiversity, water and pollution are material from an impact and risk perspective while circular economy is material from an impact perspective only.

Most social topics are also material to the EIB Group, reflecting the Group's commitment to social and territorial cohesion, inclusive growth, investment in social infrastructure and respect for human rights.

KEY INSIGHTS

1. Sustainability is at the heart of the EIB Group's operations

The EIB Group's operating model is based on sustainable finance and its investments directly support the European Green Deal and the transition to a low-carbon economy. The Group is a global leader in green finance. The Bank issued the world's first green bond and the first supranational bond aligned with the European Green Bond standard, in line with the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. It is also one of the largest issuers of green bonds.

The EIB Group's role is to advance EU priorities, rather than to maximise profit. It creates long-term value for society and the environment. Sustainability criteria are built into all investment decisions, risk management processes and reporting frameworks. This enables the Group to push forward EU public policy goals, including inclusive economic growth, and ensuring that all regions and communities have the resources they need to adapt to decarbonisation. In 2025, the Group invested a record €100 billion in support of these goals.

Building on the Group's strengths, the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap, endorsed by the Board of Governors in 2024, focuses on eight interlinked policy priorities that guide its actions and investments. Aligned with EU policy objectives, these priorities include:

- consolidating the EIB Group's role as the climate bank
- accelerating digitalisation and new technologies
- stepping up support to Europe's security and defence industry
- contributing to a modern cohesion policy
- supporting agriculture and the bioeconomy
- reinforcing Europe's social infrastructure

- focusing on high-impact investment outside the European Union
- pioneering the capital markets union

These priorities aim to accelerate the green and digital transitions, foster innovation and strengthen social and regional cohesion. By targeting these areas, the EIB Group maximises its impact and support for Europe's competitiveness and resilience. It also works with international partners to support global action on the green transition and sustainable development.

The EIB Group fully supports European climate and energy ambitions. In 2020, it published the first phase of the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, which set ambitious targets and defined its role as the climate bank. The Group committed to increasing support for green finance to more than 50% of its lending by 2025. It also committed to aligning all financing, advisory and treasury operations with the goals and principles of the Paris Agreement from 2021.

In October 2025, building on the achievements of the first phase of the roadmap, the Group published the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, covering the period 2026-2030. This phase supports Europe's competitiveness, preparedness and inclusive prosperity, while simplifying procedures to accelerate green investment, and doubling current levels of climate change adaptation finance. It is guided by three main objectives:

- to continue delivering green financing volumes and effective leverage of investments by maintaining its ambition and extending it to the whole Group;
- to refocus Group priorities by investing more strategically to boost competitiveness, preparedness and inclusive prosperity both in the European Union and globally;
- to rely on new European regulatory frameworks to accelerate support to clean solutions and make it easier for Group clients and beneficiaries to access green finance.

The implementation of Phase 2 started in January 2026 and is therefore not covered in this report.

2. Reinforcing the EIB Group's role as the climate bank

Climate change remains one of the most urgent global threats, driving extreme weather and increasing risks for vulnerable communities. Achieving the European Union's goal of reducing emissions by 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990s levels) and reaching net-zero by 2050 requires rapid decarbonisation and climate adaptation efforts.

Through its direct and indirect financing and its advisory services, the EIB Group supports projects and investments that advance the green transition in the European Union and worldwide, addressing climate and environmental challenges.

In 2025, the Group committed a record €57 billion, around 57% of its total investment, to advance the green transition. Since 2021, it has supported an estimated €740 billion of investment, keeping it on track to meet its target of supporting €1 trillion in green investment in the critical decade to 2030.

Green investment also means boosting growth, competitiveness and security. It helps deliver clean and affordable energy to businesses and households and reduces Europe's dependence on fossil fuel. In 2025, the EIB Group provided a record €33 billion for Europe's energy security, supporting €108 billion in total investment, more than a quarter of total investment in the European Union.

In 2025, the European Commission adopted the European Water Resilience Strategy, recognising that water scarcity, floods, droughts and pollution are systemic risks affecting people, economies and ecosystems across Europe. As a result of the Bank's investments that year, more than 32 million people will gain access to cleaner and safer water and sanitation, including 13 million beyond Europe. These

projects supported in 2025 will also strengthen resilience by reducing drought risk for 18.5 million people and lowering flood risk for nearly 7 million.

The EIB Group is also stepping up efforts to address nature and biodiversity loss in its investments. Water scarcity and pollution are undermining the stability of ecosystems, leading to disease outbreaks and economic losses. The Bank is developing a natural capital action plan to further integrate biodiversity and natural capital into its operations, focusing on areas where nature can support economic, inclusive and climate-smart development. The plan will also help clients strengthen their own transition efforts as they work to protect and value nature.

Europe's resilience and economic strength depend on secure and sustainable access to critical raw materials. In 2025, the Bank introduced a strategic initiative on critical raw materials, supporting recycling, resource efficiency and material recovery. This helps reduce reliance on imports and reinforces the European Union's strategic autonomy and resilience.

3. Investing in people – the world's greatest asset – delivers economic returns

The Group recognises that sustainable economic growth depends on inclusive and resilient communities. Investment in affordable and sustainable housing, accessible education, healthcare and other basic services, along with the promotion of gender equality, is essential for improved labour market participation and economic productivity.

Financing for housing, including innovation, renovation and new construction, grew by 50% to a record €5 billion in 2025. This supports the goal of delivering a million homes across Europe by 2030.

In addition, almost half of the Group's financing in Europe, €43 billion, supported investments in cohesion regions. This contributes to reducing inequalities and helps ensure that the benefits of growth are widely shared, leaving no one behind.

Beyond Europe, the Group has made Ukraine a top priority. In 2025, it provided a record €1.5 billion in new financing for energy, infrastructure, small businesses and EU integration. More than 500 projects are currently underway across the country.

The EIB Group places strong emphasis on supporting women and groups that face structural disadvantages in the labour market. The Bank advances this through its gender action plans, by spearheading initiatives such as the Women Climate Leaders Network and by participating in the 2X Challenge. The EIF also supports EU programmes, such as InvestEU and Horizon Europe, which direct funding to women-led and gender-diverse companies, microfinance institutions and social impact investors. These partners offer loans and mentoring to women entrepreneurs, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

4. Mobilising funds for sustainable projects and ensuring that they are used as intended

The Bank was the first institution to issue green bonds in 2007. Since then, the market has grown rapidly. In 2025, the Bank's cumulative issuance of Climate Awareness Bonds and Sustainability Awareness Bonds exceeded €130 billion.

The Bank allocates the funds raised through these bonds to projects that support climate action and wider environmental and social sustainability goals. These instruments also attract private capital to high-impact projects. The Group is also driving the development and credibility of green bonds across Europe and globally by promoting transparency, the European Green Bond standard and best practices.

In 2025, the Bank issued the first supranational bond aligned with the European Green Bond standard, attracting more than €40 billion of demand.

Raising funds is only part of the task. Those resources must also be deployed effectively. The EIB Group relies on a robust multilayered framework that includes stakeholder engagement, due diligence, compliance and governance. An independent accountability mechanism complements this framework, ensuring that financing is used as intended, meets environmental and social standards, avoids harm to affected communities and the environment and respects human rights.

In addition, the EIB Group fosters a business culture grounded in strong ethical standards and core values, including integrity, respect, cooperation, commitment and equal opportunities. These principles guide every aspect of its operations, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations, safeguarding the Group's reputation and supporting the broader interests of the European Union.

The Group's compliance and investigation functions are continuously evolving to prevent, detect and address risks related to fraud, bribery and other misconduct. By prioritising staff awareness, encouraging a culture of speaking up and maintaining robust institutional frameworks, the EIB Group helps preserve public trust and deliver lasting benefits for society while pushing forward the European Union's strategic priorities.

OUTLOOK

In a rapidly changing geopolitical and environmental context, the EIB Group remains a reliable partner for sustainable development. In 2026, the Group aims to maintain its financing volume of €100 billion, with a strong focus on green finance, technological innovation and security and defence.

Building on record green financing in 2025, the Group will begin the second phase of the Climate Bank Roadmap in 2026. It will focus on investments that strengthen Europe's competitiveness, energy security and clean technology innovation, while increasing financing for climate adaptation. At the same time, it will simplify requirements for companies and continue to lead in green bonds to support the development of European capital markets.

Growth and prosperity are only possible in an environment of peace and security for people and businesses. Building on the effort of the last years, from 2026, the Bank will integrate security and defence as a new cross-cutting public policy goal, underscoring the Group's commitment to strengthening Europe's security, autonomy and resilience. The Group has expanded the scope of activities eligible for financing beyond previous dual-use limitations and financing will be focused on the following five priorities: critical infrastructures, industrial capabilities, homegrown R&D, financing small and medium-sized enterprises across the supply chain and bolstering private investment funds.

The challenges ahead are immense – but so are the opportunities. The EIB Group is committed to leading by example, mobilising public and private finance to build a sustainable future for all. The time to act is now. Together with the European Union, the EIB Group is taking action.

WHO WE ARE

The EIB Group is the European Union's long-term financing institution. It provides finance and technical assistance through two entities: the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund (EIF). The Group operates worldwide and its financing contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In 2025, about 90% of its total investments were directed within the European Union, while the remaining 10% were allocated to non-EU countries.

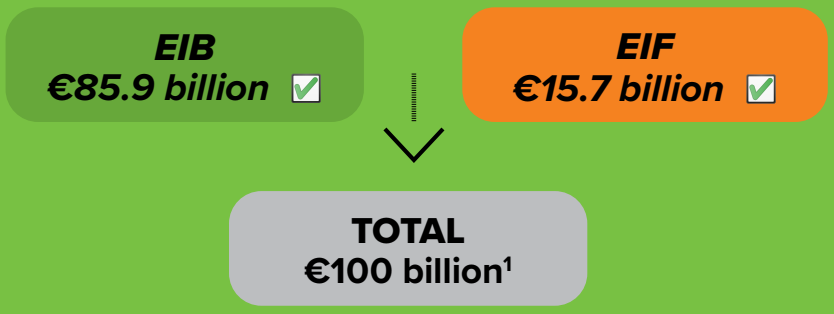
Owned by the 27 EU members, the European Investment Bank is the world's largest multilateral borrower and lender. The finance and assistance it provides contribute to the achievement of EU policy goals in Europe and beyond. Its counterparties range from national governments to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Its products range from complex framework loans to financing issued through financial intermediaries.

Through EIB Global, the Group increases the impact of its work beyond the European Union and builds on decades of experience in global development finance. EIB Global works closely with partners and regional clients to develop tailored strategies that increase the impact of financed projects and contribute to policy dialogue at a local level.

In addition to the Bank's financing of large projects and intermediated lending, the EIF, the Group's dedicated risk capital subsidiary, provides innovative debt and equity investments to support small businesses, startups and scaleups in the European Union and accession countries. This allows the Group to offer a broad range of products and innovative instruments, from loans and guarantees to equity investments and venture capital, through direct and indirect investments via public and private banks, investment funds and other financial intermediaries. These efforts help address the funding gaps in Europe's capital markets.

2025 RESULTS

TOTAL FINANCING

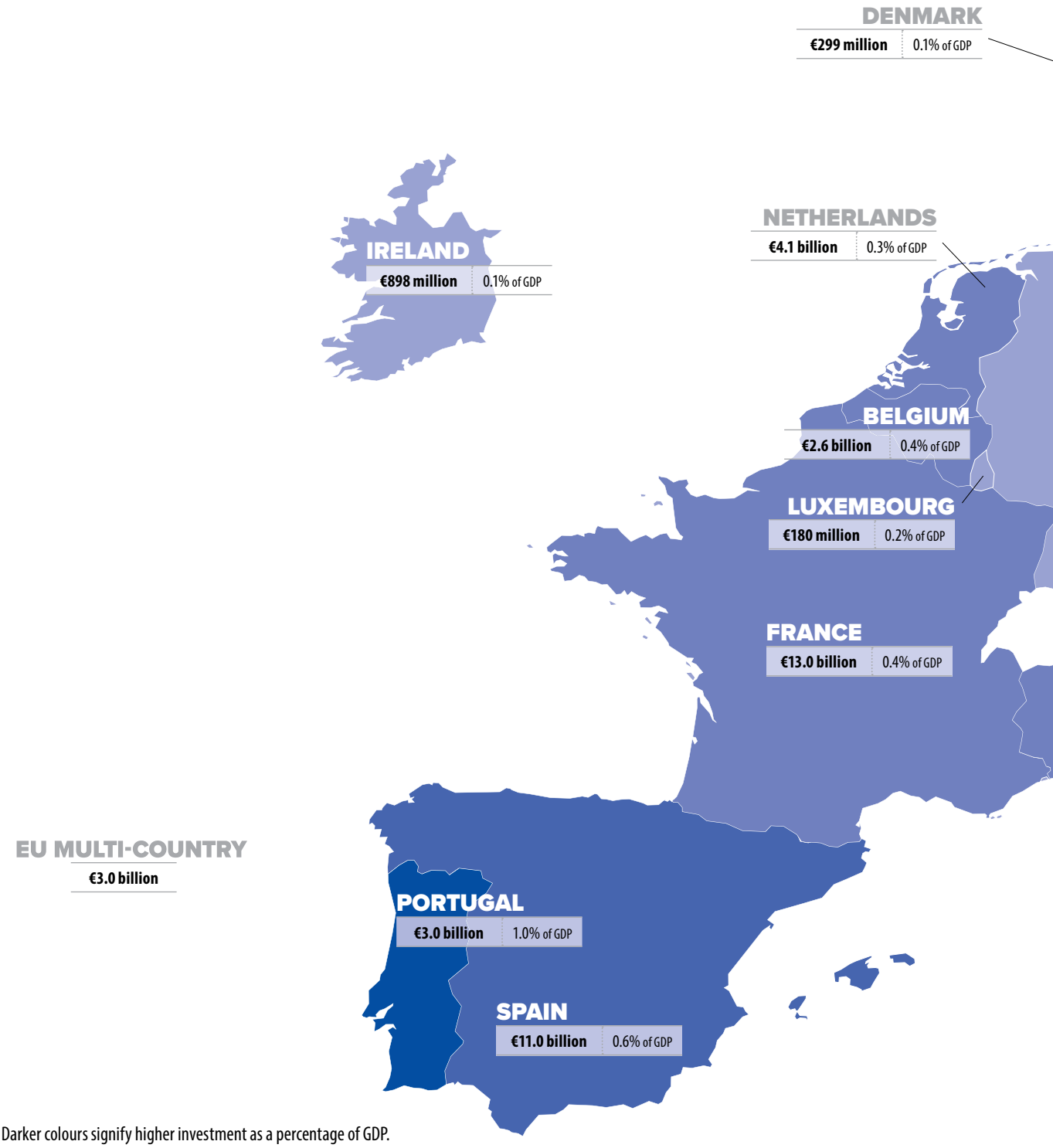


Primary public policy goals for European Investment Bank	2025 results
Innovation, digital and human capital	€16.2 billion
Small and medium enterprise and mid-cap finance	€14.5 billion
Sustainable cities and regions	€19.6 billion
Sustainable energy and natural resources	€35.6 billion
Cross-cutting public policy goals at the European Investment Bank level[2]	
Climate action and environmental sustainability[3]	€50.4 billion
Economic and social cohesion[4]	€38 billion

Primary public policy goals for European Investment Fund	2025 results
Competitiveness, growth and cohesion	€4 billion
Innovation	€4.7 billion
Social impact, skills and human capital	€0.7 billion
Sustainability and green transformation	€6.3 billion
Cross-cutting public policy goals at the European Investment Fund level[2]	
Climate action and environmental sustainability	€5.6 billion
Economic and social cohesion[4]	€5.6 billion

1. The EIB Group total financing figure excludes an overlap due to joint engagements of the EIB and the EIF.
2. Our climate action and environmental sustainability (green) and cohesion financing are horizontal indicators and can overlap with each other and other policy goals.
3. Financed by the EIB's own resources.
4. The EIB Group uses the European Commission criteria for transition and less developed regions established for the 2021-2027 programming period (own resources only).

THE EIB GROUP IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

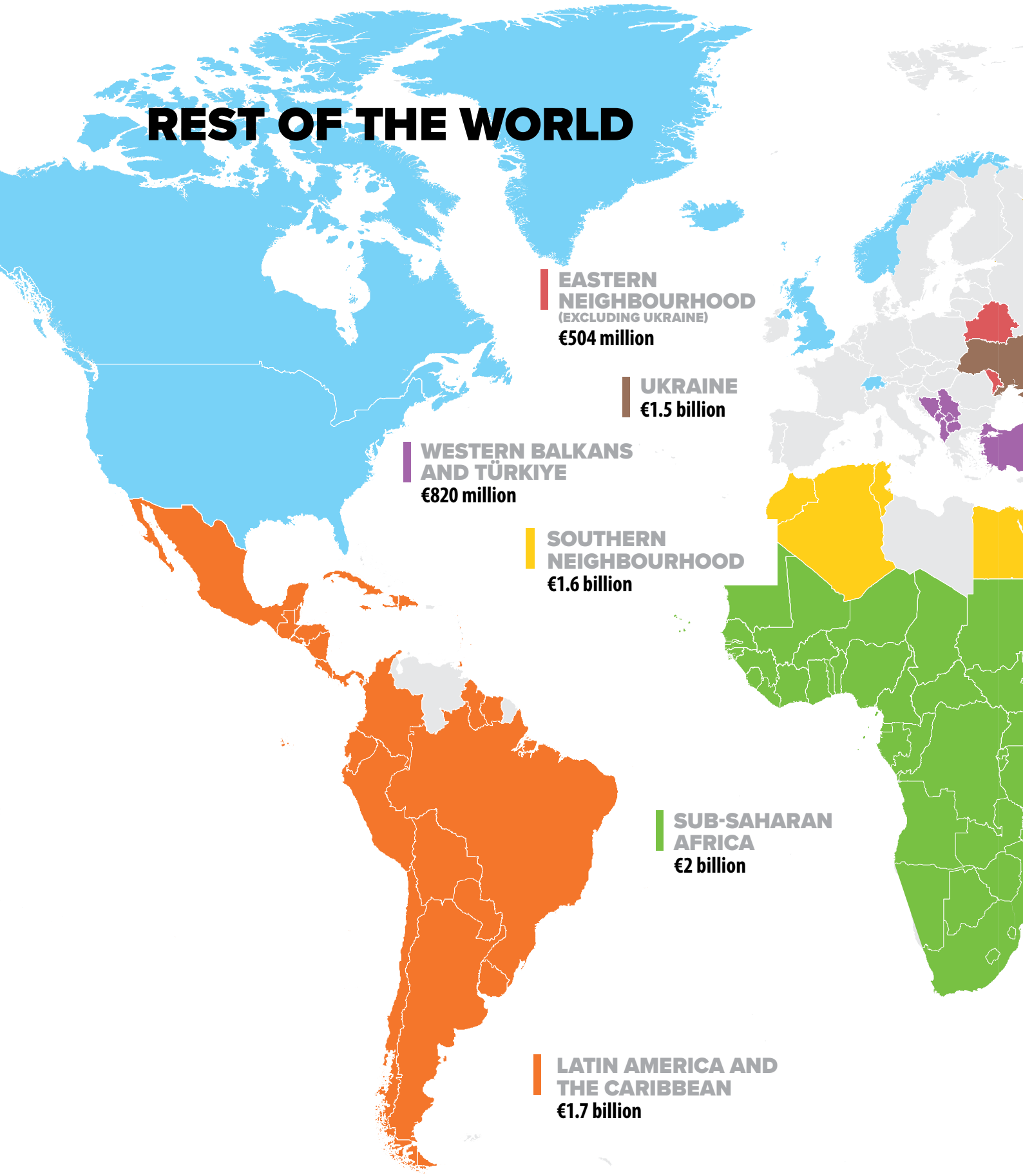


Darker colours signify higher investment as a percentage of GDP.

The data presented in the country breakdown excludes €4.3 billion in Recovery and Resilience Facility financing entrusted to the EIB Group by Member States.


FINLAND
€1.6 billion
0.6% of GDP
SWEDEN
€2.0 billion
0.3% of GDP
ESTONIA
€336 million
0.8% of GDP
LATVIA
€381 million
0.9% of GDP
LITHUANIA
€577 million
0.7% of GDP
POLAND
€8.0 billion
0.9% of GDP
GERMANY
€10.4 billion
0.2% of GDP
CZECHIA
€1.9 billion
0.6% of GDP
SLOVAKIA
€649 million
0.5% of GDP
AUSTRIA
€1.7 billion
0.3% of GDP
HUNGARY
€759 million
0.3% of GDP
SLOVENIA
€366 million
0.5% of GDP
CROATIA
€536 million
0.6% of GDP
ROMANIA
€1.6 billion
0.4% of GDP
ITALY
€12.3 billion
0.5% of GDP
BULGARIA
€646 million
0.6% of GDP
GREECE
€2.6 billion
1.0% of GDP
CYPRUS
€371 million
1.0% of GDP
MALTA
€190 million
0.8% of GDP

REST OF THE WORLD

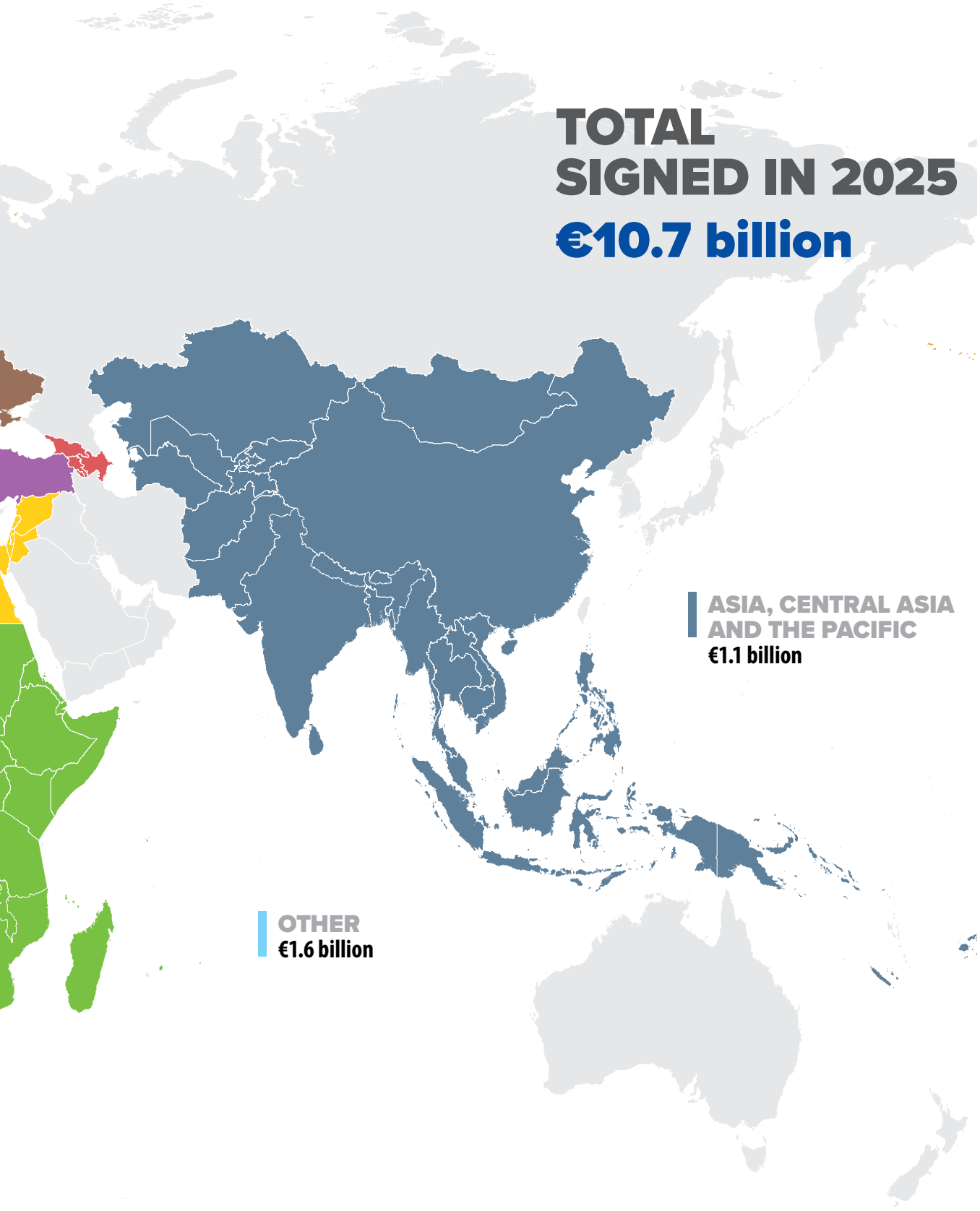


The European Investment Bank does not endorse, accept or judge the legal status of any territory, boundaries, colours, denominations or information depicted on this map.

Following EU sanctions against Syria in November 2011, the EIB suspended all loan and advisory activity in the country. However, the EIB is part of the Syria core donor group monitoring the situation under EU and UN co-leadership.

TOTAL SIGNED IN 2025

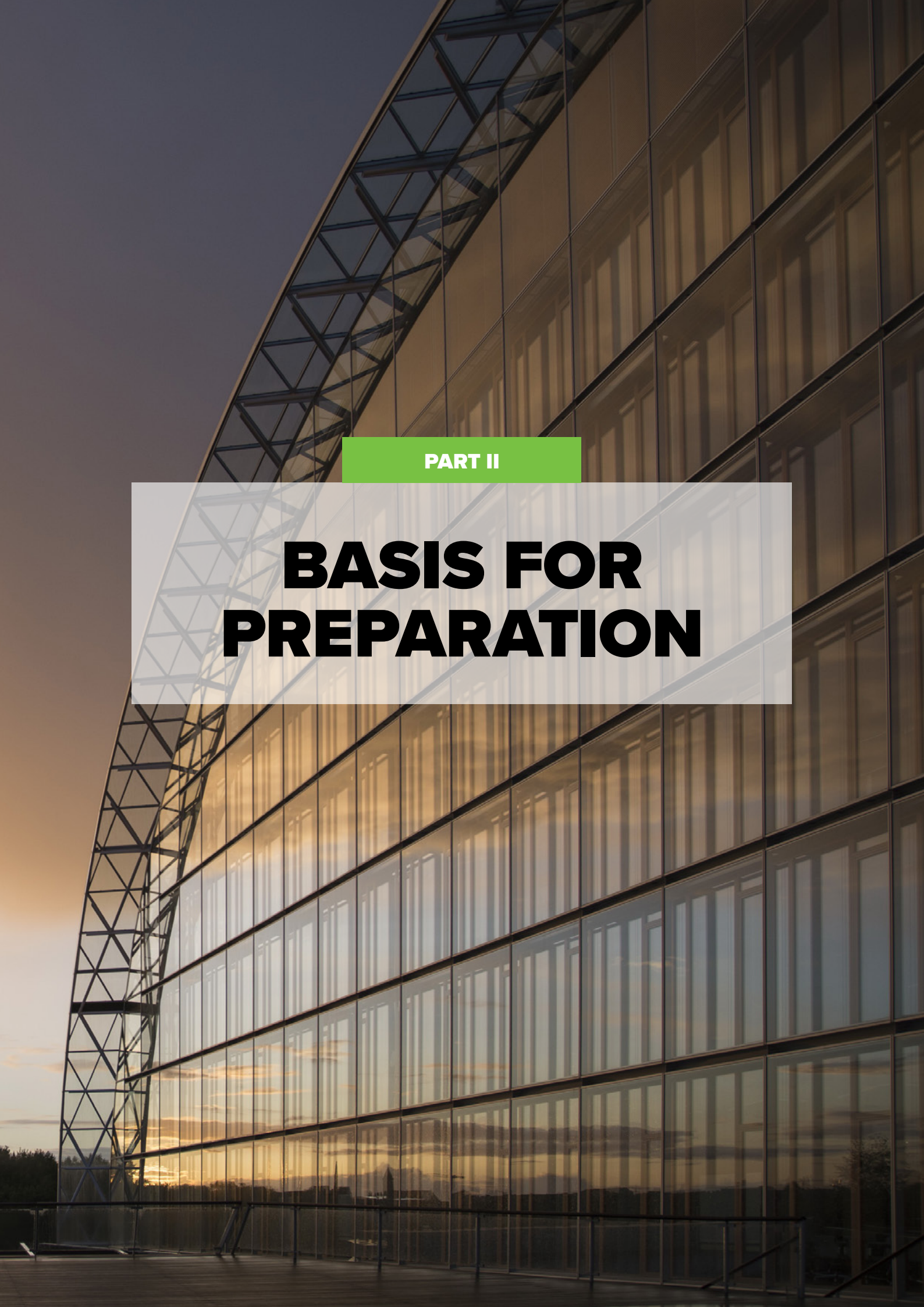
€10.7 billion



ASIA, CENTRAL ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
€1.1 billion

OTHER
€1.6 billion





PART II

BASIS FOR PREPARATION

GENERAL APPROACH

The European Investment Bank (EIB, or the Bank) Group has long been a pioneer in sustainability reporting. It welcomes the European Commission's effort to enhance standardisation, transparency and comparability in corporate sustainability reporting through the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive.

The Group also supports the Commission's ambition to review and simplify the European Sustainability Reporting Standards and the EU taxonomy under the Omnibus Directive. Simplified reporting will strengthen Europe's competitiveness and facilitate large-scale investment. The revision of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards should ensure that reporting requirements effectively support businesses, financial institutions and other organisations in making well-informed investment and strategic decisions.

In this context, and to the extent possible and compatible with its specific features – including its nature, policy mission, specific tasks and governance structure – the EIB Group has decided to gradually integrate the content and structure of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards[5] into the disclosures contained in its Sustainability Report.[6]

SCOPE OF CONSOLIDATION

The Group's sustainability reporting covers the Bank and its subsidiary, the European Investment Fund (EIF, or the Fund). Where information applies exclusively to the EIB or the EIF, this is clearly indicated throughout the publication. The list of entities included in sustainability reporting is consistent with those presented in the Group's Financial Report.[7]

REPORTING PERIOD

The EIB Group Sustainability Report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025, in alignment with the Group's financial reporting cycle.[8]

TIME HORIZONS

The EIB Group assesses the impact of environmental, social and governance risks over short-, medium- and long-term horizons. These time horizons are aligned with those set out in the European Sustainability Reporting Standards[9] and are also used for reporting purposes.

5. In the context of this report, the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) refer to the applicable standards as of 31/12/2025. When presenting the double materiality assessment carried out for this report, the reference is EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS published in December 2025. The difference is made explicit through the report.
6. As part of this transition, the Group has consolidated information previously published across separate reports into this integrated Sustainability Report. As a result, the Group will no longer publish stand-alone reports on the GRI Standards, the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) or the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB). The EIB Group Carbon Footprint Report has also been discontinued and integrated into the Environmental Statement 2026 Update, which includes 2025 performance data, prepared in line with the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme.
7. See "Subsidiaries" in the Financial Report 2025 for more information.
8. Please contact us for any questions or comments in respect of sustainability reporting.
9. Given the maturity of the EIB Group's portfolio, the Group has adopted longer time horizons for the assessment of credit risk, in line with European Banking Authority guidelines: short term (up to one year), medium term (one to ten years) and long term (more than ten years). By contrast, the EIB Group's non-financial risk scenario analysis assesses risks over a period of up to ten years.

They are defined as follows:

- short term: up to one year
- medium term: one to five years
- long term: more than five years

COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

In this report, the term "Group green finance" replaces the term "climate action and environmental sustainability finance" used in previous reports, in line with the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2. Group green finance is tracked according to Group definitions as outlined in Chapter 2.1 of this report.

ASSURANCE

The EIB Group engaged its external auditor, KPMG, to provide limited assurance on selected statements and figures within the report. These audited statements are *clearly marked in italics and accompanied by a tick symbol* ☑.

VALIDATION

Published on 30 July 2026, following approval of the EIB Management Committee on 20 July 2026 and the EIF Executive and Senior Management Committee on 14 July 2026.





PART III

GENERAL DISCLOSURES

1. GENERAL INFORMATION 5

1.1. Sustainability governance 6

1.1.1. EIB Group sustainability governance 6

1.1.2. How governing bodies oversee sustainability 11

1.1.3. Composition, competencies and remuneration of the statutory bodies 13

1.1.4. Statement on due diligence 21

1.1.5. Risk management and internal controls for sustainability reporting 21

1.2. Double materiality assessment 23

1.2.1. Description of the process to identify and assess material impacts, risks and opportunities and material information to be reported 23

1.2.2. Material impacts, risks and opportunities 27

1.3. Strategy, business model and value chain 34

1.3.1. Sustainable finance as our operating model 34

1.3.2. EIB Group products, services and clients 36

1.3.3. Financing 38

1.3.4. Value chain and sectors of activity 42

1.4. The EIB Group's approach to sustainability 44

1.4.1. Overview 44

1.4.2. Achieving public policy goals 45

1.4.3. Delivering on the strategic roadmap 49

1.4.4. Selection process for financing 56

1.4.5. Sustainability risk management 62

1.5. The EIB Group's contribution to sustainability 63

1.5.1. Additionality and the Additionality and Impact Measurement framework 63

1.5.2. Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 64

1.6. Stakeholder engagement and accountability 66

1.6.1. EIB Group stakeholders 66

1.6.2. Publication and disclosure of information 67

1.6.3. Stakeholder engagement and public consultations 68

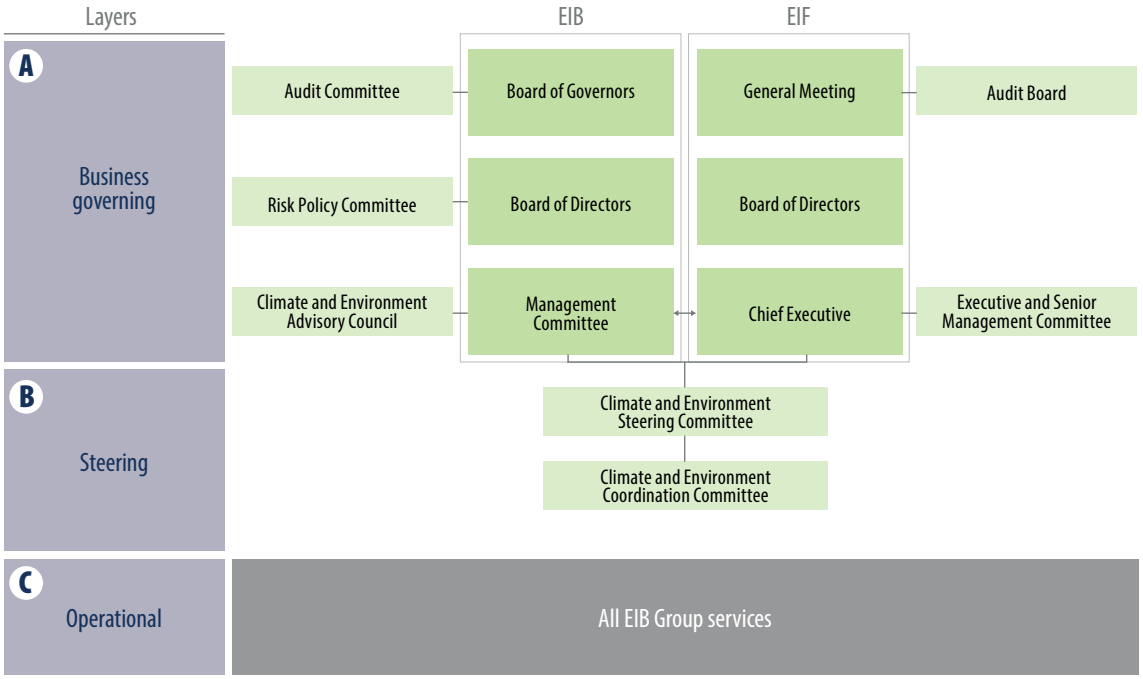
1.6.4. Mechanisms to address complaints and grievances 72

1.
GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE

1.1.1. EIB Group sustainability governance

Figure 1: EIB AND EIF STATUTORY AND ADVISORY BODIES FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Source: EIB Group

Please note that this is a non-exhaustive overview of governance that focuses on sustainability.[10]

1.1.1.1. Layer A: Business governing bodies

The Bank's statutory bodies

Board of Governors
The Board of Governors is the highest governing body of the European Investment Bank (EIB). It meets once a year and is made up of ministers (usually finance ministers) designated by each EU Member State, the Bank's shareholders.

The Board of Governors lays down general directives for the Bank's credit policy in accordance with the European Union's objectives, approves the annual accounts and balance sheet, decides on the Bank's operations beyond the European Union and approves capital increases. The Board of Governors also appoints the members of the Board of Directors, the Management Committee and the Audit Committee.

In accordance with the EIB's Rules of Procedure, the office of chair of the Board of Governors is held by each member of the board on a yearly rotation basis, according to the order of protocol of the Member States established by the Council of the European Union. The chair is a minister designated by a Member State and is therefore a non-executive officer.

10. See also EIB Group Corporate Governance Report for 2024.

Board of Directors
The Bank's Board of Directors is a non-resident body with 28 directors (one appointed by each Member State and one by the European Commission), 31 alternate directors and up to six experts who are non-voting members.

The Board of Directors meets at least six times a year and ensures that the Bank is run in accordance with the EU treaties, the EIB Statute and the general directives laid down by the Board of Governors.

The Board of Directors approves the Bank's operational plan, financing operations (including those supporting climate action and environmental sustainability objectives) and climate-related policies and strategic documents. The minutes of the Board of Directors meetings are published on the Bank's website.

Management Committee
The Management Committee is the Bank's permanent collegiate executive governing body. It meets once a week and consists of nine members: a president and eight vice-presidents, appointed for a period of six years by the Board of Governors.

The Management Committee oversees the day-to-day management of the Bank, under the authority of the president and the supervision of the Board of Directors. It prepares decisions for the Board of Directors and ensures that they are implemented.

Each member of the Management Committee oversees specific areas, including economic, environmental and social topics. These responsibilities are listed on the Bank's website.

The Audit Committee
The Audit Committee is an independent body that reports directly to the Board of Governors. Its six full members and three observers are appointed by the Board of Governors for a non-renewable term of six consecutive financial years.

The Audit Committee ensures that the Bank's activities comply with the Statute and Rules of Procedure, with particular attention to risk management and monitoring, including climate risk. The committee is responsible for auditing the Bank's accounts and for verifying that the Bank conforms to best banking practice.

The Bank's advisory bodies

Risk Policy Committee
A Risk Policy Committee, made up of nine members of the Board of Directors and a chairperson, advises the board on whether the Bank's policies for identifying, assessing and managing risks, including environmental, climate and social risks, are consistent with the Group's risk appetite. It does so by providing non-binding opinions and/or recommendations on the following high-level risk policy documents, based on proposals from the Bank:

- Group risk management charter
- Group capital sustainability policy
- Group risk appetite framework
- Group internal capital adequacy assessment process
- Group internal liquidity adequacy assessment process
- Group contingency funding plan
- Group recovery plan
- Group stress testing framework

The Risk Policy Committee is regularly briefed on the tools and processes developed to integrate environmental, climate and social risks into the Group's frameworks, with a focus on stress testing. The committee also looks at the risk appetite framework and the internal capital adequacy assessment process.

EIB Group Climate and Environment Advisory Council
The EIB Group Climate and Environment Advisory Council provides external high-level expertise and strategic insight to inform the Group's climate and environmental action.

The Climate and Environment Advisory Council is composed of ten members and a chairperson. It brings together a balanced group of recognised experts and leaders from European and international institutions, civil society organisations, academia, think tanks and the private sector, offering a wide range of skills and perspectives to the EIB Group.

Since 2021, the council has been convened by the chairperson and the Bank's vice-president responsible for climate action and environmental sustainability. The council usually meets twice a year and is currently chaired by Christine Lagarde, president of the European Central Bank.

In 2025, the council met on 15 July to discuss the second phase of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap.

EIF governing bodies

General Meeting
The General Meeting is the highest governing body of the European Investment Fund (EIF). It consists of one representative from each of the EIF's shareholders: the Bank (usually the president or a vice-president), the European Commission representing the European Union and a representative of each of the shareholding financial institutions.

It decides on proposals with strategic implications, including changes to the Fund's tasks and activities, increases in its authorised capital, the appropriation and distribution of net income and the admission of new shareholders. It also approves the Fund's annual report, balance sheet and profit and loss account, and appoints the members of the Board of Directors and the Audit Board.

Board of Directors
The EIF Board of Directors consists of seven members and seven alternates, designated by the Fund's shareholders and appointed by the General Meeting. The Bank designates four members and four alternates, the European Commission two members and two alternates, and the financial institutions together designate one member and one alternate. The board meets at least once every calendar quarter, and usually ten times a year, or more if needed.

The EIF board oversees all of the Fund's operations and adopts the guidelines and directives governing its activities and management. It submits the Fund's annual accounts and annual report on the activities of the Fund to the General Meeting. The Board of Directors also approves the Fund's annual operational plan, as well as the key performance indicators and targets for its thematic policy objectives, including those related to climate action and environmental sustainability. Minutes of the Board's meetings are published on the EIF website.

Chief executive
The chief executive is nominated by the Bank, as the largest shareholder, and appointed by the Board of Directors. The chief executive is responsible for the day-to-day management of the European Investment Fund. Certain matters meeting specific criteria, including operations, may be approved by the chief executive, under delegation from the Board of Directors. The chief executive also submits the Fund's annual operational plan, including its operational, strategic and budgetary implications, to the Board of Directors for approval.

Under the EIF Statutes, the chief executive may be assisted by a deputy, nominated by the European Commission, as the shareholder with the second highest number of shares. The deputy chief executive replaces the chief executive in their absence and holds the same powers.

Audit Board
The Audit Board is an independent body that reports directly to the General Meeting. It consists of six members, designated by the EIF's shareholders and mandated to act in line with the professional standards of their field. Three members are designated by the Bank, two members by the European Commission and one member by the financial institutions, acting collectively.

The Audit Board has the statutory responsibility to confirm each year that, to the best of its knowledge and judgment, the EIF's balance sheet and profit and loss account give a true and fair view of its financial position and operation results for the year under review. It also confirms that the Fund's operations have been carried out in compliance with the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure and are based on sound banking principles or other applicable commercial principles and practices, as applicable to the EIF.

Executive and Senior Management Committee
The Executive and Senior Management Committee was established to help the chief executive make sound and well-informed decisions in the Fund's day-to-day management. The committee includes the chief executive, the deputy chief executive and the directors reporting directly to the chief executive, namely the secretary general and general counsel, who has chaired the committee since 15 December 2025,[11] the chief investment officer, the chief financial officer and head of the finance and strategy office, the chief people officer and the chief risk officer.

1.1.1.2. Layer B: Responsibilities at the steering level

EIB Group Climate and Environment Steering Committee
The Climate and Environmental Steering Committee oversees the implementation of the Climate Bank Roadmap. It is made up of the Bank's directors general and the EIF's chief executive and deputy chief executive and is chaired by Vice-President Ambroise Fayolle, a member of the Management Committee. The committee meets as required.

EIB Group Climate and Environment Coordination Committee
The Climate and Environment Coordination Committee brings together all relevant EIB Group departments to coordinate the Group's work on climate and environmental issues and to support the exchange of information and good practices. The committee meets once a week.

11. Before this, the committee was chaired by the head of cabinet.

1.1.1.3. Layer C: Responsibilities at the operational level

Within the Bank, different directorates are responsible for sustainability-related activities:

Table 1: EIB RELEVANT DIRECTORATES AND THEIR ROLES IN SUSTAINABILITY

Finance Directorate
Develops Climate Awareness Bonds (CABs) and Sustainability Awareness Bonds (SABs) through the sustainable finance unit and works in close cooperation with the Projects Directorate's CAB and SAB coordinators.
Group Risk and Compliance Directorate
Develops and manages tools and processes to integrate sustainability risks into the Group's risk management framework and policies.
Inspectorate General
Groups together three independent accountability functions: evaluations of EIB Group activities, investigations into prohibited conduct and the complaints mechanism. All three fall under the authority of the Inspector General.
Operations Directorate and EIB Global
The Bank's client-facing directorates, responsible for the origination and structuring of investments, as well as for financial advisory assignments. Investments supported by the Bank contribute directly to climate, environmental and broader sustainability objectives, in line with EU priorities. **Climate Office** Within the Operations Directorate, provides strategic and operational support to the front lines on climate-related matters.
Portfolio Management and Monitoring
Proactively and strategically manages the Bank's client relationships and exposures throughout the loan life cycle and monitors lending operations, including the counterparties involved in the operations.
Projects Directorate
Provides technical due diligence on environmental and social standards, climate action and environmental sustainability targets and the EIB Group framework to support the PATH framework. Together with the Operations Directorate and EIB Global, helps maximise the positive environmental and social impact of the Bank's financing. **Sustainability and Climate Office** Performs the quality assurance of climate statements and helps shape the Bank's approach to sustainability reporting. Made up of technical experts who develop the Bank's strategy, policies and procedures on climate, environmental and social issues, and who represent the Bank in technical working groups and conferences and help clients and partners develop skills through training and advisory services.
Secretariat General
Group Strategy Department Ensures strategic alignment with global partners, including through the participation in high-level international forums, for scaling up sustainability financing. **Climate Bank Roadmap project management office** Supports planning, monitoring, reporting and knowledge-sharing related to the Climate Bank Roadmap. **Sustainability Division** Leads sustainability-related reporting and manages stakeholder engagement.

Source: EIB Group

Table 2: EIF RELEVANT DIRECTORATES AND THEIR ROLES IN SUSTAINABILITY

Investment Office
Contributes to developing and delivering the EIF's strategy and vision by implementing the operational plans for fundraising and deployment. Supports every stage of the transaction life cycle, from designing mandates and products to building and executing portfolios and ensuring that transactions are completed efficiently.
Client Services
Oversees the inclusion of operations in the portfolio, monitors and reports on climate and environmental financing across different mandates and financial products.
Equity Investments and Guarantees Securitisation and Inclusive Finance
Develops equity operations focused on sustainability, due diligence, the assessment of environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices of financial institutions, and the evaluation of climate action and environmental targets of these operations.
Mandate Design and Product Development
Sustainability Team Provides expertise on sustainability across the investment process and shares the EIF's approach with market participants, partners and policymakers. Coordinates measures related to the Climate Bank Roadmap and oversees climate action and environmental sustainability measures, in line with the Paris Agreement. Designs the sustainability criteria for all investment products (debt and equity) across all mandates. Works with EIB Advisory to develop tools and represents the EIF in the EU Platform on Sustainable Finance.
Mandate Origination and Relationship Management
Identifies and develops new mandates focused on climate action and environmental sustainability.
Resource Planning and Performance Monitoring
Plans, monitors and coordinates fundraising and investment activities, including the annual climate action and environmental target set in the EIF's Corporate Operational Plan.
Risk Office
Sustainability Risk and Compliance Unit
Contributes to non-financial reporting, including input to the Group's Sustainability Report. It carries out climate risk and ESG assessments and advises the Investment Office on excluded and restricted activities and sectors. Reviews, updates and implements the EIF Transparency Policy.

Source: EIB Group

1.1.2. How governing bodies oversee sustainability

1.1.2.1. Reporting on due diligence and monitoring

The Bank's governing bodies receive documentation that supports and informs their decision-making process, including the results of the Bank's risk-based environmental, climate and social appraisal (see the description of the due diligence process), and any relevant monitoring requirements.

The information submitted may include:

- environmental, climate and social impact and risks;
- measures to avoid, prevent and reduce significant negative adverse effects and, if needed, to remedy/compensate any remaining issues;
- environmental and social benefits, including how the project contributes to the Bank's sustainability targets and commitments and an outline of the stakeholder engagement process already carried out. The information may also contain specific environmental, climate and/or social contractual conditions and/or undertakings, including monitoring and reporting requirements, which should be reflected in the legal documentation signed with the project promoter.[12]

These elements are summarised in the environmental and social data sheet. For projects approved since 2012, these sheets, which are part of the package approved by the Bank's relevant governing bodies, are published on the Bank's public register. For more details, see the presentation of the public register in Chapter 1.6, "Stakeholder engagement and accountability."

After a project is completed, an assessment of the environmental and social issues are summarised in the Bank's environmental and social completion sheets, which are published in the public register, subject to previous publication of the related environmental and social data sheet.

1.1.2.2. Working groups tasked with assessing environmental and social risks

The Bank's Board of Directors examines environmental and social risks through its Working Group on Lending Policies, Evaluation and Impact. This group met twice in 2025.

In addition, the Working Group for Assessing Financing Proposals reviews all related operational aspects, including social and environmental risks, when relevant. In 2025, the group met nine times.

1.1.2.3. Reporting on evaluation to governing bodies

The Inspectorate General's Evaluation Division promotes accountability through independent evidence-based assessments of the EIB Group's performance and results. It also supports learning, sharing feedback and knowledge to inform the Group's decisions on policies, strategies, products, projects and organisational matters, helping to improve performance and achieve greater impact. The division's work is guided by the EIB Group Evaluation Policy.

Every year, the Evaluation Division presents its annual activity report and a forward-looking three-year rolling work programme to the Bank's governing bodies. The division's work is organised around four main themes, aligned with the Bank's public policy goals and the Group's Strategic Roadmap adopted in June 2024:

- delivering as the climate bank
- contributing to a competitive, resilient and inclusive Europe
- investing worldwide for impact, through EIB Global
- managing quality, efficiency and impact

Building knowledge around these themes fosters synergies between evaluations, encourages cross-learning and supports the sharing of lessons learnt from the evaluations, related studies and follow-up recommendations.

12. See paragraphs 4.24 to 4.25 of the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

Key topics assessed in 2025 include:

- the Group's Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025
- the Bank's Energy Lending Policy
- the EIF's 4th pillar initiative to attract private funding
- the Group's contribution to the Multiannual Financial Framework
- the Evaluation of the Group's contribution to InvestEU 2021-mid 2025
- the Bank's use of framework loans to address disasters and emergencies
- the Group's Strategy on Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment
- the EIB Additionality and Impact Measurement framework

For more information, see the Evaluation Activity Report 2025 and Work Programme 2026-2028.

1.1.3. Composition, competencies and remuneration of the statutory bodies

1.1.3.1. Composition of the statutory bodies

Table 3: EIB BOARD OF GOVERNORS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

EIB Board of Governors		
Name	**Function**	**Country**
Zbyněk STANJURA (Chair)	Minister of Finance	Czechia
Jan JAMBON	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Pensions	Belgium
Temenuzhka PETKOVA	Minister of Finance	Bulgaria
Morten BØDSKOV	Minister for Industry, Business and Financial Affairs	Denmark
Lars KLINGBEIL	Federal Minister of Finance	Germany
Jürgen LIGI	Minister of Finance	Estonia
Simon HARRIS	Minister for Finance	Ireland
Kyriakos PIERRAKAKI	Minister of Economy and Finance	Greece
Carlos CUERPO	Minister for Economy, Trade and Business	Spain
Roland LESCURE	Minister of Economy, Finance and Industrial Energy and Digital Sovereignty	France
Marko PRIMORAC	Minister of Finance	Croatia
Giancarlo GIORGETTI	Minister of Economy and Finance	Italy
Makis KERAVNOS	Minister of Finance	Cyprus
Arvils AŠERADENS	Minister of Finance	Latvia
Kristupas VAITIEKŪNAS	Minister of Finance	Lithuania
Gilles ROTH	Minister of Finance	Luxembourg
Márton NAGY	Minister for National Economy	Hungary
Clyde CARUANA	Minister of Finance and Employment	Malta
Eelco HEINEN	Minister of Finance	Netherlands
Markus MARTERBAUER	Federal Minister of Finance	Austria
Andrzej DOMAŃSKI	Minister of Finance	Poland
Joaquim MIRANDA SARMENTO	Minister of State and Finance	Portugal
Alexandru NAZARE	Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister	Romania
Klemen BOŠTJANČIČ	Minister of Finance	Slovenia

EIB Board of Governors		
Name	Function	Country
Ladislav KAMENICKÝ	Minister of Finance	Slovakia
Riikka PURRA	Minister of Finance	Finland
Elisabeth SVANTESSON	Minister for Finance	Sweden

☑ *In 2025, 89% of members of the Bank's Board of Governors were men and 11% were women.*

Table 4: EIB BOARD OF DIRECTORS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

EIB Board of Directors		
Name	Function	Country
Directors		
Hans D'HONDT	Member of the Board of Directors of the EIB	Belgium
Metodi METODIEV	Deputy Minister of Finance, Ministry of Finance	Bulgaria
Petr PAVELEK	Director of Debt and Financial Assets Management Department, Ministry of Finance	Czechia
Julie SONNE	Head of Division, Ministry for Industry, Business and Financial Affairs	Denmark
Judith HERMES	Director General, European Policy at International Financial Policy Department, Federal Ministry of Finance	Germany
Martin PÕDER	Head of EU and International Affairs Department, Ministry of Finance	Estonia
Des CARVILLE	Head of Shareholding and Financial Advisory Division, Department of Finance	Ireland
Michael ARGHYROU	Head of the Economics Office of the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic	Greece
Inés CARPIO SAN ROMÁN	Director General of International Financing at Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business	Spain
Claire CHEREMETINSKI	Deputy Director General, Directorate-General of the Treasury, Ministry for Economic Affairs	France
Stipe ŽUPAN	State Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Croatia
Manuela NENNA	Director General for International Financial Relations Directorate, Ministry of the Economy and Finance	Italy
Costas CONSTANTINIDES	Senior Economic Officer, Directorate of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance	Cyprus
Armands EBERHARDS	Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Latvia
Mindaugas PAKŠTYS	Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Finance	Lithuania
Arsène JACOBY	Director of Multilateral Affairs, Development Aid, Cooperation and Compliance, Ministry of Finance	Luxembourg
Sándor LADÁNYI	Chief Financial Officer, Deputy CEO at EXIM Hungary	Hungary
Martin SPITERI	Director General, Ministry of Finance	Malta
Robin UYTERLINDE	Deputy Director of the International Affairs Directorate, Ministry of Finance	Netherlands
Karin RYSAVY	Senior Expert, Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance	Austria
Tomasz SKURZEWSKI	Deputy Director, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Finance	Poland
Filipe CARTAXO	Member of the Board of Directors of the EIB	Portugal
Mihai-Călin PRECUP	President of Council for the Application of State Aid Policy, Ministry of Public Finance	Romania
Aleš ŠKOBERNE	Chief Executive Officer, ECM Partners	Slovenia
Martina KOBILICOVÁ	Director General, Advisor to the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance	Slovakia

EIB Board of Directors		
Name	**Function**	**Country**
Kristina SARJO	Senior Ministerial Adviser, Financial Affairs, International Financial Affairs Unit, Ministry of Finance	Finland
Sara TÄGTSTRÖM	Senior Adviser at the International and Economics Department, Ministry of Finance	Sweden
Markus SCHULTE	Principal Advisor, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs	European Commission
Experts		
Joes LEOPOLD	Managing Partner at Capitium	Netherlands
Esther RECKTENWALD	Deputy Director General of IT, Deutsche Bundesbank	Germany
Olivier BAILLY	Deputy Managing Director and Director for Global Issues, European External Action Service	France
Alternates		
Philippe NIZEYIMANA	Adviser to the Administration of International and European Financial Matters of the Treasury	Belgium
Gergana BEREMSKA	Director, International Financial Institutions, Ministry of Finance	Bulgaria
Radek HŘEBÍK	Head of State Financing and Treasury Liquidity Management Division, Ministry of Finance	Czechia
Rasmus Betak HØJBJERG	Head of Section, Office for Growth Capital, Insurance and Pension, Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs	Denmark
Susanne BLOMENHOFER	Senior Policy Advisor, Directorate General for European Affairs, Federal Ministry of Finance	Germany
Nina WUNDERLICH	Deputy Director General, EU economic policy, internal market, bilateral relations EU Twinning, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action	Germany
Pille PRUUNSILD	Advisor of the EU and International Affairs Department, Ministry of Finance	Estonia
Michael TAGGART	Principal Officer responsible for European IFIs/Risk and Compliance, Department of Finance	Ireland
Charilaos LAMBROPOULOS	President, Hellenic Development Bank of Investments	Greece
Isabel GARAYO ORBE	Alternate Deputy Director General, EU Economic and Financial Affairs Department, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Business	Spain
Pierre-Marie VOEGELI	Head of Unit - European bilateral relations and EU financial instruments, Directorate General of the Treasury	France
Quentin NAVARO AUBURTIN	Deputy Head of Unit - European bilateral relations and EU financial instruments, Directorate General of the Treasury	France
Ines ŠPIRIĆ	Head of SOEs Business Analysis Sector, Ministry of Finance	Croatia
Francesca MERCUSA	Director, International Financial Relations Directorate, Department of the Treasury, Ministry of Economy and Finance	Italy
Bianca GIANNINI	Director, Treasury Department, Ministry of Economy and Finance	Italy
Eleni PITTA	Economic Officer A, Directorate of International Financial Institutions and General Financial Management, Ministry of Finance	Cyprus
Aija ZITCERE	Director of Financial Market Policy Department, Ministry of Finance	Latvia
Darius TRAKELIS	Director of EU and International Affairs Department, Ministry of Finance	Lithuania
Miguel MARQUES	Deputy Director, Multilateral Affairs and Development Aid, Ministry of Finance	Luxembourg
Robert BÁRTUS	Chief Risk Officer, Deputy CEO, EXIM Hungary	Hungary
Joseph LICARI	Economic Consultant	Malta
Timo BAKRIN	EIB Policy Coordinator, Ministry of Finance	Netherlands

EIB Board of Directors		
Name	**Function**	**Country**
Christian REININGER	Advisor to the Federal Minister of Finance, Federal Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Austria	Austria
Maciej TABACZAR	Counsellor, International Financial Cooperation Department, Ministry of Finance	Poland
Rosa CAETANO	Deputy Director General of the Office for Economic Policy and International Relations, Ministry of Finance	Portugal
Boni Florinela CUCU	General Director, General Directorate for International Financial Relations, Ministry of Public Finance	Romania
Martin ZDOVC	Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Slovenia
Peter FRÖHLICH	Chief Executive Officer, Slovak Investment Holding	Slovakia
Anne af URSIN	Financial Counsellor, Ministry of Finance	Finland
Kristina ÅKESSON	Senior Advisor, Ministry of Finance	Sweden
Saila VALTONEN	Advisor, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs	European Commission
Alternate expert		
Giorgio GOBBI	Head of the Milan Regional branch, Italian Central Bank	Italy
Antonio OPORTO	Secretary General at Circulo de Empresarios	Spain
Isabel RAMOS DE ALMEIDA	Alternate Expert to the EIB Board of Directors	Portugal

☑ *In 2025, 60% of members of the Bank's Board of Directors were men and 40% were women.*

Table 5: EIF BOARD OF DIRECTORS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

Composition of the EIF Board of Directors as at 31 December 2025	
Name	**Function**
Chair	
Nadia CALVIÑO	President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Members	
Lutz-Christian FUNKE	Secretary General, KfW Bankengruppe, Germany
Charilaos LAMBROPOULOS	President, Hellenic Development Bank of Investments, Greece
Metodi METODIEV	Deputy Finance Minister, Ministry of Finance, Bulgaria
Maive RUTE	Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission, Belgium
Markus SCHULTE	Principal Advisor, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission, Belgium
Gelsomina VIGLIOTTI	Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Alternates	
Nicola BEER	Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Peter BERKOWITZ	Director, Policy, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission, Belgium
Martina COLOMBO	Head of EU Affairs, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, Italy
Mikolaj DOWGIELEWICZ	Deputy Secretary General, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Ambroise FAYOLLE	Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Jean-Christophe LALOUX	Director General, Head of Operations, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg
Jean-David MALO	Acting Director, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, Directorate A - ERA and Innovation, European Commission, Belgium

In 2025, 64% of members of the EIF's Board of Directors were men and 36% were women.

Table 6: EIB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

EIB Management committee		
Name	Function	Country
Nadia CALVIÑO	President	Spain
Ambroise FAYOLLE	Vice-President	France
Teresa CZERWIŃSKA	Vice-President	Poland
Gelsomina VIGLIOTTI	Vice-President	Italy
Nicola BEER	Vice-President	Germany
Robert de GROOT	Vice-President	Netherlands
Ioannis TSAKIRIS	Vice-President	Greece
Karl NEHAMMER	Vice-President	Austria
Marek MORA	Vice-President	Czechia

☑ *In 2025, 56% of the EIB's Management Committee were men and 44% were women.*

Table 7: EIF EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

EIF Executive Management as at 31 December 2025	
Name	Function
Marjut FALKSTEDT	Chief Executive
Merete CLAUSEN	Deputy Chief Executive

In 2025, 100% of the EIF's executive management were women.

Table 8: EIB AUDIT COMMITTEE (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

Audit committee		
Name	Function	Country
Chair		
Katja PLUTO	Independent Non-Executive Director	Switzerland
Members		
Eva-Lena NORGREN	Chief Judge and Head of Authority, Gothenburg District Court	Sweden
Christoph HAAS	Former EY Partner	Luxembourg
Tereza ROGIĆ LUGARIĆ	State Secretary, Ministry of Finance	Croatia
Teodora Elena PREOTEASA	Director of European Funds Administration and Associate Lecturer	Romania
João Luís CORREIA DUQUE	Full Professor at ISEG and Dean of ISEG – Lisbon School of Economics and Management, University of Lisbon	Portugal
Observers		
John SUTHERLAND	Former Senior Advisor, Prudential Regulation Authority and Financial Conduct Authority, United Kingdom	United Kingdom
Edouard FERNANDEZ BOLLO	Member of the Administrative Board of Review of the European Central Bank	Spain
Dick KORF	Former KPMG Partner	Netherlands

Table 9: EIF AUDIT BOARD (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025)

Composition of the EIF Audit Board as at 31 December 2025	
Name	**Function**
Chair	
Rossella LOCATELLI	Full Professor in Banking and Finance, Department of Economics, University of Insubria, Italy
Members	
Jacek DOMINIK	General Counsel, Ministry of Finance, Poland
Delphine REYMONDON	Head of the Liquidity, Leverage, Loss Absorbency and Capital (LILLAC) Unit European Banking Authority - Prudential Regulation and Supervisory Policy Department, France
Isabelle GOUBIN	Independent Director
Edwin CROONEN	Head of Unit, Audit in Commission, Executive Agencies, EU Agencies and other autonomous bodies III, Resources, European Commission Internal Audit Service, Belgium
Mark SCICLUNA BARTOLI	Head of Product Development, Bank of Valletta, Malta

For more details on the EIB Group statutory bodies, please refer to page 36 of the EIB Group Financial Report 2025.

1.1.3.2. Independence of the statutory bodies

The Bank's governance structure reflects its unique status and functioning.

The members of the Bank's Board of Directors, Management Committee and Audit Committee are required to act independently. When carrying out their duties, members of the Management Committee and Board of Directors are accountable only to the Bank.[13]

Six of the 65 members of the Bank's Board of Directors are appointed as experts and may be understood as independent board members, as they are not nominated by the Bank's shareholders. However, they do not have any voting rights.

Likewise, the composition of the EIF's governing bodies reflects the Fund's specific shareholder structure. Members of the EIF Board of Directors are designated by each shareholder constituency, and therefore are not considered independent in the traditional sense. However, under the EIF's Statutes and the board's Code of Conduct, they are required to act independently and to serve the best interests of the Fund when performing their duties.

1.1.3.3. Selection and competencies of members of the statutory bodies

The Bank's Board of Directors

The Bank's 28 directors and 31 alternate directors are appointed by the Board of Governors for a renewable five-year term. Directors are selected based on proven independence and professional competence, as required by the Bank's Statute. To strengthen its expertise, the board also includes three non-voting experts and their three alternates, who provide more high-level insights. Their terms are aligned with those of the full board.

The Bank's Management Committee and Audit Committee

13. Besides independence, the fiduciary duty or duty of loyalty ("responsible only to the Bank") of Board and Management Committee members is laid out in relevant provisions of the Bank's Statute.

The Bank places great importance on the professionalism, integrity and competence of its leadership. The Appointment Advisory Committee plays a key role, as set out in Articles 23.a.2 and 27.8 of the EIB's Rules of Procedure, providing independent expert opinions on the suitability of candidates for positions within the Management Committee and the Audit Committee, before their formal appointment by the Board of Governors.

As part of its evaluation of the Management Committee's collective expertise, the Appointment Advisory Committee consults the Bank's president to ensure that nominations respond to skill needs identified at the time of appointment. When a vacancy arises, the secretary general communicates the requirements to the nominating Member State.

Under Article 23.a of the Bank's Rules of Procedure, Management Committee members must demonstrate proven competence, independence, integrity and a strong reputation in their fields. They are required to have substantial experience in financial, banking or EU-related matters and to have the skills and judgment needed to perform their duties at the highest level.

Further details on the professional backgrounds and qualifications of members of the Bank's statutory bodies are in their curricula vitae on the Bank's website.

EIF governing bodies

The EIF Board of Directors is composed of seven members and seven alternates, designated by the Fund's shareholders. They are appointed by and accountable to the General Meeting, for renewable two-year terms.

The EIF Audit Board consists of six members, designated by the Fund's shareholders. They are mandated to act in accordance with the highest professional standards. Members are appointed by and accountable to the General Meeting, for non-renewable terms of six years – with the exception of mandates held by members in office before 27 September 2022 and those appointed to new positions in 2023. In line with the EIF Rules of Procedure and Audit Board Charter, members of the EIF Audit Board must be selected based on their independence, competence and integrity. Members must possess financial and/or audit expertise and at least one member must have banking and/or fund sector regulatory and/or supervisory expertise in the European Union. These requirements constitute the minimum qualifications.

The EIF chief executive and deputy chief executive are nominated by the Bank and the European Commission, respectively, and appointed by the EIF Board of Directors.

Training for directors

Seminars, information sessions, training and development opportunities are available to members of the boards of directors of the Bank and the Fund. A dedicated training section is available on the board portal, and virtual or in-person sessions are offered regularly, by request or based on identified needs and resource availability.

1.1.3.4. Remuneration of the statutory bodies' members

The remuneration of the members of the statutory bodies is set in accordance with the EIB Statute and the EIF Statutes. As a result, the EIB Group does not have incentive schemes related to sustainability matters, including climate, for members of its administrative, management or supervisory bodies.

- The members of the Bank's Board of Governors are government ministers. Their participation in the Board of Governors meeting is considered part of their ministerial duties. Therefore the governors

receive no remuneration from the Bank.

- The EIF General Meeting is a non-remunerated governing body. It determines the allowances and expense reimbursement for members and alternate members of the Board of Directors and for members of the Audit Board.
- The directors, alternate directors, expert members and alternate expert members of the Bank's Board of Directors receive an attendance allowance of €1 000[14] per Board member for each Board of Director's meeting attended. When more than one board meeting is held in a single month, the allowance is paid once only. The Bank also arranges and directly pays for travel – through a designated corporate booking service – related to attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors, board committees or working groups, as well as other events convened by the Bank's governing bodies.
- Members and alternate members of the EIF Board of Directors receive a fixed monthly net amount of €1 000[15] provided that at least one EIF board meeting is attended during the month, to cover attendance at all board-related events. Travel and accommodation expenses are covered separately. Members and alternate members do not receive bonuses and are not compensated for meeting preparation or for decisions taken by written procedure.
- With regard to the Management Committee, a decision of the Board of Governors provides that the president of the Bank receives the same monthly salary as the president of the European Commission, and the vice-presidents of the Bank receive the same monthly salary as the vice-presidents of the European Commission, in line with Council Regulation (EU) 2016/300. The president and vice-presidents of the Bank do not receive bonuses.
- The remuneration of the chief executive and deputy chief executive of the EIF is determined by the EIF Board of Directors.
- Members of the Audit Committee do not receive remuneration from the Bank. For each meeting attended, members and observers receive an allowance of €1 500 per day, together with a flat-rate subsistence allowance of €250 and reimbursement of travel expenses. Audit Committee members do not receive bonuses and are not remunerated for time spent preparing between meetings.
- Members of the EIF Audit Board receive an attendance allowance of €1 500 net per meeting day and a flat-rate subsistence allowance of €220 net. They may also claim reimbursement of associated travel expenses. Members of the EIF Audit Board do not receive bonuses and are not remunerated for time spent preparing between meetings.

14. Effective 27/06/2025. Prior to this date, the applicable attendance allowance per meeting day was €600.
15. Effective 01/12/2025. Prior to this date, the applicable attendance allowance per meeting was €300.

1.1.3.5. Governance structure and composition

List of codes of conduct that apply to the governing bodies of the Bank and the EIF:

European Investment Bank
- Code of Conduct of the Audit Committee
- Code of Conduct of the Board of Directors
- Code of Conduct of the Management Committee
- Integrity Policy and Compliance Charter

European Investment Fund
- Code of Conduct for the Members of the Audit Board
- Code of Conduct of the Board of Directors
- Code of Conduct for the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive

1.1.4. Statement on due diligence

Table 10: CORE ELEMENTS OF DUE DILIGENCE

Core elements of due diligence	Paragraphs in the Sustainability Report
a) Embedding due diligence in governance, strategy and business model	1.1.1.2, 1.4.4, 1.4.4.2, 1.4.4.3, 1.5.1, 3.3.3.1, 9.2
b) Engaging with affected stakeholders in all key steps of the due diligence	6.1.4.4, 6.2.2.4, 6.2.2.5, 6.2.3, 9.3.1, 9.3.2
c) Identifying and assessing adverse impacts	4.2.2, 5.2.1, 6.1.4.1, 6.1.4.5, 6.2.1, 9.4
d) Taking actions to address those adverse impacts	6.2.1.1, 9.5, 10.6, 12.3.1, 12.3.2
e) Tracking the effectiveness of these efforts and communicating	1.1.2.1, 1.6.3

1.1.5. Risk management and internal controls for sustainability reporting

1.1.5.1. Scope of the internal management system

The EIB Group's risk management and internal control processes for sustainability reporting are designed to ensure accuracy, compliance and timeliness. These processes include key components, such as data collection and validation, management reviews and regulatory follow-up.[16]

In 2025, management supervision was ensured through:

- the EIB Group sustainability disclosures programme steering committee, which was co-chaired by the EIB secretary general and the Group chief risk officer. The EIF is represented by the EIF chief risk officer.
- the EIF non-financial disclosure steering committee, chaired by the EIF chief compliance officer and head of Central Front Office Services.

1.1.5.2. Managing risks: Prioritisation and mitigation

The EIB Group manages risk through manual and automated processes, recognising that each presents unique risks and opportunities:

16. See also EIB Group Risk Management Charter and EIF Compliance Charter.

- Manual processes, such as data collection and validation, are exposed to human error and inconsistencies. To mitigate these risks, we enforce a four-eyes principle. This ensures accuracy and reduces the likelihood of errors.
- Automated processes, on the other hand, involve the use of IT systems to streamline data collection, validation and reporting. They are auditable, with logs that track all changes and updates, providing a clear trail for review.

By combining manual and automated steps, the Group aims to build a comprehensive risk management framework that draws on the strengths of both approaches while addressing their respective risks. This integrated approach enables us to prioritise sustainability-related risks effectively and ensures compliance with relevant regulatory requirements, to the extent applicable to the EIB and compatible with its specific features, in line with its best banking practice framework.

1.1.5.3. EIB internal controls

Documented processes cover data input, data collection and report production. These processes ensure that the Sustainability Report is published in a compliant, complete, accurate and timely manner. They are linked to specific internal controls that address key risks. These controls are documented within the EIB's Internal Control Framework.

Table 11: IDENTIFIED RISKS AND IMPLEMENTED CONTROLS

Identified risk	Control	Proof
Gaps in data point ownership due to change in the roles of Sustainability Champions	The list of Sustainability Champions is updated annually to ensure continuous ownership of all data points, including following changes in roles or responsibilities.	The date of the most recent update of the Sustainability Champions list confirms current data point ownership.
Inaccurate input for data points	Sensitive data points are subject to a four-eyes review during the data collection process.	The control is enforced via an IT system, with all actions recorded in auditable logs, ensuring traceability of reviews and validations.
Inconsistencies across the report	A critical review assesses the completeness and transversal consistency of the report to identify and address any discrepancies or inconsistencies.	Confirmation of this review is provided via email to the head of the sustainability team before the report is finalised.
Lack of executive management ownership within the concerned directorates of the report	Executive management in the relevant directorates reviews the report to confirm its completeness and transversal consistency, and alignment with strategic objectives.	Management approval is documented by email, providing a record of its involvement and endorsement of the report.
Lack of Management Committee ownership of the report	The Management Committee approves the report to confirm its readiness for external publication.	A note to the Management Committee documents the approval and any associated feedback.

Periodic reporting of the findings from risk assessments and internal controls ensures transparency and accountability. The Audit Committee serves as the first escalation point for any material issues identified during the risk assessment process. This ensures that significant issues are promptly addressed at the highest oversight level.

These findings feed into our sustainability reporting process through regular updates to our risk management framework, integration with strategic planning, and alignment with operational procedures. This ensures that sustainability risks are managed proactively and effectively across all functions.

1.2. ☑ DOUBLE MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT

1.2.1. Description of the process to identify and assess material impacts, risks and opportunities and material information to be reported

1.2.1.1. Context of the double materiality assessment

The EIB Group publishes its first double materiality assessment in its 2025 Sustainability Report. This assessment complies with the requirements of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and of the draft simplified ESRS published by EFRAG on 4 December 2025.

By using the requirements set out in EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS as a reference point for its own double materiality assessment, the EIB Group anticipated the changes that the Omnibus process was likely to introduce to the European Sustainability Reporting Standards. Should the final revised standards to be published by the European Commission bring changes, the EIB group will review its double materiality assessment accordingly in future reporting cycles.

The double materiality assessment has been performed on the Group's whole value chain.[17] The scope of reporting is aligned with that of the Financial Report and therefore covers both the Bank and the Fund. When defining the boundaries of what pertains to "own operations," the concept of operational control was considered.[18]

The double materiality assessment reflects information and insights generated through relevant internal processes across the Bank and the Fund, including the Reporting Management System, the Compliance Management System and the Due Diligence Process, as applicable. This was achieved through the active involvement of sustainability reporting champions representing all directorates of the Bank and the Fund, who reviewed, challenged and validated the assessment throughout the process. Where necessary, they also sought input from subject-matter experts within their respective directorates to ensure that the assessment adequately reflected the information available within their areas of responsibility. More details on the methodology applied is provided in the rest of this section.

While this report reflects the Group's gradual alignment, to the extent possible and compatible with its specific features, including its nature, policy mission, specific tasks and governance structure, with the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and European Sustainability Reporting Standards frameworks, the double materiality assessment was conducted as a distinct step to identify the sustainability topics relevant to the Group. The double materiality assessment provides additional support on the relevance of the sustainability topics presented and will support future alignment with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards.

1.2.1.2. Methodology for impact materiality assessment

The impact materiality assessment identifies and evaluates the EIB Group's most significant actual and potential impacts on the environment and society across its value chain, including upstream activities, own operations and downstream activities. The same methodology was applied for the whole value chain to assess the materiality of impacts.

17. Please refer to figure 6 in Chapter 1.3.4 for a presentation of the EIB Group value chain.
18. For more information please see the Environmental Statement 2026 Update, which includes 2025 performance data.

The assessment follows a top-down approach in line with the principles of EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS. The EIB Group also drew on practices observed among major European financial institutions and on sustainability statements already published.

The analysis starts with the identification of sustainability topics, based on:

- the list of topics and sub-topics in Appendix A of EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS 1;
- the EIB Group's objectives and business model, which led to the addition of entity-specific topics.

In line with the top-down approach, the Group assessed the materiality or non-materiality of impacts for each topic and sub-topic, starting from its strategy, business model, sectors of activity, geographical footprint and value chain characteristics.

The Group determined impact materiality on a top-down basis where evident. Where this was not the case, a scoring exercise was conducted. In such cases, the scoring used criteria aligned with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards: Impact scores are based on severity (scale, scope and irremediability) for actual impacts, and on severity adjusted for likelihood for potential impacts. A topic is considered material if its impact score exceeds 2.5 on a 1 to 5 scale, representing the midpoint of the scoring range.

The top-down approach applied in the double materiality assessment does not include a systematic scoring or ranking of impacts based on severity and likelihood. However, the double materiality assessment is informed by the Group's understanding of the severity and likelihood of impacts associated with the projects it finances. This understanding stems from internal processes, in particular its project-level environmental, climate and social due diligence and risk screening which helps to identify, assess and prioritise impacts. This process is applied on a project-by-project basis, taking into account the sector and country context and contextual risks from the external operating environment. The outcome of this process helps to prioritise negative impacts and associated avoidance, mitigation and, where relevant, remediation measures. In the area of human rights, severity takes precedence over likelihood, consistent with internationally recognised frameworks.

The Group characterised material impacts by their nature (positive or negative, actual or potential), and by the relevant time horizon. Actual impacts were classified as short term. For potential impacts, where the time horizon could not be determined with sufficient confidence, the Group applied a conservative approach and classified them as short term as well.

Given the nature of the EIB Group's activities and its limited ability to directly prevent, mitigate or remediate impacts generated by counterparties, impacts in the downstream value chain, such as those linked to financing activities, are assessed on a gross basis, without taking into account any mitigation, prevention or remediation measures.

1.2.1.3. Engagement with stakeholders

The impact materiality assessment was informed by external stakeholder engagement, as described in Chapter 1.6, and complemented by internal stakeholder consultations. The Group reviewed and refined the results through dedicated workshops with internal experts, who act as key custodians of external stakeholders' interests and concerns. These consultations supported the validation of topic selection, impact characterisation and scoring outcomes.

1.2.1.4. Methodology for financial materiality assessment

The financial materiality assessment identifies sustainability-related risks and opportunities across the EIB Group's value chain that could reasonably affect its financial position, performance or prospects in the short, medium and long term.

Risk assessment

The assessment of sustainability-related financial and non-financial risks[19] builds on the Group's existing risk management framework, drawing on established risk identification processes and scenario assessments. Predefined quantitative thresholds,[20] aligned with the Group's internal risk criteria, are used as a structured screening and prioritisation tool to identify potential material risk exposures, and are calibrated to reflect the coverage of different risk types. The outcomes of this quantitative assessment are further substantiated through expert judgement, including the interpretation of relevant risk indicators and scenario analysis, to confirm the final determination of material topics.

The analysis covers financial risks, including credit, market and liquidity risks, as well as non-financial risks. The EIB Group applies a consistent financial analysis methodology across the Bank and the Fund, using a materiality threshold defined at Group level.

Materiality was assessed using quantitative and qualitative criteria as appropriate, over the short, medium and long term.

For the Bank, sustainability-related risks were identified as material and subject to more detailed analysis, in particular for credit and non-financial risks, as described below. No material risks were identified in the upstream value chain, a conclusion supported by a benchmarking analysis of comparable financial institutions.

For the Fund, no sustainability-related risk exceeded the Group materiality threshold.

Non-financial risk assessment

The non-financial risk assessment focuses on risks, including operational risks that are not purely financial (for example credit, market or liquidity risks), but that may nonetheless lead to losses for the organisation.

The assessment was performed at Group level in accordance with the non-financial risk framework and covers environmental, social and governance risks across the Group's own operations and downstream activities. It is based on a structured scenario analysis jointly conducted by EIB and EIF, in which internal experts assess the reasonably likely worst-case outcomes associated with identified risks. For each scenario, internal experts take part in workshops where they evaluate the likelihood of occurrence over the defined time horizon and the potential financial effects, taking into account existing policies, procedures and controls designed to prevent or mitigate the occurrence of the risk or reduce its impacts. As a result, the assessment reflects the residual risk exposure. A risk is considered material where, after taking into account prevention and mitigation measures, it could reasonably be expected to have a significant effect on the Group's financial position, financial performance, cash flows, access to finance or cost of capital, or affect the viability of its business model over the short-, medium- or long-term.

19. For the purpose of this report, "financial" and "non-financial" risks (such as, respectively, credit risks and operational risks) are defined in accordance with the EIB Group's internal risk management framework.

20. The quantitative threshold is considered the EIB Group's confidential information and consequently not disclosed in external reports as allowed by section 7.7 of EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS, an option maintained in the draft delegated act published by the European Commission on 6 May 2026.

The assessment combines two complementary methods reflecting different time horizons.

- For the short term: The assessment is based on historical operational risk losses and monitored risk indicators.
- For the medium to long term: The assessment is based on scenarios assessed by a panel of internal experts.

Credit risk assessment

The credit risk assessment examines how climate and environmental topics may affect the creditworthiness of counterparties. Financial impacts are assessed on a gross basis using a Merton model to estimate the probability of default and shocks to relevant financial indicators (for example, EBITDA, asset values).

It covers direct lending segments of the Bank's direct portfolio.

The exposure assessment applies three methods depending on data availability, using a risk-based approach:

1. company-level data;
2. proxy activity indicators combined with regional data, and an environmentally extended input-output model;
3. sectoral market indicators applied to the residual portion of the portfolio where company-level data is unavailable.

Climate-related credit risks are assessed over the short, medium and long term. For other environmental topics, risks are assumed to materialise in the short term.

Opportunities assessment

The identification of sustainability-related opportunities follows a top-down approach reflecting the EIB Group's not-for-profit business model, public policy mandate and strategic role in supporting the European Union's sustainability objectives.

The Group assessed opportunities across the short, medium and long term, focusing on their potential to:

- support the growth of sustainable finance volumes;
- strengthen portfolio resilience;
- contribute positively to the Group's long-term financial performance.

The results of the financial materiality assessment were presented and discussed with internal stakeholders through dedicated workshops, ensuring a shared understanding of the identified risks and opportunities and their strategic relevance for the Group.

1.2.1.5. Voluntary disclosures of non-material topics of strategic importance

Some topics, while important, do not exceed the materiality threshold at this stage. This is the case, for example, for money laundering and the financing of terrorism, which are not assessed as posing a material financial risk. Where such topics are of interest to external stakeholders, the Group includes disclosures on related policies and actions on a voluntary basis in the Sustainability Report, consistent with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards.

1.2.1.6. Governance of the double materiality assessment

The results of the double materiality assessment were consolidated at Group level and documented in a structured way to ensure traceability and auditability.

The Group subjected the list of material impacts, risks and opportunities to internal review and validation, involving the relevant management functions and bodies. The Steering Committee for Non-Financial Reporting validated the double materiality assessment, its methodology and its results on 4 May 2026.

This final validation ensures consistency between the outcomes of the double materiality assessment, the Group's strategy, risk management processes and sustainability disclosures.

1.2.1.7. Updating the double materiality assessment

In 2025, the double materiality assessment was conducted in line with EFRAG's draft simplified ESRS, replacing the approach followed in previous reports, which was based on the complementary basis provided by the materiality frameworks of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) and Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB).

The Group will regularly review the assessment of impacts, risks and opportunities, in particular following significant changes in its business model or strategic priorities. As a result, the outcomes may evolve in future assessments.

1.2.2. Material impacts, risks and opportunities

The outcome of the double materiality assessment reflects the EIB Group's strong commitment to sustainability and the green transition, in line with its strategic objectives and business model. The impacts, risks and opportunities identified as material through the assessment cover most of the sustainability topics in the European Sustainability Reporting Standards. This result also reflects the sectoral diversity of the EIB Group's investments and the assessment of impacts on a gross basis, before taking into account the effects of the Group's mitigation, prevention or remediation measures.

Climate-related topics are material from both an impact and a financial perspective. This highlights the EIB Group's role and progress as the EU climate bank, with climate mitigation and adaptation remaining core strategic pillars.

Other environmental topics are also material from an impact perspective, including positive impacts. This further reflects the Group's contribution to the green transition and environmental sustainability. Pollution, water, biodiversity and ecosystems are also material from a risk perspective, in line with concerns raised by the European Central Bank.

Social topics are material from an impact perspective, in line with the EIB Group's commitment to respect human rights, promote social and territorial cohesion, support inclusive growth and invest in social infrastructure. "Consumers and end-users" (ESRS S4) was the only topic assessed as not material, as the definition of consumers and end users under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive does not apply to the Group's business model.[21]

Where the European Sustainability Reporting Standards did not fully cover material aspects linked to

21. The EIB Group's core products are loans, guarantees and advisory services provided to public authorities, corporates and financial intermediaries, which do not qualify as consumers nor end-users under ESRS definitions.

the EIB Group's activities, the Group identified additional entity-specific impacts, primarily related to its policy goals.

A single sustainability-related opportunity was identified and it reflects the EIB Group's policy-driven mandate and non-profit business model, whereby the Group's mission prioritises safeguarding public capital and financial sustainability through robust sustainability-related due diligence.

Overall, the Group identified 46 material impacts, risks and opportunities, comprising 37 impacts, eight risks and one opportunity.

Table 12: EIB GROUP DOUBLE MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS AT TOPIC LEVEL

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
Climate change (E1)	√	√	√	√
Pollution (E2)	√	√		√
Water (E3)	√	√		√
Biodiversity and ecosystems (E4)	√	√		√
Resource use and circular economy (E5)	√	√		
Own workforce (S1)	√			
Workers on the value chain (S2)	√	√		
Affected communities (S3)	√	√		
Consumers and end-users (S4)				
Business conduct (G1)				√
Innovation, digital and human capital (entity-specific)	√			
Small and medium enterprise and mid-cap finance (entity-specific)	√			
Sustainable cities and regions (entity-specific)	√			

The table below presents the detailed list of the 46 material impacts, risks and opportunities by European Sustainability Reporting Standards topic.

Table 13: LIST OF MATERIAL IMPACTS, RISKS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

ESRS	Material impact, risk or opportunity	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
E1	Encouraging counterparties to decarbonise through due diligence, advisory support and potential financial incentives for mitigation actions, and investing in companies that promote innovation and research in decarbonisation.	Climate mitigation	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Encouraging counterparties to implement adaptation measures (such as flood protection and resilient transport and water systems) through due diligence, investment monitoring and advisory support.	Climate adaptation	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Supporting the transition away from fossil fuels by financing renewable energy, energy efficiency systems, grid modernisation and related infrastructure.	Energy	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Generating financed emissions due to investments in sectors and activities contributing to climate change.	Climate mitigation	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Maximising returns on investment and minimising default risk by carefully assessing the physical and transition risks associated with counterparties through extensive due diligence processes.	Climate mitigation Climate adaptation	Opportunity	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Default risk arising from counterparties facing transition risks due to their inability to align with a 1.5° C trajectory or adapt their business models to a climate-neutral economy, resulting in higher costs, lower revenues and increased capital expenditure.	Climate mitigation	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
E1	Default risk arising from counterparties due to insufficient climate adaptation, as increased exposure to acute and chronic physical climate hazards leads to asset damage, business disruption, higher operating costs, reduced revenues and weakened debt servicing capacity.	Climate adaptation	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
E2	Promotion of projects and innovations that reduce air, soil and water pollution, in line with EU priorities.	Air, soil and water pollution	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E2	Investments in industrial activities that contribute to the deterioration of air, soil and water quality (such as transport and industry).	Air, soil and water pollution	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term

ESRS	Material impact, risk or opportunity	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
E2	Investments in pharmaceutical, textile or mining industries involved in the formulation or manufacture of substances of concern and very high concern.	Substances of concern and very high concern	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E2	Potential financing of companies that use microplastics or whose products release microplastics.	Microplastics	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E2	Default risk arising from counterparties that are unable to fulfil the EIB Group's contractual requirements on air pollution prevention, leading to a decline in performance or the suspension of the project/activity.	Air pollution	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
E3	Promoting projects that support sustainable water management systems.	Water use	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E3	Financing companies that are water-intensive or that have a negative impact on water withdrawal and discharges.	Water use	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E3	Default risk arising from counterparties facing operational disruption and cost increases due to water scarcity and physical water stress, particularly in water intensive sectors and stressed geographies.	Water use	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
E4	Contribution to the protection, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity and ecosystems through the financing of projects that help achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework goals.	Biodiversity and ecosystems	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E4	Degradation of natural habitats and species populations and disruption of migration route through financed projects causing habitat loss and destruction.	State of species	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E4	Soil sealing, artificialisation and ecosystem damage through financed projects.	Drivers of biodiversity and ecosystem change Extent and condition of terrestrial and marine ecosystems Ecosystem services	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E4	Default risk arising from counterparts causing biodiversity loss encompassing species population sizes and global extinction risk, which may lead to regulatory constraints, project delays or increased remediation costs.	State of species	Risk	Downstream	Short-term

ESRS	Material impact, risk or opportunity	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
E4	Default risk arising from counterparts causing land degradation, where declining soil quality, land productivity or ecosystem services may lead to regulatory constraints or increased remediation costs.	Extent and condition of terrestrial and marine ecosystems	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
E5	Financing circular economy solutions that reduce resource use, waste generation and reliance on virgin materials by improving material efficiency, extending the life of products and assets, enabling high-value recycling and promoting circular business models, thereby supporting the transition from linear to circular models in line with EU policy objectives.	Resource use and circular economy	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
E5	Investments in activities or companies that rely on non-renewable resources or consume resources beyond renewable capacity, particularly critical and strategic raw materials.	Resource inflows	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E5	Financing counterparties that produce non-repairable products with low recyclability or limited durability.	Resource outflows	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
E5	Investments in activities or companies that generate large quantities of waste during production or at the end of a product's life.	Waste	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S1	Job security, fair wages, reasonable working hours and work-life balance, supporting employee well-being and retention.	Working conditions	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
S1	Robust social dialogue.	Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
S1	Skill-building and development opportunities, supporting career advancement and employee satisfaction.	Training and skills development	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
S1	Safe working conditions, ensuring mental and physical health.	Health and safety	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
S1	Diversity and equal treatment, supporting broader talent pipelines and organisational performance.	Diversity and equal treatment	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
S2	Promoting economic development and employment for workers in projects and sub-projects through financing.	Working conditions	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term

ESRS	Material impact, risk or opportunity	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
S2	Supporting skills development and training for workers in the value chain through financing and technical assistance for the education and training components of a project.	Training and skills development	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Promoting diversity and equal treatment among counterparties' workforce.	Diversity and equal treatment	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Potential failure of counterparties to provide adequate working conditions, including poor conditions on construction sites, wage theft and excessive working hours.	Working conditions	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Potential failure of counterparties to ensure effective social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining and respect for participation rights.	Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Potential occurrence of work-related incidents and adverse health impacts in financed sectors.	Health and safety	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Potential lack of respect for diversity and equal treatment of counterparties' workers.	Diversity and equal treatment	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S2	Potential human rights infringements in counterparties' value chains.	Other labour-related human rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S3	Financing of essential services, infrastructure and projects that foster social cohesion and economic development.	Communities' economic, social and cultural rights	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
S3	Financed infrastructure could trigger land acquisition, resettlement, livelihood disruption and security related incidents.	Communities' economic, social and cultural rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S3	Potential restriction of the civil and political rights of the communities affected by an EIB Group-financed project.	Communities' civil and political rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
S3	Potential violation of indigenous peoples' rights through land loss, cultural disruption, exclusion from decision making or unequal benefit sharing.	Rights of indigenous peoples	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
G1	Risk of greenwashing allegations related to investment disclosures, potentially leading to reputational harm, regulatory action or loss of stakeholder trust.	[Entity-specific] Greenwashing investments	Risk	Own operations Downstream	Medium-term

ESRS	Material impact, risk or opportunity	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
G1	Financial risk resulting from the establishment or continuation of business relationships or activities in breach of applicable sanctions, due to deficiencies in IT tools, contractual safeguards or the effective functioning of the sanctions control framework.	[Entity-specific] Sanctions violation	Risk	Own operations Downstream	Medium-term
Entity-specific	Supporting the inclusive digital and green transformation of the EU economy and strengthening its competitiveness by supporting the development of cutting-edge technologies and innovation.	Innovation, digital and human capital	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Entity-specific	Helping small businesses and mid-caps access financing through a wide range of intermediated products to support their development and foster employment, economic stability, growth and competitiveness.	Small and medium enterprise and mid-cap finance	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Entity-specific	Financing integrated urban development, regeneration and renewal, as well as water and waste management services, low-carbon mobility, education and healthcare to make urban areas more liveable and sustainable and to provide rural communities with equal access to essential infrastructure.	Sustainable cities and regions	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term

1.3. STRATEGY, BUSINESS MODEL AND VALUE CHAIN

1.3.1. Sustainable finance as our operating model

The EIB Group is the financing arm of the European Union. Article 309 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union says its task is to "contribute, by having recourse to the capital market and utilising its own resources, to the balanced and steady development of the internal market in the interest of the Union."

The EIB Group pursues its mission by offering loans, guarantees, equity investments and advisory services to finance sound investment projects that promote EU policy objectives and priorities (see Chapter 1.3.2, "Financial products" and Chapter 1.3.2.2, "Advisory services" for more details on products and services offered).

The EIB Group differs considerably from commercial banks in that its activity is driven by public policy objectives. It is a financial institution that does not focus on maximising profit and that applies sound managerial practices (as shown by its triple-A credit rating). The EIB Group therefore has no set target for return on equity. Instead, it aims to generate income that enables it to meet its obligations, cover its expenses and risks, and build up a reserve fund.

Strategically, the EIB Group focuses on being financially viable and creating long-term value for society and the environment. Environmental and social sustainability, including fighting climate change and upholding EU values, are key policy objectives within and beyond the European Union and steer the policy priorities that guide the Group's actions and investments (see Chapter 1.4.2, "Achieving public policy goals").

The EIB Group consists of two EU bodies that qualify as international financial institutions:

- The European Investment Bank was established in 1958 to support the values and objectives of the European Union through its financing and advisory activities within and beyond Europe. Its shareholders are the 27 EU Member States, in line with Article 4 of its Statute. To pursue its objectives, the Bank is financially autonomous and raises most of its lending resources on international capital markets through bond issues. In certain cases, it is also entrusted with funds from Member States and/or the EU budget to implement activities that support EU policy goals.
- The European Investment Fund was established in 1994 under Article 28 of the Bank's Statute as an EU body with legal personality and financial autonomy. It operates under the Statutes of the European Investment Fund. The Fund has a unique shareholding structure that brings together public and private investors, including the European Commission, the Bank and national authorities. It focuses on supporting Europe's micro, small and medium-sized enterprises by providing equity capital, loans and guarantees through a wide network of selected financial intermediaries.

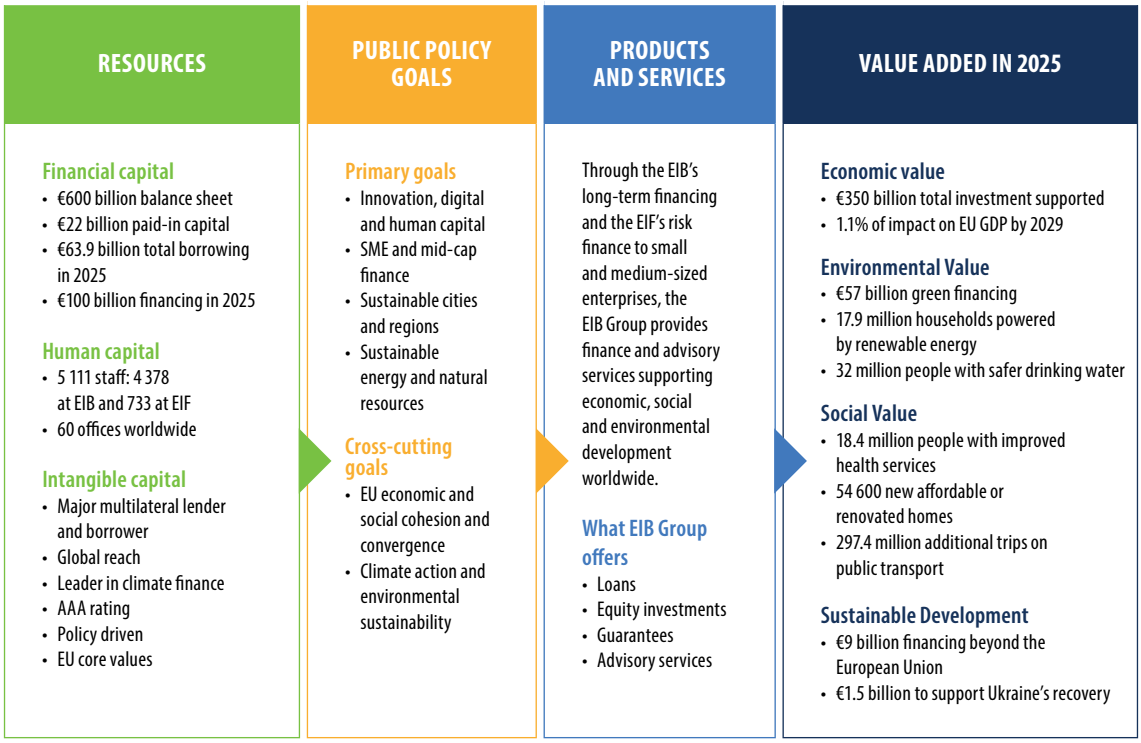
The EIB Group operates in the European Union and worldwide.

Around 90% of the Bank's investments support projects within the European Union, while the remaining 10% are directed to the rest of the world through EIB Global. The Fund operates primarily within the European Union.

The Group works closely with other EU institutions to foster European integration, promote development and support EU policies in more than 160 countries worldwide.

Figure 2: EIB GROUP BUSINESS MODEL

> As the European Union's financial arm, the EIB Group mobilises public and private investment to support sustainable growth in Europe and beyond, accelerating the energy transition, fostering innovation and strengthening economic resilience and shared prosperity for present and future generations.

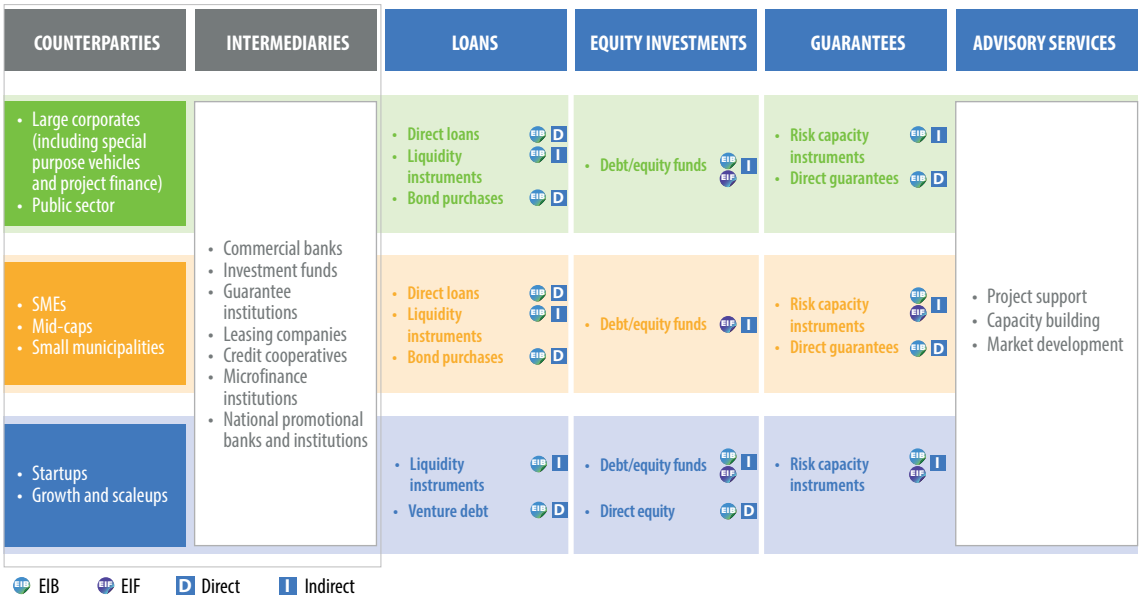


For more information, see the European Investment Bank Group Activity Report 2025 and the Executive Summary of this report.

1.3.2. EIB Group products, services and clients

The EIB Group supports the economic, social and environmental objectives of the European Union by providing a wide range of financial products and services.

Figure 3: EIB GROUP OFFERS



Source: EIB Group

1.3.2.1. Financial products

The Bank focuses on long-term financing for projects in sustainable infrastructure, innovation and climate action. With its extensive expertise in financing large investment projects in the private and public sectors, the Bank acts as an anchor investor, attracting additional funding sources and accelerating investments in strategic sectors.

The Fund concentrates primarily on venture capital and private equity, investing in EU funds to support startups, high-growth companies and sustainable infrastructure. It also provides guarantees, securitisation and microfinance support, helping financial intermediaries increase lending to small businesses and entrepreneurs by reducing the associated risks.

By combining the strengths of these two institutions, the EIB Group effectively mobilises resources and expertise to foster sustainable development, innovation and economic growth across Europe and beyond.

The EIB Group's finance and advisory solutions are designed to support investments and businesses throughout different stages of development, considering their financing needs while also helping to crowd in funding from other sources and maximise impact.

Figure 3 presents an overview of the financial and advisory instruments provided by the EIB Group. It is not exhaustive, and does not include all products and/or markets in which the EIB Group is, or has been, active. For more detailed information, see the EIB Group product catalogue.

1.3.2.2. Advisory services

The EIB Group's advisory services complement its financing activities. Through project-related advisory, skill development, training and market development support, the Group helps promoters improve the delivery of sustainable infrastructure projects, guides innovative ventures in low-carbon technologies on their path to commercialisation, strengthens financial intermediaries' capacity to scale up green finance for small businesses, and nurtures an enabling ecosystem for cleantech investments. For instance, the Green Gateway is an EIB Advisory initiative that helps financial institutions assess the eligibility and impact of green projects. It offers tools like the Green Eligibility Checker, along with a green eligibility helpdesk, web seminars and other assistance.

Advisory services include:

- **Project support:** EIB Advisory supports the preparation and implementation of investment projects, with a focus on improving overall quality, including in response to challenges like climate change. The Group's expertise complements beneficiaries own know-how and helps public authorities and private companies design and deliver projects effectively.
- **Market development:** This strand of advisory work focuses on identifying trends, market failures and financing gaps in markets or sectors. It also supports beneficiaries in identifying investment opportunities and in shaping regulatory and sector frameworks that are more conducive to investment. Other activities include the creation of investment platforms and support for investment programming according to available financing sources.
- **Capacity building:** These advisory services focus on developing the necessary skills and knowledge of project promoters, financial intermediaries and beneficiaries, enabling them to design and deliver high-impact projects. Support is provided mainly through training, seminars, networking events and the exchange of expertise between EU countries, as well as through assistance with structural reforms that help unlock or accelerate investment.

Advisory services contribute to the eight priorities set out in the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap.

1.3.2.3. Clients

As indicated in Figure 6 in Chapter 1.3.4, "Value chain," the products and services of the EIB Group target the following customer segments and sub-segments.

Private corporates

Small and medium-sized enterprises
Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are businesses with fewer than 250 employees and an annual turnover not exceeding €50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding €43 million.

Mid-caps
Mid-caps are businesses with 250 to 3 000 employees. Most lending facilities for SMEs and mid-caps have a low volume, so the Bank relies primarily on intermediated lending through local financial institutions: commercial banks, leasing companies, credit cooperatives, etc.

Large corporates
Large corporates are companies with more than 3 000 employees. They are major players in the economy, often operating on a global scale. Large corporates have substantial financial needs and are involved in large-scale projects that can drive significant economic and social impact.

Financial intermediaries
Financial intermediaries are counterparties like commercial banks, guarantee institutions, leasing companies or private equity funds, which lend money onwards to the final recipients, provide guarantees or invest funds in the final beneficiaries, acting as an interface between them and the Bank or the Fund.

Public sector

Central governments of EU members
Central governments are the national authorities of EU Member States. They are responsible for implementing national policies, managing public finances and driving economic development. Central governments often commission large-scale infrastructure and development projects.

Regional and public authorities
Regional and public authorities include regional governments, municipal governments and other public entities at the regional level. They are responsible for regional development, public services and infrastructure projects that serve local needs.

Public sector entities
Public sector entities encompass a wide range of organisations, including state-owned enterprises, public utilities and other government-related institutions. These entities provide essential services like energy, water, transport and healthcare, contributing to public welfare and economic stability.

1.3.3. Financing

In 2025, the Bank raised €63.9 billion through bond issuance, completing 100 transactions across 15 currencies.[22] Funding remained heavily concentrated in euro and US dollar benchmark bonds. In addition, the Bank issued bonds in 13 other currencies, including the pound sterling, Polish złoty, Norwegian krone, Mexican peso, Hong Kong dollar, South African rand, Swiss franc, Canadian dollar and Australian dollar, to diversify its funding sources.

Investors for these issuances were predominantly European, accounting for around two-thirds of the total investment volume. The remaining third came from investors from Asia, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa, reflecting the Bank's global appeal.

As a leader in capital markets innovation, the Bank remains at the forefront of sustainability funding (see Chapter 1.3.3.1) and the digital transformation of capital markets. It works closely with market participants and public institutions to support the development of digital financial infrastructure and maintains a long-standing collaboration with the European Central Bank on digital finance initiatives.

The Bank also operates through mandates and partnerships that allow it to support riskier projects, combine loans with grants and provide additional advisory services. These arrangements support EU policy goals and are designed to address the specific needs of certain regions or sectors of the economy and society.

The Fund finances its activities primarily through mandates from the Bank, the European Commission and national partners, enabling it to support small businesses and innovation across Europe. Unlike a bank, it does not issue bonds. Instead, it leverages shareholder capital, generates returns on investments and uses financial instruments like securitisation and risk-sharing mechanisms to multiply the impact of its funding. This blended finance approach ensures sustainable, long-term support for Europe's entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystems.

22. For more details, please refer to the 2025 EIB Funding Newsletter.

1.3.3.1. Sustainability funding

Sustainability funding is a strategic business development, necessary for implementing the first phase of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030 and the capital markets union.

The Bank plays a leading role in helping the green bond market grow by supporting liquidity and standardisation (particularly in impact reporting). In 2007, it issued the world's first green bond, the Climate Awareness Bond (CAB). Since then, the green bond market has expanded rapidly, with total issuance now exceeding €3 trillion.

Proceeds from the Bank's sustainability funding instruments are used exclusively for disbursements to lending activities that make a substantial contribution to EU sustainability objectives. This approach is aligned with evolving EU legislation on sustainable finance and has taken the Sustainable Development Goals into account from the outset. Climate Awareness Bonds focus on climate change mitigation, while Sustainability Awareness Bonds (SABs) support other environmental and social sustainability objectives of the European Union.

In 2025, the Bank issued close to €27.8 billion in Climate Awareness Bonds and Sustainability Awareness Bonds, representing 44% of its total funding programme. Since 2007, total issuance of these instruments has exceeded €130 billion. This confirms the Bank's position as the world's largest issuer of green use-of-proceeds bonds with auditor assurance and the leading multilateral development bank issuer of green and sustainability use-of-proceeds bonds. To meet the needs of a broad investor base, the Bank has issued these bonds in 23 currencies, a market record.

The growth in CAB and SAB issuance reflects the Bank's gradual alignment with the EU taxonomy for sustainable activities and the European Green Bond standard, which facilitates the extension of eligible objectives and activities (see Figure 4). The Bank has the highest level of audit assurance, providing reasonable assurance on the gradual alignment of its green and sustainability bonds with the EU taxonomy and the European Green Bond standard.

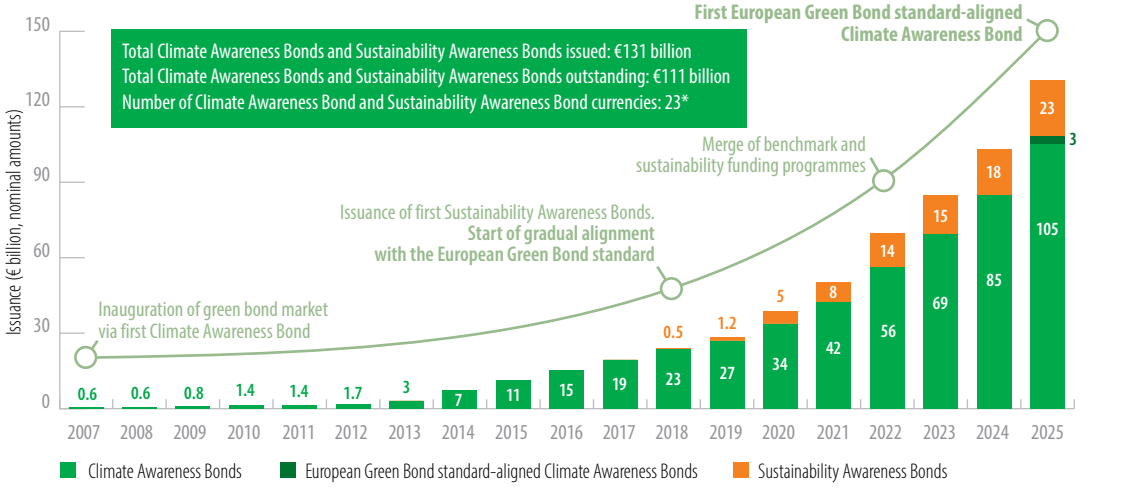
Figure 4: CAB AND SAB OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Reference SDGs	13 CLIMATE ACTION	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 15 LIFE ON LAND	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING; 4 QUALITY EDUCATION; 5 GENDER EQUALITY; 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
	Climate Awareness Bonds (CABs)	**Sustainability Awareness Bonds (SABs)**	
	Environmental	**Environmental** (other than climate change mitigation)	**Social**
Objectives	• Climate change mitigation (2007)	So far: • Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources (2018) • Pollution prevention and control (2018) • Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems (2021)	So far: • Access to water and sanitation (2018) • Natural disaster risk management (2018) • Access to equitable and inclusive quality education (2019) • Universal access to affordable health services (2019) • Health emergencies response and preparedness capacity (2020) • Access to social and affordable housing (2021) • Gender equality (2025) • Women's economic empowerment (2025)
Activities	So far: • Renewable energy (2007) • Energy efficiency (2007) • Electric rail infrastructure and rolling stock, and electric buses (2020) • Research, development and deployment of innovative low-carbon technologies (2020) • Further taxonomy-eligible low-carbon activities in transport, manufacturing, waste, and energy sectors (2022)	So far: • Water supply and management (2018) • Wastewater collection and treatment (2018) • Sustainable forest management (2021)	So far: • Water supply and management (2018) • Wastewater collection and treatment (2018) • Flood protection (2018) • Education (2019), including higher education (2020) • Health (2019), including COVID-related activities (2020) • Housing (2021) • Women entrepreneurs and women-owned micro, small and medium-sized firms and mid-caps in various sectors (2025)

Source: EIB Group

Note: The year in parentheses indicates when the objective or activity became eligible for CAB or SAB allocations.

Figure 5: ☑ EVOLUTION OF EIB ISSUANCE OF CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARENESS BONDS



*AUD, BRL, CAD, CHF, CNY, CZK, DKK, EUR, GBP, HKD, HUF, INR, JPY, MXN, NOK, NZD, PLN, RON, RUB, SEK, TRY, USD, ZAR

Source: EIB Group

In March 2025, the Bank released the EIB Climate Awareness Bonds Framework 2023. The framework includes a pre-issuance fact sheet that enables bond issuance in line with the European Green Bond standard, which requires the use of proceeds to be aligned with the EU taxonomy criteria.

In April 2025, the Bank introduced its inaugural Climate Awareness Bond aligned with the European Green Bond standard. The €3 billion transaction was the first supranational bond to be aligned with the standard and attracted more than €40 billion of demand.

In October 2025, the EIB published its 2024 Climate Awareness Bonds Framework, audited by KPMG with reasonable assurance under ISAE 3000. This framework complemented the inaugural CAB issuance under the European Green Bond standard with the required allocation and impact reports, together with their post-issuance review. The Bank was the first European Green Bond issuer to publish these reports, doing so voluntarily almost one year ahead of the regulatory deadline for the annual allocation report.

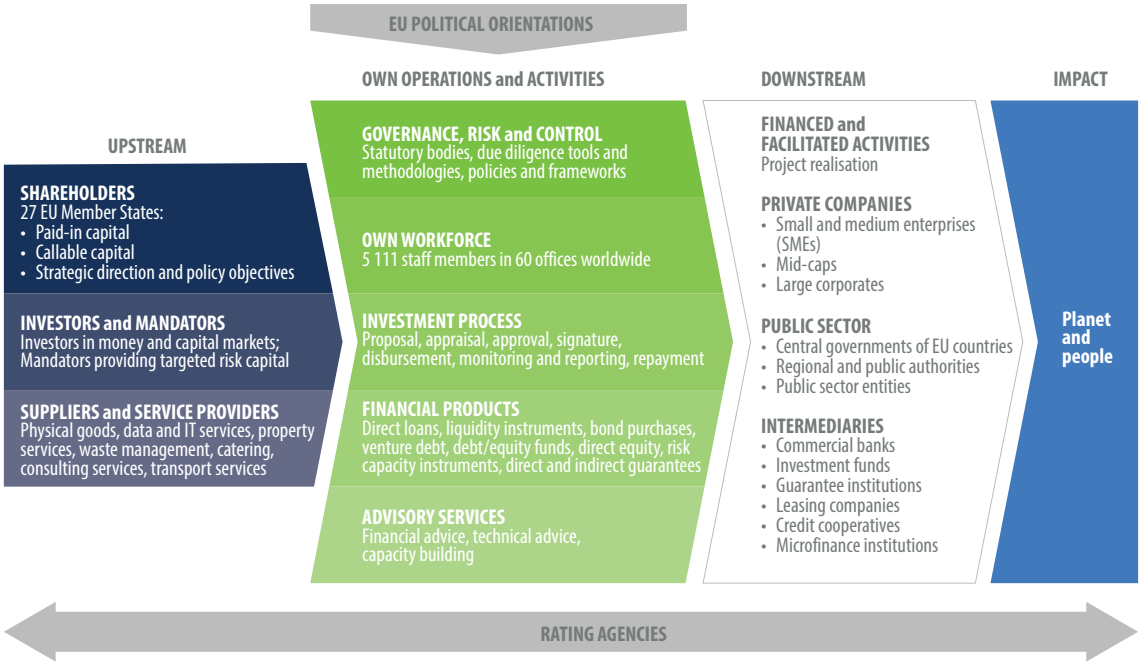
The allocation report meets all reporting requirements of the European Green Bond standard and provides investors with standardised and transparent information. In line with the International Capital Market Association's Green Bond Principles, the framework also includes allocation and impact reports for Climate Awareness Bonds whose use of proceeds is only partially aligned with the EU taxonomy and which do not carry the official European Green Bond designation. These reports follow the same structure as those aligned with the European Green Bond standard.

These developments deliver on the strategy of the first phase of the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 of gradually applying the EU taxonomy and the European Green Bond standard to the Bank's green bond issuances.

Looking ahead, the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030, published in October 2025, sets out plans for the Bank to consider a gradual extension of its "do no significant harm" and "minimum safeguards" assessments to a broader range of CAB- and SAB-eligible activities, projects and entities. This could lead to a progressive increase in the volume and share of issuance of Climate Awareness Bonds aligned with the European Green Bond standard. The Bank will also continue to share its expertise, including through the Platform on Sustainable Finance, and to work with market initiatives such as the International Capital Market Association's Green Bond Principles to promote synergies and advance gradual adoption of the European Green Bond standard.

1.3.4. Value chain and sectors of activity

Figure 6: EIB GROUP VALUE CHAIN



Source: EIB Group

Table 14: EIB-FINANCED PROJECTS IN 2025, BY SECTOR

Sectors	€ million
Agriculture, fisheries, forestry	224
Composite infrastructure	421
Credit lines	17 741
Education	2 909
Energy	24 861
Health	1 864
Industry	8 982
Services	3 177
Solid waste	191
Telecommunications	759
Transport	14 157
Urban development	6 086
Water, sewerage	4 548
Total	85 919

Table 15: EIF-FINANCED INVESTMENTS IN 2025, BY SECTOR

Sectors	€ million
Agriculture, fisheries, forestry	900
Composite infrastructure	1 363
Credit lines	17
Education	87
Energy	1 488
Health	973
Industry	3 619
Services	3 856
Solid waste	198
Telecommunications	2 221
Transport	312
Urban development	486
Water, sewerage	208
Total	15 726

1.4. THE EIB GROUP'S APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY

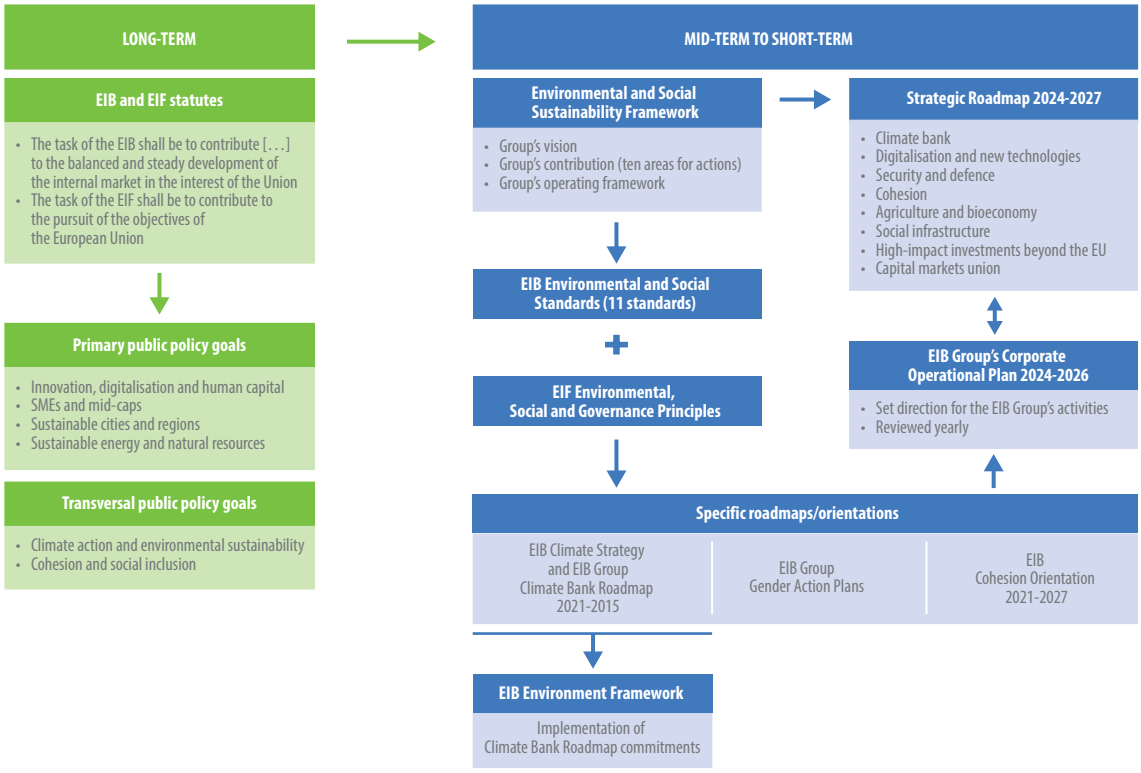
The EIB Group's approach to the environmental and social dimensions of sustainability is based on the key objectives and principles set out in the relevant EU policies and legal framework, as well as on the international community's response to the global sustainable development challenges as laid out in the relevant international treaties, conventions and other instruments ratified by the European Union.

1.4.1. Overview

The EIB Group is a policy driven, not profit maximising financial institution. To fulfil its mission, the Group relies on a sustainability framework that outlines:

- its long-term objectives, as set in its Statute and implemented through pursuit of its public policy goals (see Chapter 1.4.2, "Achieving public policy goals");
- its medium- to short-term policy frameworks and strategic roadmaps, and the EIB Group Operational Plan 2025-2027.

Figure 7: KEY ELEMENTS THAT DRIVE EIB GROUP ACTIVITIES



Source: EIB Group

Note: In addition to the elements listed above, there are also sectoral policies or orientations that include other specific sustainability matters, such as road safety in transport.

The EIB Group also contributes to the policy dialogue at different levels (international to local), when relevant and consistent with the Bank's and the Fund's respective roles and business models. In line with EU policy objectives, the EIB Group seeks to develop and strengthen other partnerships, including with international financial institutions, EU institutions and bodies, national and local governments, civil society and the private sector.

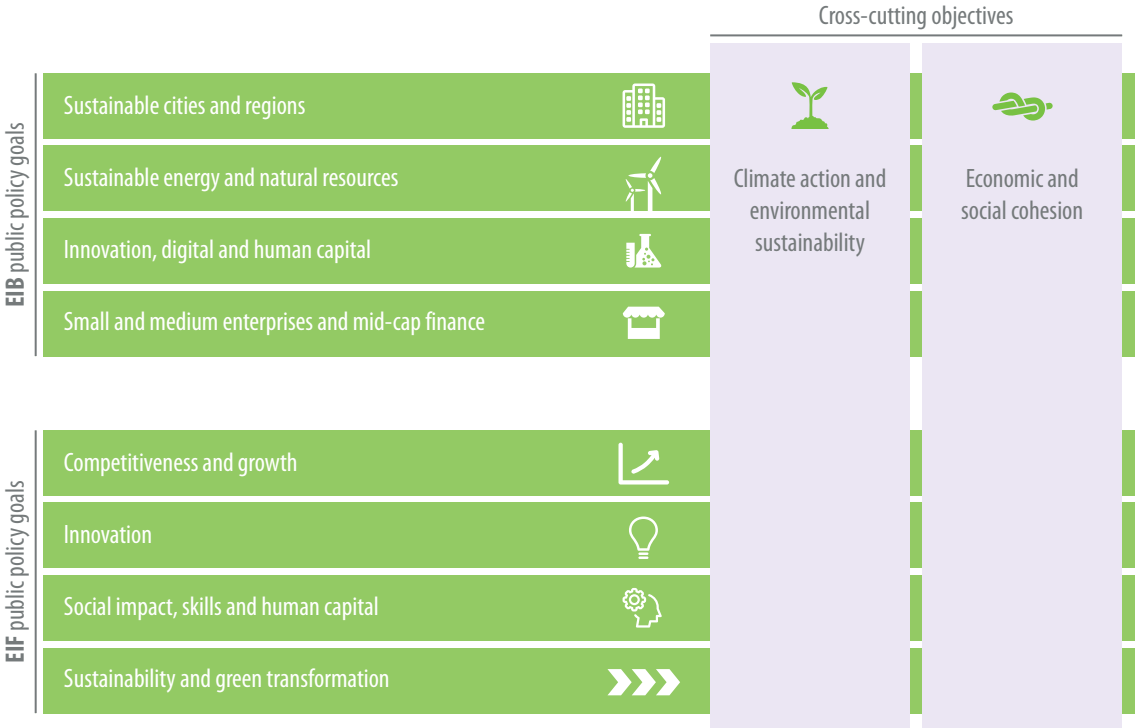
1.4.2. Achieving public policy goals

The EIB Group's public policy goals reflect its financing priorities, which were introduced as part of its first corporate operational plan in 2000 and updated in 2021. They are rooted in the requirement to ensure the EIB Group's long-term sustainable objectives align with the political priorities set by the European Union.

Through the public policy goals, the EIB Group allocates a balanced mix of financing across different policy areas. The goals are also used to set out a clear framework for communication and reporting on EIB Group financing within the broader operational planning framework and in line with its impact objectives.

Based on the European Union's policy priorities defined in the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework, the EIB Group's role as the climate bank and its ongoing contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Bank and the EIF have developed coherent public policy goal frameworks (Figure 8). These frameworks encapsulate the EIB Group's core priorities and ensure that its activities support EU and related global objectives.

Figure 8: EIB AND EIF PUBLIC POLICY GOALS



Source: EIB Group

The Bank and the EIF each have four primary public policy goals that are specific to their institution. These are used to determine eligibility for EIB Group financing. Some investments also respond to the cross-cutting objectives.

1.4.2.1. The primary public policy goals

EIB public policy goals framework

The Bank provides economic support to sectors that contribute significantly to growth, employment, cohesion and environmental sustainability. The activities focus on four areas:[23]

1. Sustainable cities and regions

The Bank supports projects that make urban areas more liveable and sustainable and that provide rural communities with equal access to essential infrastructure. The EIB Group provides financing for integrated urban development, regeneration and renewal, as well as water and waste management services, low-carbon mobility, education and healthcare.

> *☑ In 2025, the EIB Group signed financing worth €20.6 billion[24] to support its sustainable cities and regions policy goal, compared with €17.2 billion in 2024. Among other things, operations signed during the year will help provide safer drinking water and/or improved sanitation to almost 32.1 million people.*

2. Sustainable energy and natural resources

To help the European Union meet its climate and energy targets, the Bank provides support for clean energy, electric grid expansion, electrification across sectors, low-emissions technologies and renewable heating, such as biomass and geothermal facilities. The Bank also invests in projects that protect natural resources and biodiversity, particularly in agriculture, forestry, oceans, water and waste management.

> *☑ In 2025, the EIB Group signed €40.6 billion[25] of investment supporting its policy goal of sustainable energy and natural resources, compared with €35.6 billion in 2024. Among other things, operations signed in 2025 would help power almost 17 million households with renewable energy and help construct or upgrade almost 56 600km of power lines.*

3. Innovation, digital and human capital

The Bank is committed to the digital and low-carbon transformation of the EU economy, and to circular and environmentally friendly economic practices. It supports the development of cutting-edge technologies, fostering EU competitiveness. This helps small businesses and mid-caps invest more in digital infrastructure, and accelerates the development of digital technologies that are essential for the green transition.

> *☑ In 2025, we supported innovation, digital and human capital with €20.9 billion[26] of EIB Group financing, compared with €19.8 billion in 2024. Among other things, this is expected to have 9 250km of submarine or terrestrial fiber-optic cable installed.*

23. To calculate how much the EIB Group invests annually to support its primary public policy goals (as presented in the audited claims in this section), the Group maps the EIF's contribution to its own specific primary public policy goals against the Group's primary public policy goals, which are aligned with the ones of the Bank.
24. Of this amount, €975.6 million is attributed to the EIF contribution for this specific EIB public policy goal. The total of €20.6 billion takes into account overlap between EIB and EIF investments.
25. Of this amount, €5.3 billion is attributed to the EIF contribution for this specific EIB public policy goal. The total of €40.6 billion takes into account overlap between EIB and EIF investments.
26. Of this amount, €4.9 billion is attributed to the EIF contribution for this specific EIB public policy goal. The total of €20.9 billion takes into account overlap between EIB and EIF investments.

4. Small business and mid-cap finance

Small and medium businesses play a key role in the global economy by creating jobs and driving innovation. The Bank helps small businesses and mid-caps access financing through a wide range of intermediated products. In simple terms, "intermediated" means that the Bank provides financing to banks, microfinance institutions and investment vehicles, which then use this funding to provide guarantees, loans and advisory services to a large range of businesses. The Bank also has a long track record of supporting microfinance with a focus on women, young people and rural and poor communities. Microfinance provides small amounts of funding to low-income individuals and small companies that usually have no other means of financial support.

> ☑ *In 2025, the EIB Group provided €17.8 billion[27] in financing for micro, small, medium and mid-cap firms, compared with €16.2 billion in 2024.*

EIF public policy goals framework

The EIF supports EU priorities by improving access to finance, predominantly for small and medium-sized firms and infrastructure projects. The EIF shares risks to encourage lending by banks, to crowd investments into private assets, and to help new market players get off the ground. The EIF is guided by the four public policy goals listed below, as well as the two EIB Group cross-cutting objectives of climate action and environmental sustainability, and economic and social cohesion.

i. Competitiveness and growth

The EIF's core objective under the competitiveness and growth public policy goal is improving financing for small and medium-sized businesses and helping investments in four key areas: business growth, internationalisation and value chains, territorial development, and building financial ecosystems.

In 2025, the EIF signed €4 billion of investment with financial intermediaries to support competitiveness and growth.

ii. Innovation and digitalisation

Highly innovative projects and companies often require solid financing to cover the inherent risk of research, development and innovation. One of the roles of the EIF is to support these types of projects and companies to foster innovation and the development and uptake of new technologies. Under the innovation public policy goal, the Fund focuses on life sciences and health, disruptive technologies, digital transformation, the development of new products, services and business models, and commercialisation.

In 2025, the Fund committed €4.7 billion to support sectors and industries of key strategic importance for Europe's future, autonomy and technological sovereignty.

iii. Social impact, skills and human capital

Supporting projects and entrepreneurs that generate social value is another key objective of the EIF. This includes promoting inclusion, diversity and well-being, fostering social innovation and supporting skills development, education, culture and creativity. By focusing on these areas, the Fund seeks to contribute to a more equitable and inclusive society.

27. Of this amount, €4.6 billion is attributed to the EIF contribution for this specific EIB public policy goal. The total of €17.8 billion takes into account overlap between EIB and EIF investments.

In 2025, EIF funding for social impact, skills and human capital totalled €0.7 billion.

iv. Sustainability and green transformation

The transition to an inclusive, resource-efficient, zero-pollution economy that protects and restores biodiversity is a key EU policy objective. It includes activities promoting sustainable industries, products, services and infrastructure, renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable transport and sustainable food and environmental services, as well as circular and nature-based solutions .

In 2025, the EIF focused on sustainability, and the green transformation again took centre stage, with total commitments of €6.3 billion.

1.4.2.2. The cross-cutting public policy goals

The EIB Group's public policy goals ensure that EIB Group activities align with EU priorities. While the primary public policy goals are used to gauge an investment's eligibility for EIB Group financing, the two cross-cutting public policy goals serve a different function: They help the EIB Group target two key challenges – climate and environmental sustainability, and economic and social cohesion.

These two cross-cutting public policy goals help steer the EIB Group's investment practices, and identify and monitor investments, in line with two complementary strategic operational frameworks, described below: the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and the European Investment Bank Cohesion Orientation 2021-2027.

Security and defence: A new cross-cutting public policy goal
In 2025, the Bank approved the inclusion of security and defence as a new cross-cutting public policy goal. This goal, applicable from 2026, is introduced in the Group Operational Plan 2026-2028 alongside climate and environmental sustainability and economic and social cohesion, reflecting the Group's integrated approach to long-term resilience.

In line with the EIB Group's sustainability policies, all security and defence operations are systematically screened under the low-carbon framework criteria and the Environmental and Social Standards. Many of these operations deliver multiple public policy benefits. For example, upgrades to defence infrastructure or the development of new technologies can strengthen security and resilience while also supporting climate objectives and environmental sustainability.

To strengthen Europe's security and defence capabilities, the Group updated its policies in 2025 to allow financing of core military projects within the European Union, whereas previously only dual-use operations were eligible. This policy update facilitated security and defence financing in 2025, including investments in military infrastructure, domestic industrial capacity, research and development, support for small and medium-sized firms and dedicated private funds. Financing volumes exceeded €4 billion at Group level, four times higher than in 2024. This growth reflects strong market demand and the Group's enhanced capacity to respond to Europe's security and capability gaps.

1.4.3. Delivering on the strategic roadmap

Building on the EIB Group's strengths and maximising the impact of its work, the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap focuses on eight interlinked policy priorities, endorsed by the Board of Governors in June 2024.

1.4.3.1. Priorities set by the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap

The eight priorities set by the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap reflect the European Union's political priorities and the important role that the Group plays in closing Europe's investment gaps and strengthening Europe's competitiveness. They form a basis for increasing the focus on certain existing programmes and new programmes that will be introduced.

They aim to accelerate the green transition, boost technological innovation, bolster security and defence, and support regional cohesion and social infrastructure development. Commitments to international development and to capital markets integration safeguard Europe's strong global presence. These priorities support growth, prosperity, and technological and social progress in individual EU countries, across the European Union as a whole, and around the world.

Table 16: EIB GROUP PRIORITIES

1. Consolidating the EIB Group's role as the climate bank	Financing the green transition and supporting climate action is the EIB's top priority. It underpins sustainable growth, strengthens technological competitiveness and reinforces strategic autonomy and security. Under the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and its second phase approved at the end of 2025, the Group continues to prioritise investments in renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure projects, with a strong focus on REPowerEU+. These investments help decarbonise the energy supply and strengthen Europe's energy security. The Group introduced a new pilot programme to improve energy efficiency in small and medium firms. The programme will scale up proven technologies that deliver significant energy savings, boosting profits and productivity across the business sector. The water programme focuses on infrastructure investment and efficient water management technologies. It supports climate mitigation and adaptation, addressing floods, drought and rising sea levels.
2. Digitalisation and new technologies	The EIB Group is accelerating the development and adoption of breakthrough technologies, establishing world-class digital infrastructure, and supporting promising innovative startups and small firms. The new TechEU programme will bring the Group's efforts under a single umbrella, with an emphasis on digitalisation, strategic and innovative technologies, and critical raw materials. Through this flagship programme, the Group will contribute to the European Commission's industrial alliances and related initiatives. The Group will also continue to respond to market demand by supporting projects related to critical raw materials, in line with EU policies. The focus will be on critical raw materials for the green and digital transitions, the broader value chain, innovation and sustainability, and strategic autonomy. The Group will prioritise projects that integrate environmental, social and governance considerations and demonstrate strong project management capacity.

3. Supporting Europe's security and defence industry	Under the EIB Group Action Plan for security and defence, endorsed by the EIB Board of Directors in May 2024, the Group is accelerating deployment of the financing available through the Strategic European Security Initiative through the one-stop-shop for security and defence. At the same time, the Group is safeguarding the Bank's financing capacity. This work builds on close engagement with key stakeholders and financial markets and applies the highest environmental, social and governance standards. The Group will actively promote the action plan on the ground across EU countries.
4. Contributing to a modern cohesion policy	Cohesion lending will focus on physical and digital connectivity, energy efficiency and deployment of renewable energy, especially in high-potential less developed and transition regions. It will also support education and training to equip workers with the skills EU industries need, as well as investment in affordable and sustainable housing. This includes EU-wide support for large-scale cross-border infrastructure projects, especially in Eastern Europe, to enhance connectivity and regional development through railway infrastructure, electricity grids and the core trans-European transport network. The EIB Group will continue to support the Just Transition Mechanism, strengthen administrative capacity in regions through tailored advisory services, and help regions prepare for climate-related natural disasters. The Group will prioritise projects that reduce regional disparities, stimulate growth, support the green and digital transitions and foster resilience. This includes collaborating with less developed regions to bridge economic disparities and ensure equitable access to infrastructure and public services.
5. Supporting agriculture and the bioeconomy	The EIB Group will focus its financial support on solutions to promote economic growth, particularly in rural areas, strengthen social inclusion and environmental sustainability, and address climate change. Substantial investment is needed to bolster resilience, shift towards more efficient and sustainable value chains, and develop the bioeconomy, with an emphasis on the green transition and circular economy. The Group will provide a range of financial products tailored to the needs of the agricultural sector. The EIF will continue to support agriculture through portfolio guarantees and equity investments in the agrifood and foodtech sectors, helping to attract private investors. The EIB Group will amplify its impact by combining financing with EU and national funds, such as the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development or InvestEU, and by developing new financial products in close cooperation with stakeholders.
6. Reinforcing Europe's social infrastructure	Investing in education, health, and affordable and sustainable housing is crucial for economic growth and well-being. Social infrastructure supports inclusive growth and strengthens Europe's social foundation. The EIB Group will increase investments in education at all levels and in training to help people develop and update the skills needed for new technologies and economic activities. This includes improving access to quality equitable and inclusive education and adult learning. In the health sector, the EIB Group will continue to invest across all regions, to strengthen the European social model and advance towards a more complete European Health Union. Priorities include ensuring access to quality healthcare for everyone, reducing inequalities, addressing health workforce shortages and supporting long-term care. The Group will also accelerate digitalisation in healthcare, promote vaccination and strengthen EU competitiveness in critical health sectors, including pharmaceuticals, medical devices and biotechnology. For decades, the EIB Group has supported investments in housing through financing and advisory services, with a focus on social and affordable housing and energy-efficient renovation. As housing has become a central policy priority for the European Union, the Group has made support for affordable and sustainable housing one of its key objectives.

7. High-impact investments outside the European Union	Globally, the EIB Group aims to increase the impact of its activities in line with EU priorities. It will build on its strong role within the network of multilateral development banks, its solid financing and technical capabilities, and its close alignment with EU policies and standards. The Bank will focus its operations on Ukraine and on supporting a successful enlargement process, alongside impact-driven interventions in Europe's neighbourhoods. Beyond Europe, the Group will support projects under the European Union's Global Gateway initiative, with a focus on building and strengthening strategic geopolitical partnerships. Operating in a fragile and fragmented geopolitical environment, and facing debt sustainability challenges in several partner countries, EIB Global will continue to rely on a mix of EU mandates and third-party funds to de-risk its portfolio, complemented by the targeted use of its own funds. The overall objective is to support the external dimension of EU policies, in line with the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap and the European Union's Global Gateway strategy.
8. Pioneering the capital markets union	The EIB Group is well positioned to advance the Savings and Investments Union, in close partnership with the European Commission. It already acts as a key EU instrument, issuing financial instruments under the EU guarantee and channelling savings towards productive, pan-European investments and projects of common interest. Over time, the Group has expanded its range of products to support the entire business innovation cycle.

1.4.3.2. The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025

In line with the political ambition behind the European Green Deal, the boards of directors of the Bank and the EIF strengthened the Group's climate and environmental ambitions at the end of 2019 by introducing new targets. To deliver on these commitments, the Group published the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, through which it positioned itself as the EU climate bank. The EIB Group published the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030 in October 2025 (see Chapter 1.4.3 for further details). While this new version of the Climate Bank Roadmap applies from 2026 to 2030, this 2025 Sustainability Report includes information on the 2021-2025 Roadmap, which applied to the 2025 reporting year.

The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 is structured around four key themes:

Accelerating the transition through green finance

Increasing green investment and supporting green innovation and low-emission and climate-resilient business models, including through the development of an EIB adaptation plan. This theme supports the following targets:

- gradually increasing the share of the Bank's annual financing dedicated to green finance to at least 50% by 2025 and beyond;[28]
- supporting €1 trillion of green investment at Group level between 2021 and 2030.

Chapter 2, "Supporting the Green Transition," outlines the 2025 results for the first theme of the Climate Bank Roadmap, including performance against key targets.

28. The Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030, published in October 2025, extends this target of more than 50% green finance to cover Group finance.

Ensuring a just transition for all

The EIB Group works to ensure that no people or places are left behind in the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient societies. In 2022, the Group published its comprehensive proposal in support of the EU Just Transition Mechanism, a key part of the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan assisting the EU regions most affected by decarbonisation.

Building on its experience in supporting the Just Transition Mechanism and the MDB Just Transition High-Level Principles, EIB Global published its approach to supporting a just transition and just resilience in 2023:

- The EIB Group promotes a just transition by helping build inclusive, sustainable societies in the regions most affected by efforts to decarbonise economies.
- It helps communities to better resist the impact of climate change by developing inclusive climate adaptation actions in the countries and for the people most affected by climate change.

Recognising how climate change, climate action, and social and economic development are intrinsically interwoven across the globe, the Climate Bank Roadmap focuses on gender equality, conflict and fragility, climate-induced migration and forced displacement, and a just transition globally (for more details, see Chapter 9, "Supporting communities," and Chapter 10, "Boosting quality employment," as well as the EIB Group 2023 Climate Bank Roadmap Progress Report).

Supporting Paris-aligned operations

Under the comprehensive alignment framework presented in the Climate Bank Roadmap, the EIB Group committed to aligning new financing, advisory and treasury operations with the temperature and resilience goals of the Paris Agreement from 2021 onwards.

The alignment framework, described in detail in Chapter 3.3, "Climate change actions and implementing frameworks," is applied per investment and per counterparty.

Building strategic coherence and accountability

To deliver the first three themes of the Climate Bank Roadmap – accelerating the transition through green finance, ensuring a just transition for all and aligning new operations with the goals of the Paris Agreement – the EIB Group needed a consistent and coordinated approach. Set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap, this approach is based on three cross-cutting dimensions:

- policies that establish how climate-related work fits into the broader context of sustainable finance and environmental and social sustainability;
- transparency, accountability and quality assurance;
- institutional support for EIB Group activities.

A mid-term review of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 was conducted halfway through its implementation. Although its approach was adjusted in response to scientific, regulatory and market developments since 2020, a key conclusion of the review was that the roadmap remained fit for purpose.

The Climate Bank Roadmap is anchored in the multilateral development banks' joint methodological principles for assessing alignment with the Paris Agreement, as well as using certain EU policies and regulations (such as the EU taxonomy) as reference benchmarks – often going beyond the standards common to multilateral development banks.

The multilateral development bank Paris alignment framework is built around six core building blocks, which provide a basis for developing specific alignment strategies. The framework takes a comprehensive approach that goes beyond new financing commitments and covers all aspects of multilateral development banks' operations, reflecting their role in setting standards and promoting good practice.

Building on the Climate Bank Roadmap, the EIB Environment Framework focuses on environmental sustainability, and describes how the Bank intends to implement its commitment, alongside other multilateral development banks, to step up efforts for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of nature. It consolidates the EIB Group's efforts and activities for achieving environmental sustainability and for responding to the emerging needs of its clients.

Alongside the Climate Bank Roadmap, the revised EIB Climate Strategy[29] guides the Bank's medium- to long-term climate actions, focusing on three strategic areas:

- reinforcing the impact of the Bank's climate financing;
- building resilience to climate change;
- further integrating climate change considerations across all the Bank's standards, methods and processes.

1.4.3.3. EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030

In October 2025, the EIB Group published its updated approach to supporting climate action and environmental sustainability for the period 2026-2030. This second phase reflects a context that has evolved significantly since 2020 and supports the delivery of EU policy priorities, including the Competitiveness Compass for the EU and the EU preparedness union strategy. Its implementation is effective since January 2026 and is therefore not covered by this report.

Mission

Building on the achievements of Phase 1, the EIB Group aims to consolidate its role as the climate bank and to support the delivery of EU climate and nature goals, including limiting global warming to 1.5° Celsius. Through investment in clean, low-carbon and climate-resilient solutions, the Group promotes sustainable prosperity and well-being, strengthens industrial competitiveness and energy security and helps societies prepare for future challenges, in Europe and around the world.

Objectives

Guided by this mission, the EIB Group has set three broad objectives for Phase 2:

i. to continue delivering green financing volumes and effective leverage of investments by maintaining the current level of ambition and extending it to the whole Group, and doubling down on adaptation;
ii. to refocus Group priorities by investing more strategically to boost competitiveness, security and inclusive prosperity in the European Union and globally;
iii. to rely on new European regulatory frameworks to simplify processes and make it easier for clients and beneficiaries to access green finance.

29. The EIB Climate Strategy has been integrated into the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, which entered into force in 2026.

Figure 9: KEY MESSAGES OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE CLIMATE BANK ROADMAP

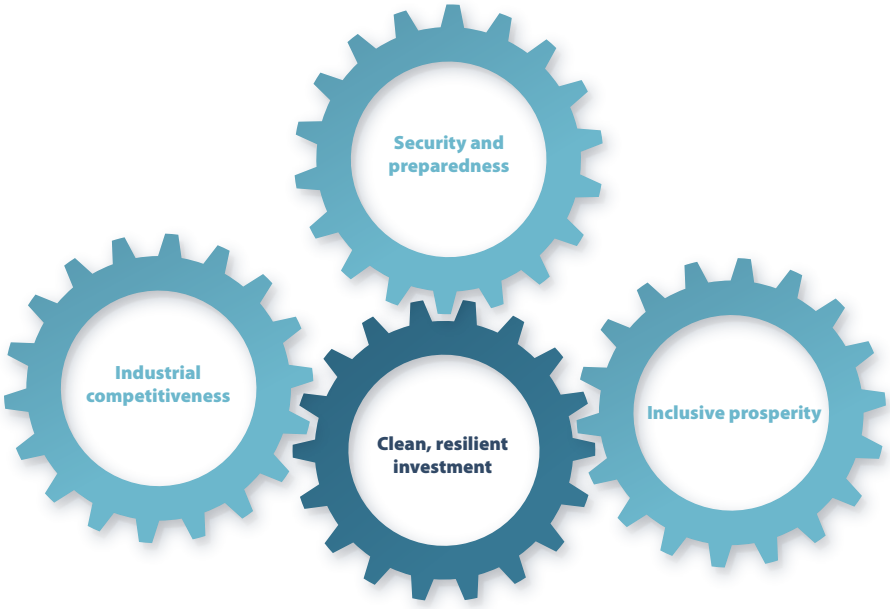


Source: EIB Group

Priorities

Phase 2 focuses on supporting the decarbonisation of key industries and the deployment of innovative systems and products that improve efficiency and industrial competitiveness. It also promotes the development of new green activities and nature-based solutions that create jobs and support inclusive prosperity, while strengthening critical infrastructure and resilience to climate change in a more challenging geopolitical environment.

Figure 10: CLIMATE BANK ROADMAP PHASE 2 GREEN INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



Source: EIB Group

In parallel, the EIB Group published a new Energy Sector Orientation in October 2025 which outlines the strategic direction for the Group's energy-related financing activities under the second phase of the Climate Bank Roadmap. It reaffirms the Group's commitment to supporting the European Union's energy transition, climate goals and strategic autonomy through targeted investments and advisory services.

1.4.3.4. Building on the EIB Cohesion Orientation 2021-2027

Cohesion policy, unique to the European integration process, is designed to help each region achieve its full potential and to allow for the convergence of living standards and prosperity across the European Union. Cohesion was one of the original reasons the Bank was created in 1958, and remains one of its priorities. Promoting economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union is central to the EIB Group's mission as a cross-cutting public policy goal.

The Bank's cohesion priorities encompass less developed regions (with gross domestic product (GDP) per capita of less than 75% of the EU average) and transition regions (with GDP per capita between 75% and 100% of the EU average), as defined by the EU Cohesion Fund's eligibility policy map.

The European Investment Bank Cohesion Orientation 2021-2027, which came into force in 2022, sets out the way forward for cohesion and has seven pillars that also touch upon EIF activities:

i. "Increase of the Cohesion ambition with an orientation of 40% of total EU-27 lending in Cohesion regions, aiming to reach 45% of total EU-27 lending by 2025, using reasonable endeavours. While this target is non-binding, it will be closely monitored and reported on each year. […]
ii. A KPI of 20% of EU-27 lending for the Less Developed regions, increasing to reach 23% of total EU-27 signatures by 2025. […]
iii. In parallel, the EIF is also expected to include a Cohesion KPI in its 2022 COP. […]
iv. Particular support to Cohesion priority regions in their climate and environmental transition in order to increase significantly the share of climate action and environmental lending across transition and less developed regions.
v. Finance directly the deployment of proven technologies (not justified by another PPG) for the first time by Mid-caps in less developed regions when these projects show clear economic spill-over impact at the local level.
vi. Increase the support to facilitate access to finance for Mid-caps through direct lending under SME and Mid-caps PPG in cohesion regions with a particular attention to Less Developed Regions.
vii. More and well-targeted advisory support to respond to and deliver on the challenges outlined above, especially in light of the unprecedented amount of EU grant funding being made available to Cohesion regions. This should help to channel these funds into sustainable and future-oriented investment as well as optimise their combination and complementarity with other resources."[30]

The mid-term review of the EIB Cohesion Orientation approved by the EIB Board of Directors in November 2023 confirmed the lending orientation and set the Bank's targets for 2024-2027:

- 44% of total EU financing in cohesion regions in 2024, and 45% in 2025, 2026 and 2027;
- 22% of total EU financing in less developed regions in 2024, and 23% in 2025, 2026 and 2027.

The EIF introduced a cohesion financing target of 38% in 2022, increased it to 40% in 2023 and maintained this level in 2024 and 2025. The target has also been confirmed for 2026.

The Bank and the Fund have met, and in some cases exceeded, their cohesion financing targets since their introduction. In 2025, the Bank committed almost €38 billion to projects supporting economic and social cohesion, compared with €33.7 billion in 2024. The Fund committed about €5.6 billion, making more than €23 billion available to businesses in EU cohesion regions.

30. See European Investment Bank Cohesion Orientation 2021-2027, page 35.

☑ In 2025, the Bank dedicated almost 50% of its own resources to economic and social cohesion and to convergence projects in EU Member States, compared with 49% in 2024.

Alignment with the Just Transition Mechanism

Under the European Union's Cohesion Policy, the Just Transition Mechanism provides financial support, including EU grants, InvestEU guarantees and blended EIB-EU financing, to the regions most affected by the challenges of transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy by 2050. The Group supports all three pillars of the mechanism.

The Group's approach to supporting the Just Transition Mechanism was approved by the EIB Board of Directors in December 2021 and reviewed and confirmed in July 2024. Implementation is progressing smoothly and is reported on through the annual Climate Bank Roadmap progress reports.

There is strong alignment between the Group's cohesion lending and its support for a just transition. Around 73% of the 155 NUTS 3 regions eligible under the Just Transition Mechanism are located within the Bank's cohesion regions. This alignment is also reflected in the selection of investment areas, which focus on economic and social development, and in sector coverage, with both approaches supporting a broad, multisector transition towards smart specialisation and green transition. At policy level, this coherence is reinforced by the Just Transition Fund's role as part of EU Cohesion Policy under shared EU and national management.

1.4.4. Selection process for financing

The EIB Group is policy-driven. To qualify for financing, an operation must meet one of the Group's primary public policy goals, not constitute an excluded activity, and provide for additionality (for more information on this concept, see Chapter 1.5.1, "Additionality and the Additionality and Impact Measurement framework"). Operations are screened for eligibility in three complementary steps: excluding incompatible activities or sectors; performing environment, climate and social due diligence; and economic appraisal.

1.4.4.1. Excluding incompatible activities or sectors

The EIB Group has exclusions in place for certain activities or sectors that are incompatible with the ethical, environmental or social principles of its public policy goals.

The EIB Group excluded activities list defines the types of activities that the Group does not finance:

i. projects that result in limiting people's individual rights and freedom, or violate human rights;
ii. projects unacceptable in climate and environmental terms;
iii. ethically or morally controversial projects;
iv. projects with political or religious purpose;
v. weapons and ammunition. Beyond the European Union, military or police equipment and infrastructure are also excluded (final beneficiaries of EIB Group operations may be involved in weapons and ammunition, provided that Group financing does not support these activities).

In addition, the EIB Group Paris Alignment framework – Low carbon: Version 1.1 lists which activities the EIB Group does and does not support in the context of alignment with the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.

The Bank also applies sector-specific policies to ensure that its investments contribute to the green transition. With respect to the energy sector, the Bank took a big step forward in 2019 with its EIB energy lending policy: Supporting the energy transformation,[31] which effectively ended new financing for unabated fossil fuel energy projects. In May 2023, the Bank's Board of Directors approved the Mid-term review of the EIB Energy Lending Policy, which confirms that the policy's objectives remain valid in the current energy crisis. As part of the review, the Bank revised the energy lending policy's technical Annex II. This decision reflects the adoption of the taxonomy Climate Delegated Act and further clarifies the lending criteria, two years after the policy was first implemented.

Beyond EIF policies and procedures, mandates implemented by the Fund and backed by EU budgetary resources may require additional eligibility assessments. For example, all EIF-backed transactions under InvestEU must also comply with the exclusions listed in the InvestEU Regulation, and with the sustainability proofing requirements established by the European Commission.

1.4.4.2. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework

The EIB Group Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework includes an overarching EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy, which is complemented for the Bank by 11 Environmental and Social Standards and the Environmental, climate and social due diligence procedures. For the EIF, it is complemented by the EIF's Environmental, Social & Corporate Governance Principles.

The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy aligns Group operations with global sustainability goals and EU policies, seeking to ensure that projects and investments contribute positively to the environment and society. It covers the Group's vision, contribution and operating framework.

It also outlines the framework for implementing the policy at the Bank, with guiding principles for due diligence and monitoring, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the Bank and project promoters.

Public and private promoters are responsible for ensuring that Bank-financed projects are designed, implemented, managed, monitored and reported on in accordance with the relevant legal and policy requirements, which are reflected in the legal documentation signed with the Bank.

The Bank requires promoters to provide for a holistic and proactive approach to the assessment and management of project impacts and risks: They must ensure that environmental, climate and social considerations are integrated into the decision-making process. They must also ensure that the mitigation hierarchy[32] is applied to all impacts and risks identified, where relevant. A meaningful and effective stakeholder engagement process is an integral part of this approach. The Bank requires promoters to ensure that there is no prejudice towards, or discrimination against, project-affected individuals or communities.

The EIB Environmental and Social Standards

> ☑ *The Bank's Environmental and Social Standards define the requirements that the Bank's promoters (that is, the Bank's counterparties implementing a project) must meet when assessing and managing environmental, climate and social impacts and risks in Bank-financed projects. The standards also ask counterparties to identify opportunities to support and promote sustainability objectives.*

31. In October 2025, the EIB Group published a new Energy Sector Orientation, which outlines the strategic direction for the Group's energy-related financing activities under the second phase (2026-2030) of the Climate Bank Roadmap.
32. See footnote 32 of the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

EIB Environmental and Social Standards:

1. *Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks*
2. *Stakeholder Engagement*
3. *Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention*
4. *Biodiversity and Ecosystems*
5. *Climate Change*
6. *Involuntary Resettlement*
7. *Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender*
8. *Labour Rights*
9. *Health, Safety and Security*
10. *Cultural Heritage*
11. *Intermediated Finance*

The EIB environmental, climate and social due diligence procedures

The Bank's Environmental, climate and social due diligence procedures set out how it assesses, manages and monitors the environmental, climate and social impacts and risks throughout the project cycle.

They also clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of the Bank and project promoters in carrying out environmental, climate and social due diligence, as defined in the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

EIF Environmental, Social & Governance Principles

The EIF Environmental, Social & Corporate Governance Principles describe the Fund's key policies and processes on environmental, social, governance and climate matters, including public policy goals and restricted sectors and activities. These principles guide all of the Fund's intermediated lending operations.

For infrastructure equity fund operations, the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards also apply at the transaction level, and the EIF cooperates with Bank services to perform due diligence and monitoring.

Third-party standards and initiatives
The EIB Group Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework, as set out in the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy, is linked to the following third-party standards or initiatives:

- the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- the EU Environment Action Programme;
- relevant EU social policies and the European Pillar of Social Rights;
- EU strategies and policies surrounding cultural heritage;
- the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy and the European Consensus on Development;
- principles of EU environmental law: the precautionary principle, the prevention principle, the principle of rectification of damage at source, the polluter pays principle out of Article 191(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and the broader integration and sustainable development principles enshrined in Article 11 of that treaty;
- the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the fundamental rights and freedoms in the European Convention on Human Rights, and the principles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the EU global human rights sanctions regime;
- the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;
- the International Labour Organization's Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples;
- the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- Minimum social safeguards as defined in the EU Taxonomy Regulation (which refers to the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including the eight fundamental instruments of the International Labour Organization, and the International Bill of Human Rights).

1.4.4.3. Environmental, climate and social due diligence and monitoring

At the Bank

To strengthen environmental and social sustainability, each Bank-financed project is subject to environmental, climate and social due diligence and monitoring in line with the Environmental, social and climate due diligence procedures.

Projects undergo a pre-appraisal and appraisal as part of the decision process on financing. If the project is approved for financing, appraisal results influence how the project's impacts and risks will be managed and monitored throughout the project cycle, and how its positive effects will be maximised.[33]

The real scope of due diligence and monitoring for a given project is proportionate to its nature and scale, and the likely significance of its impact and risks. The depth and focus of our analysis take into account the nature, scale and likely significance of potential environmental, climate and social impacts and risks of operations, as well as the specific characteristics of the financial products used. For example, pre-appraisal may take into account country and contextual risks from the external operating environment, and the promoter's ability and willingness to implement the project in line with the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy. The Bank thus adopts a context-specific, risk-based approach that identifies the appropriate level of due diligence and suitable mitigation measures.[34]

33. For more information, see paragraphs 4.16 to 4.17 of the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.
34. See paragraph 4.10 of the of the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

The promoter is responsible for providing adequate information so that the Bank may carry out its due diligence and monitoring in accordance with the policy.

The Bank summarises the results of its due diligence at the appraisal stage in the project's environmental and social data sheet, published on the Bank's website. Once the project is complete, the Bank publishes an environmental and social completion sheet for it, summarising the Bank's assessment of the environmental and social issues at completion stage. Stakeholders can request additional information from the Bank at any point in a project's life cycle.[35]

Focus on human rights

The Bank's approach to environmental, climate and social due diligence and monitoring is cohesive and human rights-based. Impact and risks are screened and assessed against the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, which in turn are grounded in human rights principles. Guided by the projected likelihood, frequency and severity of human rights impacts, this process is the basis for selecting and prioritising mitigation measures.

As outlined in the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note, during the appraisal phase, the Bank considers findings from impact assessments by the promoter and any independent studies the Bank may have commissioned. On this basis, it may select prevention, mitigation and/or remediation measures. Obligations to act, report and monitor are set out in action plans and the finance contract, as relevant. Based on the assessed impact, the context and the promoter's capacity, the Bank may support the promoter in implementing mitigation measures.[36]

During the monitoring phase, the Bank reviews the monitoring reports, taking a risk-based approach. Where relevant, it carries out monitoring missions and analysis to assess how effectively action plans prevent and mitigate risk and impact. If human rights infringements occur, the Bank's main course of action is to use its leverage and support promoters as they work to address the impact and/or provide remedies.[37]

At the EIF

The EIF's Environmental, Social & Governance Principles describe the Fund's key policies and processes with respect to environmental (including climate), social and governance matters, and guide the EIF's business across all products.

For infrastructure equity fund operations, the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards also apply at the transaction level, and the EIF cooperates with Bank services to perform due diligence and monitoring.

For all other intermediated finance operations, the Fund uses a specific environmental, social and governance (ESG) due diligence questionnaire, in addition to its normal appraisal and due diligence processes. The questionnaire evaluates the financial intermediary's ESG risk profile, its ESG policy and practices, its governance structure, how ESG factors are integrated into its investment decisions, its stewardship role with regard to final beneficiaries of the financing (as applicable), its ESG reporting and disclosures, and the related internal monitoring and control framework it uses.

Following an initial appraisal (first line of defence), the EIF Sustainability, Risk and Compliance team

35. See paragraph 5 of the EIB Group Transparency Policy and Chapter 1.6, "Stakeholder engagement and accountability."
36. See paragraph 4.1.2 (Projects – Contract) of the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note.
37. See Annex C, step 3 of the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note.

(second line of defence) in the Risk Office assesses the responses to the ESG questionnaire. The due diligence process also includes an adverse media screening of counterparties to identify companies potentially associated with an ESG incident. The EIF Sustainability, Risk and Compliance team consolidates its assessment to produce a non-financial risk independent opinion, which shapes the final investment decision.

In relation to monitoring, operational agreements with financial intermediaries include:

- obligations to comply with laws and regulations (covering all relevant national and EU social and environmental legislation);
- an obligation to apply the relevant requirements from the Environmental, Social & Governance Principles to the underlying financing and, in particular, to adhere to sector and activity exclusions and restrictions;
- an obligation to report regularly and comprehensively to the Fund on relevant sustainability information, such as key sustainability performance indicators and alignment with the Fund's climate action and environmental sustainability criteria and policy objectives.

The EIF regularly and systematically monitors ESG and climate risk, and financial intermediaries' compliance with their contractual obligations, in accordance with its standard monitoring procedures and best market practices. Standard contractual documentation with intermediaries therefore includes clear information obligations, together with monitoring, control and audit rights that allow the Fund to verify compliance with the Environmental, Social & Governance Principles and other relevant EIF policies.

The EIF also uses external tools and databases to further strengthen due diligence and monitoring processes. Information from these resources helps refine the assessment of ESG risks at a transaction level and supports ongoing monitoring of individual transactions, as well as the overall ESG impact of the Fund's activities.

In addition to EIF policies and procedures, mandates implemented by the Fund and backed by EU budgetary resources may impose additional eligibility assessments, criteria or reporting requirements. For example, all EIF-backed transactions under InvestEU must also comply with the exclusions listed in the InvestEU Regulation and with the sustainability proofing requirements established by the European Commission.

1.4.4.4. Economic appraisal

Markets do not fully integrate environmental and social costs, such as carbon emissions or local air pollution) and benefits into product prices and investment decisions. The purpose of the Bank's economic appraisal is to assess whether a project's investment costs are justified by its net benefits to society over its operating life. Accounting for externalities is an essential part of this assessment and helps ensure that the Group finances only projects that contribute positively to society.

Economic appraisal goes beyond the financial returns for investors to capture the broader value a project generates. It considers the benefits and costs for end users, taxpayers and third parties, while addressing relevant market failures, including environmental externalities.[38] For instance, greenhouse gas emissions are internalised using the shadow cost of carbon, a calculation of the societal cost of saving or emitting a tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent.[39]

38. For more information, see the Economic Appraisal of Investment Projects at the EIB: 2nd Edition.
39. For more information, see Chapter 3, "Tackling climate change."

1.4.5. Sustainability risk management

Among environmental risk areas, the EIB Group is currently most advanced in integrating climate risk into its frameworks and procedures, in particular reporting and disclosures, credit risk framework and stress testing practices. The Group has also begun to lay the foundations for assessing biodiversity-related risks.

1.4.5.1. Risk identification and management

The EIB Group's climate risk identification and management practices collectively form a climate and environmental credit risk framework, built based on voluntary commitments in line with best banking practice. It includes the tools and procedures used across the EIB Group to identify climate and environmental risk, and the division of responsibilities (especially between the first and second lines of defence), with a particular focus on credit risk. It also contains provisions regarding climate risk data governance and reporting practices.

This climate and environmental credit risk framework works in conjunction with a stand-alone risk appetite framework and the risk identification document, which include climate and environmental risk indicators and assessments.

Chapter 3.3, "Climate change actions and implementing frameworks" provides more information about climate-related risk management at the EIB Group. For a detailed presentation of the Group's approach to climate, environmental, social and governance risks, see section 13 of the December 2024 European Investment Bank Group Risk Management Disclosure Report.

1.4.5.2. Resilience of our business model

The EIB Group applies a comprehensive capital planning and management process to ensure that its operations remain consistent with its risk appetite on a current and a forward-looking basis. The Bank uses various metrics, including regulatory capital, to assess the adequacy of its capital base and to determine the capital available for new business. As part of its annual operational plan, it prepares projections of key risk metrics to ensure that the proposed business plan remains sustainable from a capital perspective.

In 2020, the Group began assessing its resilience to climate-related impacts by carrying out sensitivity analyses based on the results of a proprietary climate risk screening tool. Since 2025, it has also performed scenario-based climate risk stress tests to assess the implications for its capital position within the framework of its internal capital adequacy assessment process. Although the Group is not subject to external banking supervision, it aims to apply best banking practices including relevant regulatory requirements related to environmental, social and governance risks, where appropriate.

1.5. THE EIB GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABILITY

1.5.1. Additionality and the Additionality and Impact Measurement framework

As the European Union's bank, the European Investment Bank is charged with implementing public policy. It therefore verifies that all operations meet its requirements of additionality and impact, and are eligible for its support. Measuring these dimensions ensures that the Bank's participation strengthens each project from a public welfare perspective – notably by mitigating market failures.

The Additionality and Impact Measurement framework is used for preliminary appraisal and pre-appraisal, and for the monitoring assessment of all the Bank's operations. The framework takes into account the differences between projects in the European Union and those beyond it. It has three pillars:

- Pillar 1: Why is the Bank's intervention needed? The Bank's operations should address sub-optimal investment situations resulting from market failures.
- Pillar 2: What effect will the project have in addressing the identified market failures and development objectives? The Bank's support should influence the investment activity undertaken (in terms of scale, scope, structure, quality and/or time) to alleviate the sub-optimal investment situation.
- Pillar 3: How does the Bank facilitate projects through financial or non-financial support, complementing market sources? The Bank's support should complement what is available from other sources of financing.

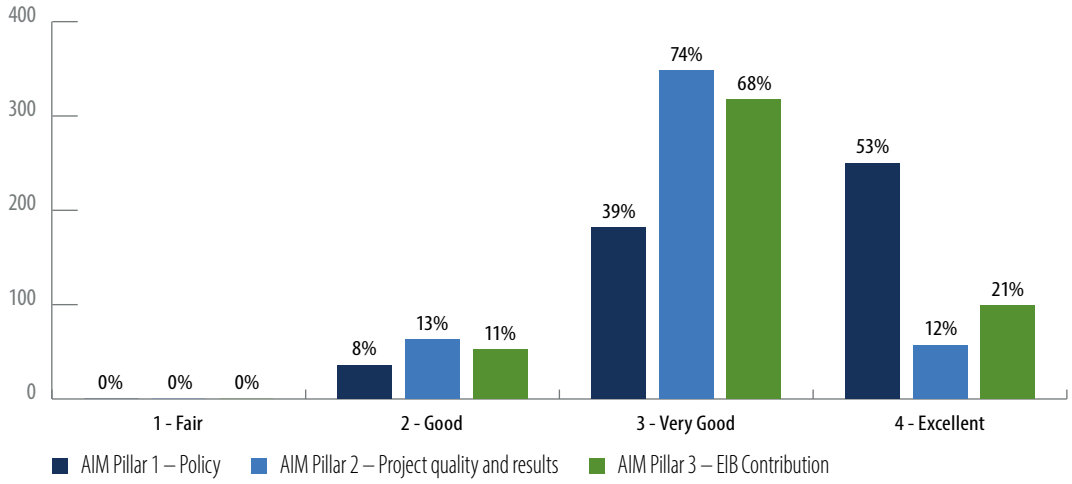
Under the Additionality and Impact Measurement framework, an additionality and impact statement is published at the time of first signature for each project. This statement explains the project's contribution in terms of the three pillars, and presents in succinct and accessible language the logic underpinning the Bank's decision to finance. Specific indicators provide detailed information on a wide range of projected outputs and outcomes.

This framework is a key tool for ensuring effective project development. It underpins the Bank's managing-for-results approach, which covers the phases of steering, designing, implementing, reporting and learning. As part of due diligence, all three pillars are rated to assess the operation's value added, for example on a scale from fair to excellent. These ratings form a key part of the decision-making process.

The results indicators identified at appraisal form the basis for project monitoring throughout the project cycle. At appraisal, the Bank estimates the results a project is expected to deliver. During implementation, these indicators are tracked to assess what is actually achieved. Monitoring results in this way helps capture lessons that can be fed back into project implementation. Additional lessons are drawn from independent evaluations.

In 2025, the portfolio of 468 approved operations had the rating distribution shown in figure 11.

Figure 11: 2025 RESULTS BY ADDITIONALITY AND IMPACT MEASUREMENT (AIM) PILLAR



Source: EIB Group

The EIF's additionality stems from its role as a policy-driven institution that delivers targeted financial solutions to address market failures.[40] By closing structural financing gaps, building investment systems and crowding in private capital, the Fund enables investment and entrepreneurship that would not occur to the same extent without public support.

1.5.2. Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) guide international efforts to end world poverty, protect the planet and ensure that everyone enjoys peace and prosperity. The EIB Group plays an important role in implementing the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contributing to sustainable growth. It has been committed to advancing the goals since their adoption and has reported on how its investments contribute to the SDGs since 2016.

All EIB Group operations support one or more of the SDGs, with a particular focus on goals related to economic growth, innovation and infrastructure, and climate action.[41]

At project level, the Bank maps results indicators to specific SDGs. It encourages promoters to identify ways to increase the positive impact of their operations by providing advice and technical support, conducting studies and publishing guidance.

Table 17: PROJECTS SIGNED BY THE BANK IN 2025 THAT CONTRIBUTE TO SDGS

Selected project indicator	Value	SDG
People with access to improved health services	18.4 million	3
Students enrolled in new or refurbished education facilities	399 500	4
People benefiting from safer drinking water and improved sanitation	32.1 million	6 and 11
Electricity generation capacity from renewable energy sources (MW)	19 440	7 and 9

40. For more information, see Chapter 1.4.2.1, "The primary public policy goals" and Chapter 1.6, "Stakeholder engagement and accountability."
41. For a detailed analysis of the EIB Group's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in 2024, please refer to the EIB website.

Selected project indicator	Value	SDG
Households that can be powered by renewable energy	17 million	7 and 9
Number of smart energy meters installed	3.3 million	7 and 9
Power lines installed or upgraded (km)	56 600	7 and 9
New jobs created by 2029	1.5 million	8
Impact on EU GDP by 2029	1.1%	8
Population with improved urban/regional infrastructure	6.4 million	9
Additional annual public transport passenger trips	297.4 million	9 and 11
People facing reduced flooding risk	6.9 million	9 and 11
New affordable or renovated homes	54 600	10 and 11
People with reduced exposure to drought risk	18.5 million	15
Afforestation and forest restoration (ha)	215 900	15
Submarine or terrestrial fibre optic backbone cable installed (km)	9 250	17

The EIF works with financial intermediaries to promote access to finance for small businesses and entrepreneurs, in line with EU priorities. This is why the EIF's SDG reporting is based on the amount of financing made available to these intermediaries.

Each investment's contribution to the SDGs is determined by how it aligns with the EIF's public policy goals.

1.6. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

As the European Union's financing arm, the EIB Group has a responsibility to be open and transparent about how it implements EU policies. This transparency strengthens the Group's credibility and accountability to the public and increases its efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. It reinforces the Group's zero-tolerance approach to fraud and corruption, promotes accountability and good governance and ensures adherence to environmental and social standards linked to financed projects.

1.6.1. EIB Group stakeholders

The EIB Group Transparency Policy and the EIF Transparency Policy govern the Group's engagement with its stakeholders (listed below). The policies are applied in conjunction with other EIB Group policies and rules, such as the Anti-Fraud Policy, the Whistleblowing Policy (detailed in Chapter 12, "Driving responsible business conduct"), the Complaints Mechanism Policy and relevant codes of conduct applicable to staff and governing bodies.

The EIB Group Transparency Policy's Guiding Principles (section 2) apply to the Group as a whole, while the subsequent parts apply to the Bank only. The EIF has established its own implementation framework, which considers the Fund's specific business and governance context.

The EIB Group engages with a broad range of stakeholders:

- academia and research institutions;
- associations, foundations and think tanks;
- civil society and other non-governmental organisations, including trade unions;
- clients, investors, commercial banks and funds;
- environmental, social and governance (ESG) analysts, financial analysts and rating agencies;
- EU institutions and bodies;
- the media;
- multilateral development banks and other international financial institutions;
- national promotional banks;
- project promoters and other financial beneficiaries;
- the public (including local communities);
- EIB Group staff.

Transparency and engagement is a shared responsibility. Within the Bank, the Transparency and Civil Society Unit in the Sustainability Division coordinates the Transparency Policy's implementation and ensures the consistency and quality of the communication between the Bank and its stakeholders. The team is responsible for engaging with civil society organisations (for example NGOs, think tanks, professional associations and other socioeconomic and labour organisations) and replying to queries from a wider range of stakeholders about the Bank's policies and strategies though the EIB Infodesk.

The Sustainability Risk and Compliance Unit, part of the EIF's Risk Management Department, implements the EIF Transparency Policy and coordinates replies to external inquiries. The unit also contributes to the annual report on the implementation of the EIB Group Transparency Policy.

1.6.2. Publication and disclosure of information

To support and promote transparency, the EIB Group is committed to regularly publishing accurate and timely information about its role, policies and operations, including:

- institutional information
- policies and strategies
- project-related information
- procurement information and tender notices
- accountability, risk management and governance-related information
- evaluation reports
- environmental, sustainability and climate-related information

The main channel for disseminating this information is the EIB website (www.eib.org) and the EIF website (www.eif.org). The EIB Group also provides information through print publications, documents, social media, press releases, conferences, seminars and other means.

1.6.2.1. The public register

In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 (the Aarhus Regulation), the Bank created its public register in January 2014. The public register provides access to environmental information in accordance with the regulation and is updated on a continuous basis.

The public register currently contains the Bank's key project-related environmental, climate and social documents, as well as selected environmental policy documents, including:

- Environmental and social data sheets, which reflect the Bank's environmental and social due diligence for projects and form part of the documentation submitted to the governing bodies for project approval. These data sheets are published in the public register after approval and are available for projects approved since 2012.
- Draft environmental and social data sheets for high-risk[42] investment loans beyond the European Union, published before the Bank's governing bodies adopt a decision on the relevant financing.
- Environmental and social completion sheets, which reflect the Bank's assessment of environmental and social aspects at project completion and are published in the register once the Bank's investment is completed.
- Environmental and social documentation, where applicable, including environmental impact assessment reports for projects within the European Union and environmental and social impact assessment reports for projects beyond the European Union.
- Social documentation, such as resettlement action plans, stakeholder engagement plans, livelihood and restoration/compensation plans, resettlement policy frameworks and indigenous peoples development plans, published when applicable and once they become available to the Bank.
- Key environmental policy documents, reports and guidelines, including the EIB Environmental and Social Standards, and carbon footprint reports.
- Climate action data, published once a year in a clear and explorable format.

> *☑ The greenhouse gas footprints of projects included in the carbon footprint exercise are reported in environmental and social data sheets, and published in our public register of environmental information, in compliance with the Aarhus Regulation.*

42. As defined in paragraph 4.18 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

The EIF introduced its public register in 2024. The register currently includes the environmental and social data sheet for infrastructure and climate funds, environmental and climate reports, policies, guidelines and publications.

1.6.2.2. Evaluations

The Evaluation function conducts and publishes independent evaluations of the EIB Group's activities.[43]

- It assesses the relevance and performance of the EIB Group's activities.
- Its evaluations draw lessons and issue recommendations to help the EIB Group improve performance and achieve greater impact.
- It promotes accountability towards the EIB Group's stakeholders and provides independent and credible evidence to inform decision-making.

The Evaluation function operates independently from the EIB Group's operations. Its reports are submitted to the boards of directors of the Bank and the EIF after discussion by the Bank's Management Committee and/or the EIF chief executive. The evaluation reports are published on the Bank's website.

1.6.2.3. Disclosure of information upon request

Both the EIB Group Transparency Policy and EIF Transparency Policy are based on the principle of openness and presumption of disclosure. Therefore, all documents held by the Bank and the Fund are, in principle, accessible to anyone in a timely manner.[44]

At the same time, the EIB Group has to protect legitimate interests that may be harmed if sensitive information is disclosed. As a financial institution, the EIB Group must maintain the confidence and trust of its clients and project partners. The transparency policies of the EIB and the EIF list the exceptions under which they may refuse to disclose certain information, such as personal data, commercially sensitive information, or information relating to ongoing investigations.

There are two main channels for requesting information from the Bank:

- Public enquiries about the Bank's financing facilities, activity, organisation and objectives should be addressed to the Infodesk.
- Information requests from civil society and other organised stakeholders are handled by the Transparency and Civil Society Unit.

Enquiries to the EIF can be made through the dedicated request form on the Fund's website.

1.6.3. Stakeholder engagement and public consultations

The EIB Group engages with its stakeholders in line with recognised best practices. The aim is to increase mutual understanding, address concerns and adjust activities where needed. This approach helps narrow gaps between expectations, policies and practice, and improves the coherence, transparency and accountability of the Group's policies and operations.

43. More information is available in Chapter 1, "General information" and on the Bank's website.
44. Read more about the implementation of the EIB Group Transparency Policy in 2023 and the EIF Transparency Policy, updated in 2024.

1.6.3.1. Seminar between the EIB Board of Directors and civil society organisations

Each year, the Bank organises a one-day seminar bringing together the EIB Board of Directors and civil society organisations. The seminar provides representatives of civil society an opportunity to engage directly with the Bank's senior management and governing bodies and to raise questions in person.

In 2025, the seminar took place on 21 October and focused on the theme, Beyond borders – the EIB's role in a changing world. More than 70 participants attended, representing civil society organisations, think tanks and foundations from around the world.

During the discussions, civil society organisations raised key issues with board members and discussed how the Bank can build resilient partnerships for sustainable development, support Europe's strategic autonomy and strengthen the resilience of societies in the context of conflict.

1.6.3.2. Public consultation and stakeholder engagement on selected policies and lending orientations

The Bank occasionally organises formal public consultations and stakeholder engagements on key corporate and sectoral policies of interest to wider stakeholder communities. These consultations aim to:

- draw on the expertise of individuals and organisations and gather valuable input for policy development;
- strengthen the Bank's transparency and accountability.

All public consultations are announced on the Bank's website, with a dedicated web page for each one.

While each consultation is tailored to the specific policy or topic, all follow a common set of principles:

- At least one public consultation meeting is held during the consultation process to enable direct dialogue between the Bank's staff and interested stakeholders.
- All contributions received during the public consultation period (generally eight to 12 weeks) are published on the dedicated web page.
- The Bank's response to each contribution (approved by the Bank's management) is submitted to the Bank's governing bodies with a final draft policy and a draft consultation report.
- These documents are consolidated in a public consultation report.

Once the consultation closes, the draft policy and public consultation report are published on the dedicated public consultation web page at least 15 working days before approval by the relevant Bank governing body. Following approval, the final policy is published on the Bank's website.

No public consultations were needed or conducted in 2025.

In the same year, the EIB Group invited stakeholders to a dedicated engagement on the second phase of the Climate Bank Roadmap and the accompanying Energy Sector Orientation. These two strategic documents will guide the Group's climate and environmental ambition and actions, including in the energy sector, for the period 2026-2030. Several in-person and online engagement sessions were organised to inform the further development and finalisation of both documents.

1.6.3.3. Engagement at the project level[45]

Meaningful stakeholder engagement is a cornerstone of sustainable and inclusive development and the foundation for respecting the rights of individuals and communities. Engagement with stakeholders is encouraged at every stage of a project cycle.

Figure 12: TRANSPARENCY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT CYCLE



Source: EIB Group

The Bank's Environmental and Social Standards promote an inclusive and systemic approach to disseminating information and engaging with local stakeholders for projects, all of which is the responsibility of promoters and/or borrowers.

The Bank has developed a guidance note to provide recommendations to promoters on how to meet the Bank's requirements for stakeholder engagement. The note includes good practices to help promoters maximise the benefits of a project. It is also intended for people, communities, civil society organisations, government agencies and other parties affected by a project or interested in Bank-supported projects.

1.6.3.4. Engagement on topics of common interest

The Bank engages with civil society organisations through shared initiatives, partnerships and sponsorship on issues linked to its strategic priorities.

It works with civil society organisations on specific topics such as ecosystem restoration and protection, nature-based solutions for climate adaptation and a sustainable bioeconomy. Civil society organisations bring valuable local expertise and strong links with stakeholders on the ground. This helps build skills and local ownership and supports the early integration of biodiversity and nature-based solutions in the project cycle.

45. Please also refer to Chapter 9, "Supporting communities."

In July 2025, for example, the Bank and The Nature Conservancy organised a roundtable at the Bank's Brussels office on closing the nature investment gap and the role of nature credits in mobilising private investment for nature restoration. The event gathered civil society, EU institutions, corporates, industry associations, landowners, bilateral development banks, insurance and financial institutions, nature restoration platforms and representatives from EU Member States. Discussions focused on how to build a high-integrity market for nature credits. The roundtable coincided with the European Commission's introduction of its Nature Credits Roadmap, which sets out a strategy to establish a credible and functional system of nature credits in the European Union.

Also in 2025, the EIB partnered with the Nature-Based Infrastructure Global Resource Centre of the International Institute for Sustainable Development to develop a step-by-step guide for public authorities. The guide helps planners, policymakers and financing institutions assess the full economic, social and environmental value of nature-based solutions and make smarter infrastructure choices. The International Institute for Sustainable Development presented the guide at the EIB and European Commission Adaptation Days in Nice, France, on 5 June 2025, during a session on climate adaptation planning with the Global Green Growth Institute and the Bank.

In support of the sustainable bioeconomy, the Bank also worked with Finance Earth and the Earthworm Foundation on a report and workshop entitled Scaling the adoption of climate resilient agriculture in the EU: demonstrating the business and investment case. The workshop, hosted by the Bank's Paris office in November 2025, brought together key representatives from the agrifood value chain and finance sector in France. It aimed to strengthen understanding of how financial institutions can work with companies, cooperatives, supply chain participants and civil society to scale up regenerative agriculture as a viable investment opportunity.

1.6.3.5. Other engagement with key stakeholders

Guided by EU policy priorities, including commitments under the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the EIB Group supports sustainable growth within the European Union and beyond. The Group works with a wide range of key stakeholders to address global challenges, contributes to relevant associations and adheres to economic, environmental and social charters, principles and initiatives.

In 2025, the Bank further strengthened its partnership with the UN system by combining financing, technical assistance and high-level engagement in support of the Sustainable Development Goals, climate resilience and multilateral cooperation.

Key milestones included a €10 million initiative with the World Health Organization in Lebanon, the extension of the Bank's €1 billion liquidity facility for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, a new memorandum of understanding with the World Food Programme, and a template agreement enabling direct financing of World Food Programme technical assistance. The Bank also renewed its memorandum of understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organization until 2030 and provided €1.4 million in technical assistance for sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture projects in sub-Saharan Africa.

In Ukraine, the Bank expanded its cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme through two new agreements mobilising more than €9 million in EU support for the Ukraine Advisory Programme. This support helped deliver EIB-financed recovery and district heating investments across more than 150 municipalities.

The Bank also maintained an active presence in UN-led international forums, including the UN General Assembly and COP30, highlighting its role in advancing global partnerships on recovery, climate, biodiversity, energy and water.

Through these actions, the EIB Group continued to reinforce its cooperation with the UN system to advance the Sustainable Development Goals beyond Europe.

In parallel, the Group deepened its collaboration with other multilateral development banks, building on complementary strengths and promoting joint approaches to global challenges. This included contributions to joint analytical work, such as the report Social Infrastructure in Focus: The Role of Multilateral Development Banks, which highlights the importance of investment in health, education, housing and water for resilient and inclusive growth.

The Group supported the introduction of the first joint multilateral development bank Water Security Financing Report and contributed to collective commitments announced at COP30 to strengthen support for climate resilience, livelihoods and job creation. Cooperation among multilateral development banks also advanced work on nature financing, including the development of common principles and guidance to improve tracking, impact measurement and mobilisation of private capital.

In addition, the EIB Group led joint multilateral development bank climate finance reporting and contributed to joint initiatives showcasing innovative approaches to strengthening resilience and scaling up positive impacts for people and the planet.

Table 18: MAIN INTERNATIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL INITIATIVES

PLATFORM ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE	The EIB and the EIF are appointed members of the Platform on Sustainable Finance, an advisory body that provides recommendations to the European Commission on the implementation and usability of the EU taxonomy and the sustainable finance framework more broadly.
	Since 2019, the EIB has been an observer of the International Platform on Sustainable Finance, a forum for dialogue between policymakers, with the overall aim of increasing the amount of private capital being invested in environmentally sustainable initiatives.
EFRAG European Financial Reporting Advisory Group	The European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) is the association in charge of setting the European Sustainability Reporting Standards required under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive. The Bank is an observer of EFRAG's Sustainability Reporting Board and its Technical Expert Group.
NGFS Central Banks and Supervisors Network for Greening the Financial System	The EIB is an observer of the Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS), a network of central banks and financial supervisors that aims to accelerate the scaling up of green finance. The Bank is represented in the NGFS Plenary and its different working groups, which develop recommendations and guidance for environmental and climate risk management in the financial sector, regularly update the NGFS climate scenarios and mobilise mainstream finance to support the transition towards a sustainable economy.
PRI Principles for Responsible Investment	Since October 2020, the EIF has been a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), a United Nations-supported network.
CDP	Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) is a non-profit organisation that promotes and collects the disclosure of environmental impact (climate, deforestation and water) of companies, cities, regions and states. The EIB Group has been a signatory of the CDP since 2021.
EMAS	Since 2018, the EIB Group has implemented an environmental management system in accordance with the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), a voluntary environmental management instrument developed by the European Commission for organisations to evaluate, report on and improve their environmental performance.

1.6.4. Mechanisms to address complaints and grievances

The EIB Group Complaints Mechanism Division implements the Complaints Mechanism Policy and procedures, in cooperation with other EIB Group departments and with the European Ombudsman.[46]

46. Read more about the Complaints Mechanism's process and activities in Chapter 1.6.4.2., "The EIB Group Complaints Mechanism process and activities."

1.6.4.1. Complementary levels of accountability

There are three types of grievance mechanisms available related to EIB Group projects and activities:

- promoters' grievance mechanisms
- the EIB Group Complaints Mechanism
- the European Ombudsman

Promoters' grievance mechanism at project level

The Bank requires the promoters of projects it finances to establish effective grievance mechanisms early in the project cycle. These mechanisms are designed to address concerns and grievances for individual projects.

The mechanisms must enable prompt and effective complaints resolution, and be free from intimidation or reprisals. They should be gender-responsive and accessible to all, including vulnerable or marginalised groups. Anonymity and privacy must be guaranteed, and information about the grievance process must be publicly available in all relevant languages and through the appropriate channels. The grievance process must be clearly defined, with step-by-step procedures, indicative time frames, expected outcomes, monitoring indicators and reporting obligations.

Promoters can use existing formal or informal grievance systems, provided that they are appropriately designed and implemented for the project's context. If necessary, the Bank may require additional project-specific arrangements.

The Bank may support promoters in providing remedies, especially when contextual factors or limited capacity hinder effective redress. This support can include technical assistance, capacity building, dispute resolution or negotiations with affected rights-holders. If breaches of the Bank's standards are identified during the monitoring phase – such as instances of child or forced labour – the Bank can apply leverage and support the promoters in their efforts to address and remedy the issues as needed.[47]

EIB Group Complaints Mechanism

The EIB Group is committed to transparency, accountability and the continuous improvement of its own policies, processes and practices. Alongside the Evaluation Division, Internal Audit and other divisions, the Complaints Mechanism plays a crucial role in this process.

The Complaints Mechanism operates as a non-judicial, solution-driven service, based on the principles of independence and transparency. It has four functions:

- investigating complaints against the EIB Group;
- facilitating dispute resolution processes between complainant(s) and project promoter(s), with the participation of national authorities and/or the relevant EIB Group divisions wherever appropriate;
- advising senior management on issues directly or indirectly linked to cases handled, based on potential areas for improvement detected in the complaints handling process;
- monitoring the implementation of agreed corrective actions and recommendations for closed complaints, including agreements reached through dispute resolution.

European Ombudsman

The EIB Group cooperates with the European Ombudsman, an independent EU body which handles complaints about maladministration by EIB Group entities. Any member of the public can access the

47. See Annex C, Step 3 of the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: information note.

two-tier procedure available: the EIB Group's Complaints Mechanism as an initial step and the European Ombudsman as a further possible step.

This ensures an extra level of independence and accountability, a unique feature among independent accountability mechanisms of international financial institutions.

Jurisdiction

Disputes involving the Group and its entities are not automatically excluded from the jurisdiction of national courts, contrary to other international financial institutions. Disputes between the Bank and its creditors, debtors or any other parties are generally decided by the competent national courts. The Court of Justice of the European Union handles disputes between the Bank and Member States and, when necessary, assesses the legality of decisions made by the Board of Governors and the Board of Directors.

1.6.4.2. The EIB Group Complaints Mechanism process and activities

The EIB Group Complaints Mechanism facilitates and handles complaints from individuals, organisations, local authorities or corporations against EIB Group activities.

Complainants do not need to be directly affected by the EIB Group's decision, action or omission, and are not required to identify the specific policy, procedure or standard that may have been breached.

Upon receiving a complaint about the environmental and social impact of Bank-financed operations, the EIB Group Complaints Mechanism follows five possible steps:

- a decision about the admissibility of a complaint;
- an initial assessment of the allegations;
- a decision on whether further assessment is needed, and the best way to handle the complaint (compliance review or dispute resolution process);
- if necessary, a compliance review or dispute resolution process;
- a conclusions/dispute resolution report.

Cases concerning allegations of negative environmental or social effects or about the governance of EIB Group-financed operations undergo an extended review, which entails a longer response time frame.

Complaints are not confidential unless the complainant asks for confidentiality. The Complaints Mechanism may decide to treat grievances in a confidential manner even if there is no such request from complainants in cases where there is a risk of retaliation. Complaints Mechanism reports on specific non-confidential complaints are publicly available. In line with the applicable rules, the EIB Group Complaints Mechanism reports do not contain personal data of the complainants and/or other subjects concerned by the case.

☑ In 2025, 61 complaints relating to EIB Group-financed operations and/or administration were registered, compared with 69 in 2024:

- 49 complaints were submitted directly to the Complaints Mechanism, which declared 21 of them admissible (in 2024, 63 complaints were submitted, including 39 declared admissible);
- 12 complaints were filed with the European Ombudsman, who declared 11 of them admissible (in 2024, six complaints were submitted, all of which were admissible).

Table 19: TOTAL NUMBER OF INCOMING COMPLAINTS

Incoming complaints	2023	2024	2025
Total complaints registered	60	69	61
Complaints submitted directly to the Complaints Mechanism	54	63	49
Inadmissible	10	24	28
Admissible	44	39	21
Complaints brought before other institutions			
European Ombudsman	6	6	12
Inadmissible	1	0	1
Admissible	5	6	11

Table 20: TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS HANDLED

Complaints	2023	2024	2025
Registered	60	69	61
Closed	60	80	62
Open at the end of the year	44	33	32
Complaints handled	104	113	94

Table 21: ADMISSIBLE COMPLAINTS, BY TYPE (EXCLUDING THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN)

Complaints	2023	2024	2025
Access to information	2	3	1
Environmental/social/developmental impacts	27	30	17
Governance of financed projects	1	0	0
Own governance and administration	7	2	3
Human resources	7	4	0
Total	44	39	21

As in previous years, complaints concerning the environmental and social impact of EIB Group-financed projects represent the largest proportion of admissible complaints.

Complaints Mechanism reporting

Under the current policy and procedures, the Complaints Mechanism reports regularly on its activities. It provides quarterly updates to the Bank's Management Committee, the chair of the Audit Committee and the Fund's chief executive, and reports semi-annually to the boards of directors of the Bank and the Fund. In addition, it submits an annual report to the Management Committee, the EIF chief executive and the boards of directors. This report includes decisions taken following recommendations by the Complaints Mechanism or by external non-judicial review bodies, such as the European Ombudsman.

The Complaints Mechanism also carries out regular outreach activities to raise awareness about its work. These include workshops and an annual meeting with civil society organisations.

The current Complaints Mechanism Policy and procedures were adopted in November 2018. In 2025, the Group began a review process of the policy and procedures following an in-depth assessment by an independent panel of experts.

Building on the panel's recommendations, the Complaints Mechanism drafted a revised policy, also incorporating feedback from relevant EIB Group services as well as initial exchanges with civil society organisations and other stakeholders. The revised policy aims to strengthen the handling of project-related concerns by placing greater emphasis on facilitating remedy for potential or actual negative impacts linked to Group-financed projects. It also seeks to clarify and streamline the complaints handling process, improve access to remedy for affected people and ensure closer alignment with international standards on accountability and transparency.

In 2026, the Complaints Mechanism plans to conduct a broad consultation with civil society organisations and other external stakeholders before finalising the revised policy and submitting it to the Group's governing bodies for approval.



PART IV

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

2. SUPPORTING THE GREEN TRANSITION 83

2.1. Group green finance 86

2.2. Financing climate action and environmental sustainability 87

2.2.1. Green financing by the Bank 87

2.2.2. Green financing by the EIF 88

2.3. Investments supported in the critical decade 89

2.4. Supporting the EU taxonomy 90

2.5. EIB Advisory support for the green transition 91

2.5.1. EIB Advisory services in the European Union 91

2.5.2. Advisory services beyond the European Union 93

3. TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE 97

3.1. EIB Group approach to transition 102

3.1.1. Key actions and decarbonisation levers 102

3.1.2. Progress since 2021 103

3.1.3. Forward path 104

3.2. Policies related to climate change mitigation and adaptation 104

3.2.1. Climate policy at the EIB Group 104

3.2.2. Sector-specific policies and orientations 105

3.2.3. EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy and Environmental and Social Standards – Standard 5 105

3.3. Climate change actions and implementing frameworks 106

3.3.1. Background 106

3.3.2. Accelerating the green transition 106

3.3.3. Managing climate risks and Paris alignment 107

3.3.4. Accelerating the transition through climate finance 117

3.4. Carbon footprint of the Bank's financing 2023-2025 118

3.4.1. 2025 carbon footprint of signed projects 118

3.4.2. Estimating greenhouse gas emissions across our portfolio 119

3.5. Climate goals and actions in the EIB Group's own corporate operations and upstream activities 120

3.5.1. EIB Group environmental policy and climate commitments 120

3.5.2. Actions addressing climate change in daily operations 121

4. FIGHTING POLLUTION 125

4.1. Policies related to pollution 129

4.2. Actions and resources related to pollution 131

4.2.1. Financing 131

4.2.2. Due diligence and monitoring 132

5. PRESERVING WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES 135
5.1. Water and marine resource policies 140
5.1.1. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy 140
5.1.2. The EIB Environment Framework 140
5.1.3. EIB water sector orientation 141
5.1.4. European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria 142
5.2. Actions related to water and marine resources 143
5.2.1. Due diligence and monitoring 143
5.2.2. Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles 143
5.2.3. Clean Oceans Initiative 144
5.2.4. EIF financing 144
5.2.5. Examples of Bank projects that support water and marine resources 145
5.3. Water and marine resource investment 145

6. PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS 147
6.1. Policies related to biodiversity and ecosystems 152
6.1.1. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy 152
6.1.2. The EIB Environment Framework 152
6.1.3. EIB Environmental and Social Standards 153
6.1.4. Specific biodiversity policies 153
6.2. Actions to support biodiversity and ecosystems 156
6.2.1. Due diligence and monitoring 156
6.2.2. Financing 157
6.2.3. Collective initiatives and partnerships 159
6.3. Biodiversity and ecosystems metrics 160

7. FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY 163
7.1. Policies related to resource use and the circular economy 168
7.1.1. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention 168
7.1.2. Sustainable materials sourcing and renewable resources 168
7.1.3. Waste hierarchy 169
7.1.4. Waste treatment strategy 170
7.2. Actions related to resource use and the circular economy 170
7.2.1. Financing 170
7.2.2. Advisory support 171
7.2.3. Awareness raising 172
7.2.4. Collective initiatives and partnerships 172



2.
SUPPORTING THE GREEN TRANSITION



Key messages

Addressing climate and environmental challenges is at the heart of the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group's activities and its contribution to the wider green transition. Through its direct and indirect investments and its advisory services, the Group supports projects that have a positive environmental impact in the European Union and worldwide.

Group green finance

The EIB Group has set ambitious financing targets for green finance:

- increasing the share of the Bank's annual financing allocated to green finance to more than 50% by 2025 and beyond;[48]
- supporting €1 trillion of green investment at Group level from 2021 to 2030.

In 2025, the Group committed €57 billion of green finance – which represents about 57% of total investment – to support the green transition.

The Bank committed €50.4 billion from its own resources to green finance, accounting for 61% of its annual financing.[49] The Fund committed €5.6 billion to green finance, representing 35% of its financing volume in 2025.

48. The Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030, published in October 2025, extends the target of more than 50% green finance to cover financing at Group level.
49. The Bank's financing from its own resources excludes investments supported by external resources, such as mandates and partnerships.



Investment supported

In 2025, the EIB Group is estimated to have supported approximately €189 billion in green investment. This brings the total for 2021-2025 to approximately €740 billion, keeping the Group on track to achieve its €1 trillion target by 2030.

Beyond finance: EIB Advisory

The Group also provides advisory services that support projects throughout their life cycle and beyond. These services help create favourable conditions for green finance, support the shift to a low-carbon economy and turn project ideas into reality. EIB Advisory offers project support, market development and capacity building, working with international institutions, governments, public authorities, financial intermediaries, private firms and small businesses to advance the green transition.

2.1. GROUP GREEN FINANCE

Providing support to the green transition is at the heart of the EIB Group's work. The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 laid out how the Bank would meet its target to allocate at least 50% of its annual financing to green finance by 2025. By the end of that year, the Bank had met this commitment, with 61% of its annual financing from its own resources supporting green finance.

This target directly supports the green transition.

However, the Group's own financing alone is not sufficient. To meet its goal of supporting €1 trillion of green investment during the critical decade to 2030, the EIB Group must use its resources to support additional funding from private and public investors.

The term "Group green finance" replaces the term "climate action and environmental sustainability" which has been used in previous reports. This is in line with new terminology presented in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030. To track Group green finance, the EIB Group has developed a framework that defines the activities considered to contribute to climate and environmental objectives. This framework is set out in the European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria[50] and the Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations. It covers activities that address the six climate and environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation: climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, the transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention and control, and the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

The Group green finance framework is based on the EU taxonomy criteria for substantial contribution. It also follows the Joint methodology for tracking climate change adaptation finance and the Common Principles for Climate Mitigation Finance Tracking used by multilateral development banks and the International Development Finance Club. For activities substantially contributing to non-climate objectives but which fall outside the scope of the EU taxonomy Environmental Delegated Act, the Group applies internal definitions developed in line with the principles of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

As part of its climate action activities, the EIB Group invests in projects and technologies that reduce, avoid or absorb greenhouse gas emissions. It also supports solutions that enable these activities and are essential for their operation.

The Group also supports climate change adaptation projects, as well as technologies and solutions that help public and private sector organisations adapt to the current and future effects of climate change. In support of the EU Adaptation Strategy, the Bank published the EIB Climate Adaptation Plan in October 2021.[51]

Environmental sustainability covers investments that make a substantial contribution to one of the four non-climate related objectives set out in the EU Taxonomy Regulation: the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, the transition to a circular economy, pollution prevention and control, and the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. Some investments can have dual benefits by contributing to both climate action and environmental sustainability.

Pollution prevention and control is the environmental sustainability objective that most often delivers dual benefits with climate action. For example, electrified transport projects support both climate change mitigation and pollution prevention by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.

50. In April 2026, the EIB Group published an updated version: EIBG Green Finance Definitions, version 3.0. The previous version applies for 2025.
51. As set out in Phase 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap, the Group plans to publish a revised Climate Adaptation Plan in 2026.

Although these projects are not directly tracked against the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), investments that support the EIB Group's climate action and environmental sustainability objectives also contribute towards the goals. The strongest links are with SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, and SDG 13 on climate action.

2.2. FINANCING CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

2.2.1. Green financing by the Bank

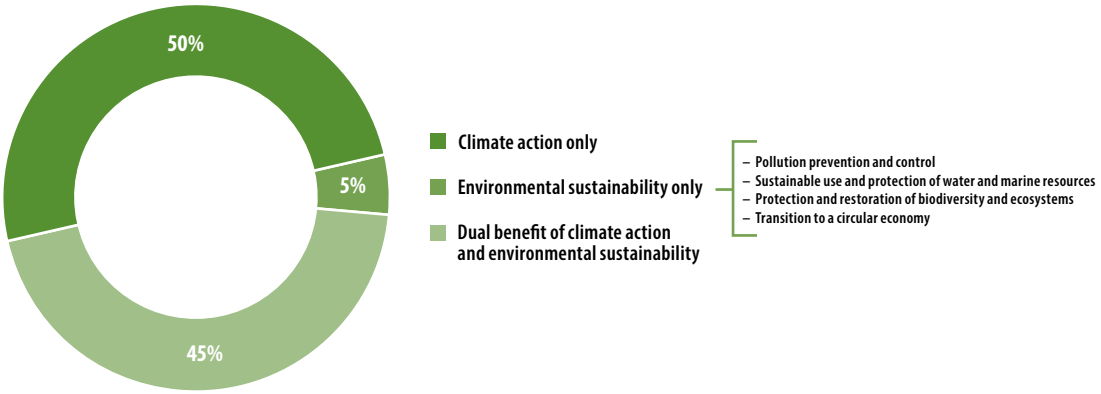
☑ In 2025, the Bank committed €50.4 billion of its own resources to green finance (€44.8 billion in 2024), which represents 61% of the Bank's own resources for 2025. Out of this figure, €22.6 billion supported the dual objectives of climate action and environmental sustainability. The Bank has met its commitment of increasing the share of its annual financing dedicated to green finance to more than 50% by 2025.

In 2025, the Bank committed €43 billion to climate change mitigation, accounting for 85% of total EIB green finance. Financing for climate mitigation increased compared to 2024 (€38.1 billion), with notable growth in key areas. Investment in energy efficiency rose to €8.3 billion in 2025, up from €7.3 billion in 2024, while support for lower-carbon transport reached €9.8 billion, compared with €8.2 billion in 2024.

Demand for climate adaptation finance also continued to grow. In 2025, the Bank committed a record €5 billion to adaptation investments, representing 10.5% of climate action lending at the end of the year. This marks a 12% increase compared with 2024 and is nearly four times the volume recorded in 2021 when the EIB Climate Adaptation Plan was initiated.

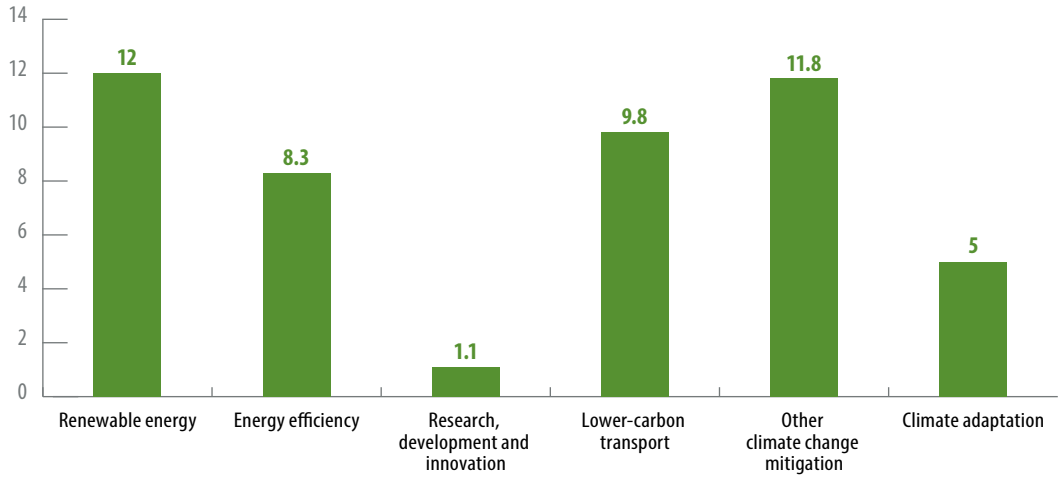
Over the same period since 2021, climate mitigation finance rose sharply to €43 billion from €25 billion, an increase of over 70%, including significant new financing in support of REPowerEU. As a result, the Bank did not reach its original target for adaptation finance to account for 15% of climate action lending by 2025. However, the Group reaffirmed its commitment to increase adaptation finance in Phase 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap, with the target to double EIB Group financing for climate adaptation to €30 billion over the 2026-2030 period. To support this ambition, the Group is developing a Group-wide Climate Adaptation Plan.

Figure 13: INVESTMENT IN CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, 2025



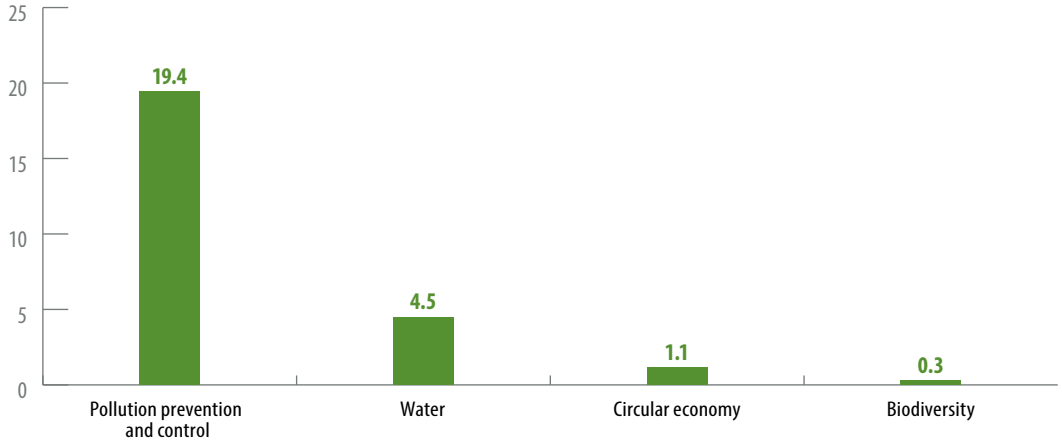
Source: EIB Group

Figure 14: CLIMATE ACTION FINANCE[52] (€ BILLION), 2025



Source: EIB Group

Figure 15: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FINANCE[53] (€ BILLION), 2025



Source: EIB Group

Some EIB investments deliver benefits across more than one environmental sustainability objective. In 2025, €65.8 million, or 0.3% of the total contribution to environmental sustainability, supported activities that contributed to more than one objective.

2.2.2. Green financing by the EIF

The EIF plays an important role in supporting the green transition. Its activities range from backing early-stage innovators that develop technologies to support a more sustainable economy, to helping these businesses grow and scale their solutions. The Fund also helps small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-caps across the economy access the financing they need to adapt their operations and strengthen the resilience of their business models.

52. Including environmental sustainability dual benefits. The majority of financing under the category "Other climate change mitigation" went to electricity transmission and distribution projects.
53. Including climate action dual benefits.

The Fund sets an annual target for the share of its financing dedicated to climate action and environmental sustainability. This share has increased steadily, from 16% of financing in 2022 to 22% in 2023, 25% in 2024 and 33% in 2025.

> ☑ *In 2025, the EIF committed €5.6 billion to green finance, which represented 35% of the EIF's financing volumes in 2025, consisting primarily of managed and advised resources.*

On the equity side, the EIF significantly increased its commitments to green finance in 2025. Commitments to sustainability-focused infrastructure, venture capital, private equity and private credit funds totalled €3.1 billion.

Equity investments play a critical role in helping smaller firms innovate, grow and shift towards more sustainable business models. Unlike debt, equity provides patient, long-term capital allowing companies to invest in research and development, scale clean and digital technologies and deliver transformational projects without immediate repayment pressure. For sustainability-driven firms, equity financing is often essential to absorb risk, support industrialisation and accelerate the deployment of solutions that contribute to climate action, resource efficiency and economic resilience. In 2025, the Fund committed €3.1 billion across venture capital, private equity, infrastructure and private credit funds, which is expected to mobilise an additional €36.4 billion in financing overall.

Debt financing also plays a vital role for small firms, as it provides predictable, non-dilutive funding for investment and growth. Through its guarantees, the Fund reduces risk for financial intermediaries and helps expand lending where market gaps remain. In 2025, the EIF committed €2.5 billion in green guarantees, securitisation and microfinance, expected to mobilise an additional €8.1 billion in financing.

The InvestEU Sustainability Guarantee – the first pan-European guarantee instrument dedicated to supporting the green transition by enabling financial intermediaries to provide financing for sustainable enterprises and green investments – continued to attract strong demand. Since its inception, more than 82 financial intermediaries have received a total of €1.5 billion in financing across 29 countries, supporting over 4 900 beneficiaries. In addition, six EU Member States contributed around €750 million in total to the instrument.

Looking ahead, the EIF will continue to support green finance in 2026, with a target to allocate at least 33% of its total financing to these objectives.

2.3. INVESTMENTS SUPPORTED IN THE CRITICAL DECADE

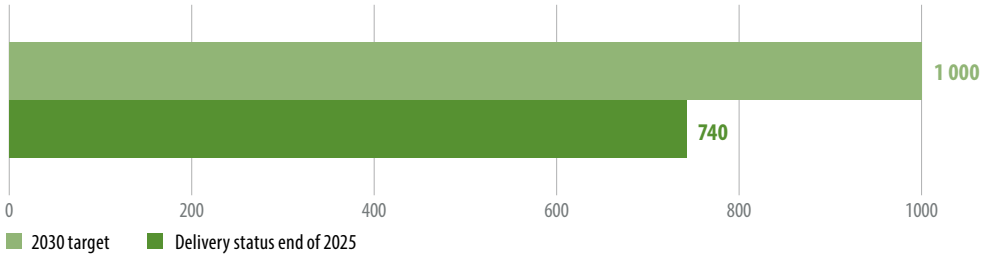
Considering the scale of finance needed to support the green transition, the EIB Group set a target to support €1 trillion of green investment[54] during the critical decade from 2021 to 2030. This target reflects the wider impact of the Group's financing through private mobilisation and public co-financing.

> ☑ *Jointly, the EIB Group is estimated to have supported overall green investments of approximately €189 billion in 2025.*

By the end of 2025, the Group had supported an estimated total of approximately €740 billion, leaving it well on track to reaching the €1 trillion target by 2030.

54. To calculate the green investment supported, the total investment cost of an operation is prorated according to the green finance share.

Figure 16: PROGRESS TOWARDS €1 TRILLION TARGET BY 2030 (€ BILLION)[55]



Source: EIB Group

2.4. SUPPORTING THE EU TAXONOMY

For sectors covered by the EU taxonomy, the Group's green finance tracking methodology applies the taxonomy criteria[56] to assess whether an activity makes a substantial contribution to climate and environmental objectives.

The EU taxonomy "do no significant harm" criteria for climate mitigation and adaptation form a key baseline for the Group's approach to Paris alignment (see Chapter 3, "Tackling climate change"). The "do no significant harm" principles for all six EU taxonomy objectives are also integrated into the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

The mid-term review of the Climate Bank Roadmap in 2023 acknowledged that the EU taxonomy has developed extensively since the original Climate Bank Roadmap. While continuing to gradually integrate the EU taxonomy into its green finance tracking methodology, the EIB Group has adjusted the approach originally set out in the roadmap.[57]

The review also highlighted challenges reported by market participants in applying certain aspects of the EU taxonomy, including data availability and usability. In response, the EIB Group has continued to work with its clients, the Platform on Sustainable Finance and the European Commission. This includes actively providing expert input to the review and simplification of taxonomy requirements carried out under the Omnibus package in 2025. The Group will continue to apply its environmental and social sustainability framework, Paris alignment framework and other eligibility policies to prevent environmental and social harm.

55. A review of the green-investment-supported data for 2021-24 identified a misstatement of 2% in the figures published in the 2024 report. This has now been corrected in the cumulative figure for 2021-25.
56. A few minor adjustments are made, for example, for greenhouse gas emission accounting methodologies or for electrification plans for rail projects in developing countries, which can be found in the published tables: European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria.
57. Phase 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap reiterates the Group's commitment to continue to refer to the relevant technical screening criteria from the EU taxonomy, where appropriate, in its green finance definitions.

Partial alignment with the EU taxonomy

As outlined above, the Group has largely integrated the criteria for substantial contribution from the EU taxonomy delegated acts into its green finance tracking methodology, with adaptations for intermediated finance products. Since 2023, the Bank assessed progress towards applying these criteria by measuring the share of green financing that uses the substantial contribution framework.

> ☑ *Of the EIB's green financing from its own resources in 2025, at least €39 billion meets the substantial contribution criteria of the EU taxonomy climate and environmental delegated acts, without a full assessment of the "do no significant harm" criteria or "minimum safeguards" requirements, and are therefore considered partially aligning with the EU taxonomy. This represents over 77% of the EIB's green financing for 2025.*

2.5. EIB ADVISORY SUPPORT FOR THE GREEN TRANSITION

Advisory services are a crucial part of the EIB Group's work to develop markets, build capacity and support high-impact projects. Through EIB Advisory, the Group translates complex EU policy objectives into practical solutions for clients. Serving the entire Group, EIB Advisory helps finance more projects, improve investment quality and deliver on the Group's core strategic priorities (see Chapter 1, "General information").

Climate action is a central priority for EIB Advisory. In 2025, around 43% of advisory assignments supported EIB Group operations aligned with climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability.

2.5.1. EIB Advisory services in the European Union

Through initiatives such as the Climate Adaptation Investment Advisory Platform (ADAPT), EIB Advisory helped cities, utilities and public authorities prepare projects addressing flood risk, water scarcity, coastal protection and ecosystem resilience, in line with the EU Adaptation Strategy.

In urban areas, EIB Advisory supported the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities mission. This included providing targeted assistance to municipalities, such as preparing and implementing sustainable investment plans in six Greek cities and supporting measures to reduce heating costs in Ireland.

EIB Advisory also supported the preparation of decarbonisation and clean energy investments, helping to ensure that renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate-resilient infrastructure projects are well prepared, bankable and aligned with EU and international climate standards.

Through the European Local ENergy Assistance (ELENA) facility under the InvestEU Advisory Hub, EIB Advisory provides technical assistance grants to public and private entities. These grants can cover up to 90% of the costs of preparing sustainable investment programmes. The Bank assesses eligibility and support needs and helps beneficiaries design technical assistance work programmes. Each support package is approved by the European Commission on the Bank's recommendation.

Since its creation in 2009, ELENA has allocated some €374 million to 206 projects, linked to total investments of around €12.7 billion.

Under its Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions (JASPERS) mandate, EIB Advisory provides climate-related support aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement. By embedding climate considerations into early-stage project support, project advice and skills development, JASPERS contributes to the European Union's objective of climate neutrality and supports the development of infrastructure that is resilient to climate change.

A key area of work is the development of national climate proofing guidance, based on the Commission's climate proofing methodology and tailored to national priorities. This helps ensure that infrastructure projects take long-term climate risks into account.

JASPERS also offers skills development programmes and knowledge-sharing activities that help stakeholders make informed decisions and take effective climate action.

In 2025, EIB Advisory supported the planning and delivery of infrastructure across the European Union designed to withstand current and future climate risks, such as floods and heatwaves. In Spain alone, more than 1 200 people participated in seven climate proofing training sessions covering sectors including buildings, renewable energy, waste management, urban development, water, flood protection and transport.

EIB Advisory also developed online tools to help project promoters assess the climate resilience of small infrastructure projects in areas such as urban regeneration, water and wastewater, and buildings.

In the mobility sector, EIB Advisory experts supported climate resilience assessments for transport networks and delivered training on sustainable urban mobility plans to more than 768 participants from 22 European countries. This work helped city planners and public authorities develop integrated mobility strategies that reduce emissions, improve air quality and enhance accessibility.

The Circular City Centre – C3 supports cities in their transition to a circular economy by providing guidance documents, tools, webinars and workshops, as well as two dedicated advisory programmes. The initiative is implemented in cooperation with the European Commission under the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative, with financing from the InvestEU Advisory Hub.

In Romania, Bulgaria and Greece, the Project Advisory Support Service Agreement (PASSA) provides technical advice to integrate climate resilience and sustainability into investment projects. The programme also supports compliance with EU regulations, promotes resource efficiency and enables long-term environmental and financial sustainability in sectors such as health, energy and regional development.

EIB Advisory also plays a pivotal role in advancing the European Union's objectives for a just transition. One example is the TARGET technical assistance programme, which supports clean energy and energy efficiency investments in regions dependent on carbon-intensive industries. The programme complements the Just Transition Mechanism and focuses on less developed regions and beneficiaries with limited administrative and technical capacity.

Through JASPERS, EIB Advisory also supports the implementation of the Just Transition Fund, the first pillar of the Just Transition Mechanism. It helps national authorities design and deliver projects that promote a fair and inclusive transition towards climate-neutral economies, particularly in coal-dependent and carbon-intensive regions.

In 2025, EIB Advisory, through JASPERS, continued to provide technical assistance for projects financed by the Just Transition Fund across EU countries. Support focused on preparing calls for proposals, strengthening project pipelines, and delivering targeted skills development activities on shared requirements such as state aid compliance and climate proofing. Key activities in 2025 included support

for research, development and innovation projects in the Ústí nad Labem region in Czechia, the review of seven Just Transition Fund project proposals, the renovation of the district heating system in the Šaleška Valley in Slovenia, the development of geothermal energy in Slovakia, and support for energy communities in Bulgaria.

2.5.2. Advisory services beyond the European Union

Sustainability is a core consideration across all of the Bank's advisory services beyond the European Union. In 2025, EIB Advisory supported climate-resilient, socially inclusive and economically viable investments through a wide range of activities covering project identification, preparation and implementation. This work included sustainability-dedicated facilities, such as those supporting climate-smart agriculture, renewable energy and greener financial systems, as well as advisory services across sectors including transport and digital transformation. Across all regions, the Bank consistently provides expertise to promote high environmental and social standards.

In 2025, EIB Advisory approved some 63 new advisory assignments for operations beyond the European Union. More than 50 EIB Global financing operations were linked to advisory support, representing €4.7 billion in financing. Advisory activities included €86 million disbursed under service contracts to complement in-house expertise, as well as the signature of more than 60 technical assistance agreements with beneficiaries, supporting the development of new partnerships.

2.5.2.1. EIB Advisory support in Ukraine

Ukraine remained a top priority in 2025. EIB Advisory supported EIB operations across multiple sectors, through the EU for Ukraine (EU4U) initiative, funded from the Bank's own budget with a total allocation of €100 million, JASPERS (in collaboration with the European Commission), and contributions under other mandates.

A strong focus was placed on the energy sector. EIB Advisory assisted Ukraine's grid operator, as well as Naftogaz and Ukrenergo, to access financing, improve project quality, meet technical standards and build local expertise. Advisory support also began for the development of the Ukraine-Romania electricity interconnector and contributed to the modernisation of district heating systems, social housing projects in 17 cities, and the launch of Ukraine's first EU-gauge railway, which has received EIB financing.

2.5.2.2. EIB Advisory in the Western Balkans and the Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood

In the Western Balkans, EIB Advisory experts working under the JASPERS mandate supported broadband deployment and data centres, as well as the modernisation of railways along the trans-European transport network (TEN-T) core corridors. This included the renovation of two navigation locks in the Djerdap Gorge in Serbia, near the Romanian border, and improvements to the railway network in Albania.

In the Eastern Neighbourhood, the Facility for Eastern Partnership Investment in Connectivity (EPIC), funded by the European Union and managed by EIB Advisory, provided Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine with advisory services and technical assistance. The facility supports the preparation of high-quality, climate-resilient and sustainable connectivity projects with long-term social and economic benefits. In 2025, support included feasibility and design studies for the Gyumri bypass in Armenia and the Chisinau ring road in Moldova, safety improvements at level crossings along the

Baku-Boyuk rail corridor in Azerbaijan, and preparatory studies for the Ungheni-Chisinau-Odesa road corridor linking Moldova and Ukraine.

In the Southern Neighbourhood, the Bank also continued to support clients under its Economic Resilience Initiative technical assistance programme. This included long-term support to strengthen clients' capacity to implement projects in Morocco and Tunisia, as well as project-specific technical assistance for long-term infrastructure investments. EIB Advisory also worked across the region to strengthen the capacity of financial intermediaries and small and medium-sized enterprises to use EIB financing for investment.

2.5.2.3. EIB Advisory in global partner countries

In 2025, EIB Advisory launched the first project under the Bank's Global Gateway Infrastructure Project Delivery Facility. This sustainability-focused assignment supports climate-resilient road infrastructure along a strategic corridor in Senegal. During the year, several multiyear programmes were also completed, including the Clean Oceans Project Identification and Preparation initiative in sub-Saharan Africa and the Sustainable Assets for Agriculture Markets, Business and Trade Project (SAAMBAT) technical assistance programme in Cambodia. Through this programme, the EIB worked together with the International Fund for Agricultural Development to strengthen skills and institutional capacity among central and local authorities.

EIB Advisory also supported private sector access to finance through expert training under the Africa Venture Finance Programme, technical assistance for small and medium businesses in the Southern Neighbourhood and support for financial intermediaries seeking to align with the Climate Bank Roadmap through the Greening Financial Systems programme.

Under the City Climate Finance Gap Fund, which the European Investment Bank runs together with the World Bank and the German development agency GIZ, EIB Advisory has delivered 71 technical assistance assignments across 137 cities in low- and middle-income countries since the fund's introduction in 2021. In 2025, 43 assignments were under way, covering 50 investment projects and 71 cities. These assignments span a wide range of sectors, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, public transport and nature-based solutions for climate adaptation.



3.
TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE



Key messages

Climate change remains one of the most pressing global challenges of our time, and its impact is increasingly visible across ecosystems, economies and societies. The extreme weather exacerbated by climate change is resulting in more frequent and intense heatwaves, droughts, floods and wildfires across the world. These events strain public health systems, disrupt agriculture and damage infrastructure. Vulnerable communities are often hit the hardest.

While the European Union has made notable progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and expanding renewable energy, meeting EU climate and energy targets for 2030 and 2050 remains a significant challenge. More effort is also needed in the next five years and beyond to deliver on global mitigation and adaptation goals.

This urgency was further highlighted by the findings of the First global stocktake, issued by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and endorsed by the European Union and other countries at COP28 in 2023. These findings showed that countries were making progress on the Paris Agreement goals, but that more action was needed to limit global warming to 1.5° Celsius.

EIB Group and EU commitments

As the climate bank, the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group plays a central role in supporting efforts to meet the climate targets set out in the European Climate Law, which calls for reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030, compared with 1990 levels, and reaching climate neutrality by 2050.[58] Furthermore, the EIB Group is supporting the EU Adaptation Strategy by strengthening resilience to climate change across Europe and globally.

58. In July 2025, the European Commission proposed an amendment to the European Climate Law to set a new target to reduce the European Union's net greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2040, relative to 1990.



Concrete actions and impact

The EIB Group is one of the world's leading financiers of climate action. In 2025, the Bank financed €48.1 billion of climate investments from its own resources, including €5.1 billion for projects beyond the European Union. Climate mitigation accounted for €43 billion, representing 52% of financing from the Bank's own resources. This included €12 billion for renewable energy, €9.8 billion for lower carbon transport and €8.3 billion for energy efficiency.

Climate adaptation finance reached a record €5 billion, an increase of 12% from 2024 and nearly four times the volume in 2021 when the EIB Climate Adaptation Plan was initiated. Climate adaptation accounted for 10.5% of climate lending in 2025. For more information on 2025 climate action lending, including EIF green finance, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

The EIB Group includes signed investments in its annual carbon footprint calculation exercise, which estimates the total emissions generated by financed projects. Projects signed in 2025 are estimated to result in emissions of 1.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) per year. The reduced or avoided emissions linked to this same financing are estimated at 4.5 million tonnes of CO_2e per year. During the same period, the Group also financed climate adaptation projects that resulted in reduced flood risks for an estimated 6.9 million people, and reduced exposure to drought risks for an estimated 18.5 million people.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has developed and implemented a number of climate- and environment-related policies, which applied throughout 2025:

EIB Group:

- EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025
- EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Mid-term Review
- The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy
- The EIB Group PATH framework

European Investment Bank:

- **EIB Climate Strategy**
- **European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards** (Standard 5)
- **EIB Energy Lending Policy**
- **EIB Transport Lending Policy**
- **EIB water sector orientation**
- **Forests at the heart of sustainable development**
- **European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria**
- **The EIB Climate Adaptation Plan**

European Investment Fund:

- **EIF Environmental, Social & Governance Principles**
- **Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations**

Examples of projects financed

- The Bank is lending €1.6 billion to support a new electricity interconnector in the Bay of Biscay, developed by a joint venture of Red Eléctrica de España and RTE Réseau de transport d'électricité. The project will double electricity exchange capacity between Spain and France, delivering cleaner, more secure and more affordable power to millions, while cutting carbon dioxide emissions.
- The EIB Group is the largest financier of Poland's offshore wind power, having invested €2 billion in this booming sector in 2025. By 2030, offshore wind farms co-financed by the Group will provide nearly 10% of Poland's annual power production, supplying clean energy to more than one-third of households.
- The Adriatic Link, a strategic project for Italy's energy system, will connect the Marche and Abruzzo regions. The EIB provided Terna with €1 billion to support construction of the link, which will strengthen electricity exchange in central Italy and support the integration of renewable energy sources.
- The EIB Global committed $150 million in financing to support the Obelisk solar photovoltaic project in Egypt. Combining a 1.1 GWp solar photovoltaic plant with a 100 MW/200 MWh battery energy storage system, the project - the largest of its kind in Africa - will contribute to a more diversified and sustainable power system, strengthening Egypt's energy security and economic resilience.
- In 2025, the Bank began a pilot advisory operation in Cabo Verde, Mauritius and Seychelles. The initiative deploys experts to help governments assess climate risks, set adaptation priorities and prepare pipelines of bankable investment projects.
- The EIF invested €75 million in Serena Infra II, a Spanish infrastructure fund that invests in projects linked to early stages of sustainable mobility, water, social or digital infrastructure, as well as energy transition projects.
- The Fund also invested €40 million in SevenGen Growth Fund, a Dutch private equity fund that provides growth capital to already profitable companies in energy, mobility, the built environment and industrial decarbonisation, helping them scale up and expand.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
E1 - Climate change	√	√	√	√
Climate mitigation	√	√	√	√
Climate adaptation	√		√	√
Energy	√			

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Encouraging counterparties to decarbonise through due diligence, advisory support and potential financial incentives for mitigation actions, and investing in companies that promote innovation and research in decarbonisation.	Climate mitigation	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Encouraging counterparties to implement adaptation measures (such as flood protection and resilient transport and water systems) through due diligence, investment monitoring and advisory support.	Climate adaptation	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Supporting the transition away from fossil fuels by financing renewable energy, energy efficiency systems, grid modernisation and related infrastructure.	Energy	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Generating financed emissions due to investments in sectors and activities contributing to climate change.	Climate mitigation	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Maximising returns on investment and minimising default risk by carefully assessing the physical and transition risks associated with counterparties through extensive due diligence processes.	Climate mitigation / Climate adaptation	Opportunity	Downstream	Short-term
Default risk arising from counterparties facing transition risks due to their inability to align with a 1.5° C trajectory or adapt their business models to a climate-neutral economy, resulting in higher costs, lower revenues and increased capital expenditure.	Climate mitigation	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
Default risk arising from counterparties due to insufficient climate adaptation, as increased exposure to acute and chronic physical climate hazards leads to asset damage, business disruption, higher operating costs, reduced revenues and weakened debt servicing capacity.	Climate adaptation	Risk	Downstream	Short-term

3.1. EIB GROUP APPROACH TO TRANSITION

Following the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015, the European Union became the first region to endorse climate neutrality by 2050 through the European Green Deal, introduced in 2019 and later endorsed the 1.5° C temperature goal in the European Climate Law. In November 2019, in line with this political ambition, the EIB Board of Directors decided to strengthen the EIB Group's climate and environmental commitments. This included a decision to phase out support for unabated fossil fuel energy projects. The decision marked a turning point for the Group, transforming it from an EU bank supporting climate into the EU climate bank.

In lieu of a transition plan, the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 was published in 2020. It sets out how the Group would deliver on its ambition for climate change mitigation and adaptation. The roadmap builds on the EIB Climate Strategy, first published in 2015 and revised in 2020. The strategy defines the Bank's mission and vision for addressing climate change and aligns its activities with the Paris Agreement's 1.5° C temperature goal and its adaptation objective.

The roadmap focuses primarily on the Group's lending and advisory activities, where its impact is most significant. At the same time, it confirms the Group's commitment to reduce the environmental impact of its internal operations in line with the goals and principles of the Paris Agreement.[59]

For the Group's portfolio, the Climate Bank Roadmap functions as a two-part approach to transition towards a low-carbon economy with the objective of limiting global warming to 1.5° C and achieving climate neutrality by mid-century. First, it sets a higher level of ambition for investments that accelerate the transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient and sustainable economy, while supporting communities most exposed to climate risks. Second, as a financier to operations with known use of proceeds, the Group introduced a Paris Alignment Framework, based on harmonised multilateral development bank approaches, using EU Taxonomy "do no significant harm" criteria for climate change mitigation and adaptation as a reference standard. The framework applies to the ''flow'' of new financing activities.

Paris alignment criteria will continue to evolve as the EU taxonomy and relevant EU policies are updated over time. The Paris aligned flow of new operations will also influence the financed greenhouse gas emissions associated with the portfolio of outstanding EIB loans over time. The EIB Group has not set a portfolio-level emissions target, which is considered less effective than a target on new business to drive meaningful change for a known use of proceeds lender.

In 2025, the EIB Group's governing bodies approved the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030. This phase reconfirms the Group's climate ambition, focuses on key strategic areas and introduces simplification. It also integrates key elements of the Climate Strategy, such as an updated mission statement aligned with EU climate and nature goals, including the 1.5° C temperature goal. For additional details on the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, see Chapter 1.4.3.2.

3.1.1. Key actions and decarbonisation levers

The Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and its Phase 2 for the period 2026-2030 are underpinned by a set of implementing frameworks that guide how the EIB Group delivers its climate objectives in practice. These include in particular, the following approaches:

59. For details on the climate goals and actions in the Group's own operations, see Chapter 3.5 of this report.

Paris-aligned operations (project level)

To align new operations with the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement, the Group applies technical criteria set out in the Paris Alignment Framework – Low Carbon.[60] This low-carbon framework excludes financing for key high-emitting activities by defining activities that are not supported, including coal, oil and gas projects, and unabated fossil fuel power generation. These exclusions help ensure that the Group's financing remains consistent with EU and international climate goals. The framework is complemented by the use of shadow carbon pricing in the economic appraisal of projects, with shadow carbon values set to help ensure new financing is aligned with the Paris Agreement's temperature goal.[61]

Climate risk assessment

The Bank introduced its climate risk assessment system in 2019 to identify and monitor physical climate risks affecting financed projects. The system also assesses whether financing is consistent with the adaptation goals of the European Union and the Paris Agreement.[62]

Paris alignment for counterparties framework (PATH framework)

Through its PATH framework, the EIB Group looks beyond the climate impact of the projects it finances to assess the wider activities of its borrowers. The framework supports counterparties in decarbonising their business models and strengthening resilience to physical climate risk. The Group provides technical assistance to help borrowers address gaps in their climate transition strategies. The EIB Group has also developed a dedicated methodology for its treasury investments drawing on the PATH framework.[63]

Just transition

The EIB Group aims to ensure that no people or regions are left behind in the transition to a climate-neutral economy. In line with EU just transition objectives, the Group supports communities most exposed to climate risks.[64]

3.1.2. Progress since 2021

Since 2021, the Group has significantly increased its climate and broader green finance. This includes scaling up investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, electricity grids and storage, and low-carbon transport. In 2025, Group green finance accounted for around 57% of total financing. At the same time, the Group has redirected investments away from fossil fuels and other high-carbon activities.

Chapter 3.4 of this report presents evidence of the reduced greenhouse gas emissions associated with the Group's financed projects in recent years. In particular, it shows:

- nearly a 20% reduction in portfolio-financed emissions since 2023;
- approximately 80% reduction in the average greenhouse gas emissions intensity of electricity generation projects in the portfolio between 2018 and 2025.

60. A new version of the low-carbon framework was published in February 2026: Paris Alignment Framework – Low Carbon, version 2.0
61. For more details on the low-carbon framework and the shadow cost of carbon see Chapter 3.3.3.1.
62. For more details on the Bank's climate risk assessment see Chapter 3.3.3.3.
63. The PATH framework is detailed in Chapter 3.3.3.2.
64. See Chapter 9 and 10 for additional information.

3.1.3. Forward path

The Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 sets out the Group's approach to climate and the environment for the period 2026-2030. It reaffirms the Group's commitment to supporting a robust, Paris-aligned transition. Phase 2 maintains the Group's key green finance targets, extending them to the Group level where they were previously applied only to the Bank, and focuses on investments that deliver impact and that boost competitiveness, inclusivity and preparedness.

Under the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, adaptation financing will double to €30 billion over 2026-2030. This increase will strengthen support for the sectors and regions most exposed to the impacts of climate change. This scale-up is supported by the systematic integration of resilience criteria and adaptation requirements into project screening and advisory activities.

Further information on the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 is provided in Chapter 1.4.3.

3.2. POLICIES RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

This chapter focuses on policies and actions related to the EIB Group's financing activities. Policies and actions related to the Group's own corporate operations, such as the EMAS Environmental Policy, are detailed in Chapter 3.5.

3.2.1. Climate policy at the EIB Group

As the climate bank, the EIB Group is a global leader in climate and environment finance and one of the world's largest multilateral issuers of green and sustainability bonds.

The following policy and standards framework guided EIB Group investments in 2025:

- The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 provides the policy and operational framework for the Group's support for the European Green Deal and the European Climate Law, including the Paris Agreement. These objectives include helping to limit global temperature increases to 1.5° C compared to pre-industrial levels. To achieve this, the Group uses its full range of finance, blending and advisory products to support the decarbonisation of economies in the European Union and beyond. The roadmap explains how the Group plans to meet the new climate and environment targets approved by the EIB Board of Directors in 2019:
  - » gradually increase the share of the Bank's annual financing for climate action and environmental sustainability to exceed 50% by 2025 and beyond;[65]
  - » support €1 trillion of investment in climate action and environmental sustainability at the EIB Group level between 2021 and 2030;
  - » align all new EIB Group operations with the principles and goals of the Paris Agreement from 2021.[66]

In addition to the information provided in this report, the EIB Group publishes annual Climate Bank Roadmap progress reports. These reports give a more detailed update on the implementation of the roadmap. Chapter 1.4.3, "Delivering on the strategic roadmap," presents the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and provides background on the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030.

65. Phase 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap extends the target of more than 50% green finance to cover Group finance.
66. This work is part of the wider 2019 ambition to align all EIB Group financing activities with the goals and principles of the Paris Agreement. The EIB Group Paris alignment framework – covering both projects and counterparties – may not apply in exceptional cases, for example where the EIB Group determines that a project, mandate or product serves an overriding public interest, among others to secure food or water supply in more vulnerable communities and regions, humanitarian assistance or security measures.

- The EIB Climate Strategy, upon which the Climate Bank Roadmap was built, was first published in 2015 and updated in 2020. It sets out the Bank's strategic mission on climate change: to play a leading role among financial institutions in supporting the finance needed to meet global commitments to limit warming to 1.5° C, strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change and support the European Union's objective of climate neutrality by 2050. Further information on the Climate Strategy is provided in Chapter 1.4.3.
- Sectoral policies and orientations complement the Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 by explaining how the Group adds value in key sectors for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Further information is provided in Chapter 3.2.
- Standard 5 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards ensures that the climate objectives set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap are reflected in the requirements for the Bank's clients. Further information is provided in Chapter 3.2.

3.2.2. Sector-specific policies and orientations

The Bank applies sector-specific policies and orientations to ensure its investments support the green transition and contribute to the cross-sector objectives set out in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. Since 2021, the Paris alignment framework under the Climate Bank Roadmap has defined climate-related eligibility criteria. As a result, sector policies and orientations focus increasingly on strengthening positive climate and environmental impacts, including:

- In the energy sector, the Bank introduced the EIB Energy Lending Policy in 2019, which ended new financing for unabated fossil fuel energy projects. The policy was updated in 2023 and replaced by the EIB Group Energy Sector Orientation at the end of 2025.
- For transport, the Bank approved the Transport Lending Policy 2022, which supports the development of a safe, secure, accessible, green and efficient mobility system.
- In the water sector, the Bank introduced the EIB water sector orientation in 2023. This orientation sets out the Bank's strategic focus in this critical sector, with a focus on climate resilience and emissions reductions.
- The policy Forests at the heart of sustainable development defines how the Bank is strengthening support for long-term investments in the forestry sector and contributing to key climate and environment objectives.

3.2.3. EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy and Environmental and Social Standards – Standard 5

The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy defines how the Group integrates environmental, climate and social considerations across all its activities and processes.

Standard 5 on climate change, part of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, promotes alignment of Bank-financed projects with the Paris Agreement and the European Commission's sustainable finance Action Plan. The standard requires project promoters to explicitly address climate change mitigation and adaptation, where applicable, as part of project preparation and decision-making.

Standard 5 applies to direct finance operations. The specific requirements are determined during the environmental impact assessment, the environmental and social impact assessment and the Bank's appraisal, taking into account the nature and scale of each project.

Key requirements under Standard 5 include:

- assessing and minimising greenhouse gas emissions;
- assessing and minimising physical climate risk;
- integrating climate-related analysis into economic analysis.

Further information on the EIB Group's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework, including the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards and the EIF's Environmental, Social & Governance Principles, is provided in Chapter 1, "General Information."

3.3. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS AND IMPLEMENTING FRAMEWORKS

3.3.1. Background

The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 sets out several operational frameworks with detailed methodologies and tools, to deliver green finance and to ensure alignment with the Paris Agreement. Additional frameworks have been published since the adoption of the roadmap.

This chapter reviews the key actions taken by the EIB Group, including the introduction of these frameworks, to accelerate the green transition, strengthen Paris alignment and manage climate-related risks.

3.3.2. Accelerating the green transition

3.3.2.1. Climate action financing

For information on EIB Group financing and advisory activities related to climate change, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition." This chapter includes an assessment of climate and green financing in 2025, progress towards targets and the methodology used to track such financing.

3.3.2.2. The EIB Climate Adaptation Plan

The EIB Climate Adaptation Plan, published in October 2021, forms part of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 work to accelerate the green transition, and responds to the 2021 EU Adaptation Strategy.[67] It builds on the EIB Group's approach to climate adaptation and resilience set out in the Climate Bank Roadmap.

The plan increases the Bank's support for vulnerable countries and communities and expands access to advisory services and technical assistance to strengthen climate resilience in the public and private sectors. Through this initiative, the Bank supports the EU Adaptation Strategy's objective of smarter, faster and more systemic adaptation within and beyond the European Union.

67. As indicated in Phase 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap, a revised Climate Adaptation Plan is expected to be published in 2026.

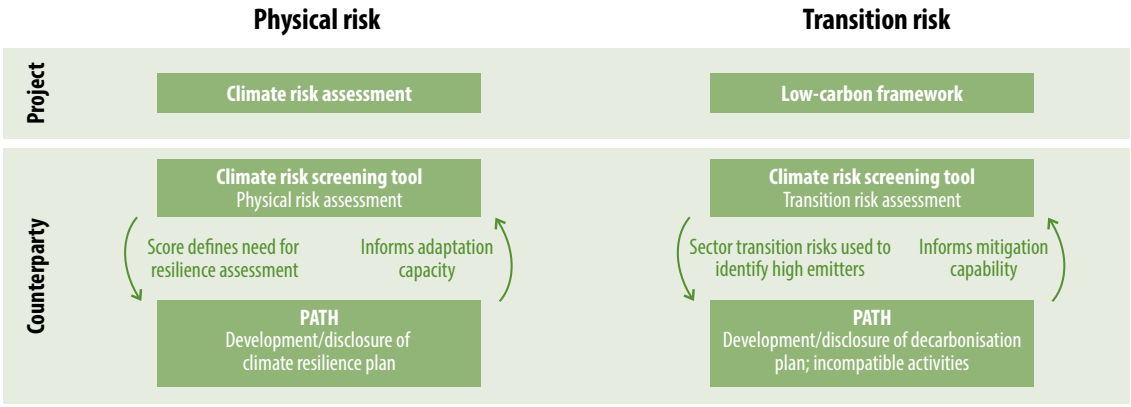
3.3.3. Managing climate risks and Paris alignment

The EIB Group has several standards, tools and processes to implement its policies on climate risk in financing operations. These are applied at several levels:

- the financed operation, including direct project finance or intermediated finance;
- the financed entity;
- the wider investment portfolio, including previously financed projects and counterparties.

At project and entity level, climate risk management tools are an integral part of the Paris alignment framework under the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. They also form part of the Group's broader investment eligibility criteria, which address environmental and social risks alongside climate risks.

Figure 17: EIB GROUP CLIMATE RISK TOOLS AND PROCESSES AT PROJECT AND CORPORATE COUNTERPARTY LEVELS



Source: TCFD Report 2023

3.3.3.1. Actions related to climate change mitigation and adaptation – Paris alignment at the operation level

Projects directly financed by the Bank undergo an in-depth sustainability due diligence process to ensure that they are low-emission and climate-resilient. The Bank applies its low-carbon framework to address climate change mitigation objectives, while a dedicated assessment focuses on the project's exposure to physical climate risks to support adaptation goals. In addition, Standard 5 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards defines promoters' responsibilities in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Intermediated operations are also subject to the low-carbon framework and other relevant EIB Group eligibility criteria. During the appraisal and due diligence process, each financial intermediary's procedures for complying with EIB Group policies are reviewed. They also assess the intermediary's climate risk or, in the case of risk-sharing instruments, the estimated climate risk of the future portfolio.

Low-carbon framework

The EIB Group's low-carbon framework was first presented in Annex 2 of the Climate Bank Roadmap. It has since been updated and published as a stand-alone document.[68] The framework defines how the Group aligns new financing with the Paris Agreement's climate mitigation objectives.

The low-carbon framework has two components. The first is sector-based and sets out which activities the Bank may support and which it will not. The second is product-based and explains how the framework applies across different EIB Group financing products.

The low-carbon framework was updated as part of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Mid-term Review. This update integrated relevant "do no significant harm" criteria set out in the EU taxonomy Climate Delegated Act.

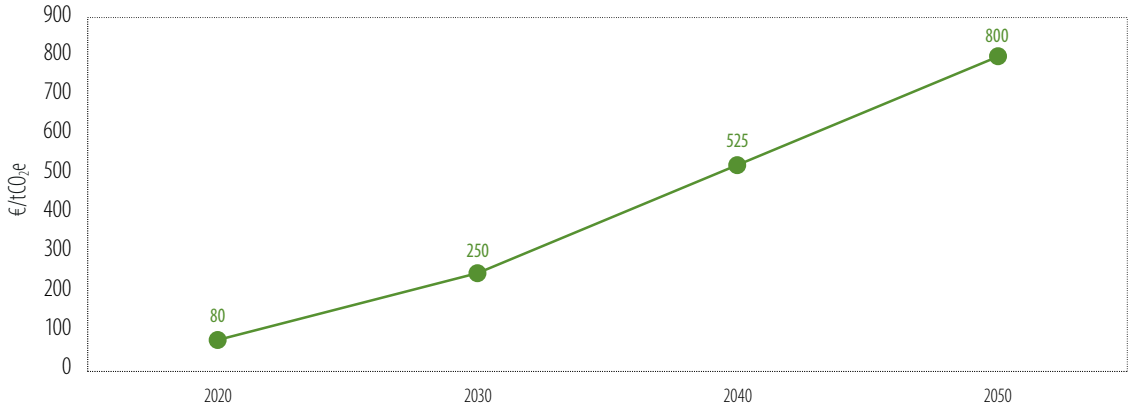
Shadow cost of carbon

The Bank has applied a shadow cost of carbon to direct finance projects that undergo an economic assessment since the 1990s. As part of the sustainability due diligence process, the Bank conducts a separate economic appraisal to assess the costs and benefits of investment projects to society as a whole (see Chapter 1, "General information").

This appraisal considers the resources used by the project, including human, technological or natural resources. In some cases it applies shadow prices, including for greenhouse gas emissions, and assesses the value generated by the project to determine whether it delivers overall gains for society.

To align with the Paris Agreement, the Bank reviewed the latest modelling evidence when developing the Climate Bank Roadmap and agreed to increase the shadow cost of carbon. As shown in Figure 18, the shadow cost of emitting one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent will rise to €250 by 2030, and to €800 by 2050, measured in 2016 euros. Applying the shadow cost of carbon is therefore a key tool to help align new financing with the Paris Agreement's temperature goal. These values were reviewed again in Annex 3 of the 2023 Climate Bank Roadmap Progress Report.

Figure 18: EIB SHADOW COST OF CARBON 2020-2050 (IN 2016 EUROS, PER TONNE OF CO_2 EQUIVALENT)



Source: Climate Bank Roadmap

68. The EIB Group Paris alignment framework – Low carbon: Version 1.1 applies to the 2025 reporting year. In April 2026, the EIB Group published a new version applicable from 2026: Paris Alignment Framework – Low Carbon, version 2.0.

Climate risk assessment

In 2019, the Bank introduced a climate risk assessment system for physical climate risks. This dedicated process is fully integrated into the Bank's technical due diligence for directly financed operations.

The assessment begins with an automated initial screening, based on conservative physical climate risk data for the country and sector of the operation. Where this screening indicates elevated risk, the Bank performs a second screening, using climate service tools that identify vulnerabilities at the project location and drawing on climate projections and geographic information systems.

Where there is material potential physical climate risk, the Bank works with the client to gather additional information. It may request a climate risk and vulnerability assessment, which can be carried out with Bank support, and the inclusion of appropriate adaptation measures in the project design.

At the end of the process, the Bank estimates the project's residual physical climate risk. This assessment enables the Bank to monitor climate risks across its portfolio, improve its understanding of sector- and geography-specific physical climate risks, and support clients in managing these risks where needed.

EIF approach to climate-related risk at operation level

The climate risk model used by the EIF is fully quantitative and captures physical and transition risks. As with the Bank's initial screening process, the model applies a "look through" approach, breaking down the underlying investment into different sectoral and geographical exposures.

3.3.3.2. Actions related to climate change mitigation and adaptation – Paris alignment framework for counterparties (PATH)

Since the beginning of 2022, the EIB Group has applied the EIB Group PATH framework to support the green transition of its counterparties, going beyond the individual projects it finances.

The framework aims to engage with counterparties that are already aligning, or are willing to align, with the goals of the Paris Agreement. It applies to corporate clients under private law and public law, including public sector entities, as well as financial intermediaries.

For businesses, the framework focuses on counterparties operating in high-emitting sectors or those particularly exposed to physical climate risks. These counterparties are required to have a decarbonisation plan, a resilience plan, or both, to reduce emissions and strengthen their resilience to climate impacts in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

For financial intermediaries, the PATH framework targets large institutions, such as banks and fund managers. It requires them to publish climate-related disclosures in line with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. Financial intermediaries reporting under Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/2453 of 30 November 2022 are considered to meet the framework's requirements, as the regulation aligns with the task force's recommendations.

Where needed, the Bank provides free technical assistance to help its counterparties address gaps in their climate transition efforts and meet the framework's requirements. This support focuses on developing the necessary transition plans or climate-related disclosures.

Treasury investments do not allow for direct engagement with counterparties. For this reason, the

EIB Group has developed a dedicated methodology for financial markets based on the PATH framework principles.

As the regulatory landscape continues to evolve, the EIB Group is updating the PATH framework to reflect recent EU legislation and lessons learned from its implementation in previous years.

3.3.3.3. Actions for assessing and managing climate-related risks at the portfolio level

The EIB Group has put in place a range of measures to assess, measure and manage climate risks across its portfolio. These include:

- Climate risk screening tool: fully integrated into the Group's lending process and information technology (IT) systems and used since 2020 to asses climate risks related to counterparties;
- Climate risk reporting: regular monitoring and reporting of climate risks at portfolio level;
- Risk appetite framework: inclusion of climate risk indicators, monitored on a quarterly basis since 2022;
- Capital and liquidity adequacy assessment: identification of climate and environmental risks as a category of non-financial risk, informed by forward-looking scenario analysis;
- Stress testing and sensitivity analysis: climate risk stress tests and sensitivity analyses to asses potential impacts on the portfolio.

Climate risk screening tool

The EIB Group uses output from the climate risk screening tool to map and monitor climate risks across its portfolio, as part of regular reporting. The tool also provides the basis for climate risk sensitivity analysis, helping to inform the Group's climate risk management strategies. It has been adapted to the Bank's main credit segments and to the EIF's equity and debt portfolios.

The climate risk screening tool was rolled out to the lending and investment portfolios in July 2020 and later extended to treasury and financial collateral portfolios. Climate risk assessments are now performed for new counterparties at the appraisal stage and are updated annually, typically as part of the counterparty review process.

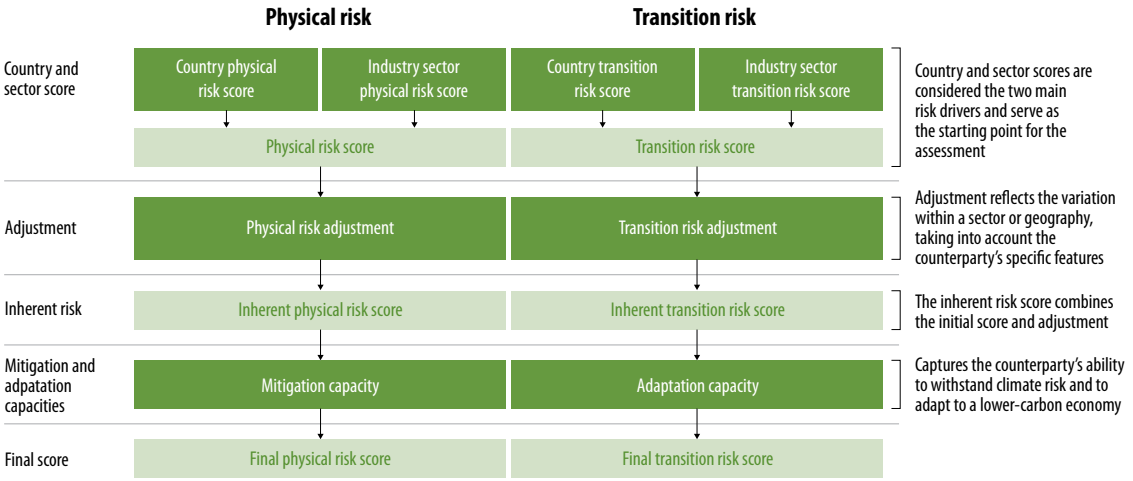
At the EIF, climate risk assessments are carried out for new transactions at the appraisal stage, based on the expected portfolio, and are updated on a quarterly basis once final beneficiary loans/investments are added to portfolios.

The climate risk screening tool is reviewed regularly, and was recently upgraded to integrate internally developed industry-level physical risk scores. Further enhancements are planned for 2026-2027, including the integration of external datasets and assessments of counterparties' transition plans and a closer alignment with the PATH framework. The work to integrate climate risk factors in the qualitative risk guidance of the internal rating models for corporates and financial institutions was finalised in 2025, with similar work progressing for the other credit segments.

Methodology

The methodology captures the physical risk, transition risk and mitigation/adaptation capacity of each counterparty, providing a climate score from one (low risk) to five (high risk). The scores are classed as low, medium or high climate risk. Figure 19 shows the structure of the climate risk screening tool.

Figure 19: THE CLIMATE RISK SCREENING TOOL FOR CORPORATE CREDIT



Source: EIB Group

While the logic underpinning climate risk assessment is consistent across all non-sovereign credit segments, tailored assessments are applied to corporates, financial institutions, public sector entities, sub-sovereign public authorities, project finance and (indirect) equity, to cover all counterparty types across EIB Group portfolios.

The country physical and transition risk scores, and the industry transition and physical risk scores, are calculated internally using the methodology described below.

Climate risk country scores

Alongside the climate risk screening tool highlighted above, in 2020 the EIB Group developed an in-house model to assess the exposure of more than 180 countries to physical risk and transition risk. The model is the result of in-depth research by the Bank's economists and builds on the most recent literature, drawing on various public sources of data. The scores are updated on a yearly basis and are adjusted by country experts, if necessary. The resulting climate risk country scores are then used for sovereign counterparties as the final risk scores, and for other counterparties as the country anchor scores for the climate risk screening tool.

To assess physical risk, indicators have been developed to capture the impact of:

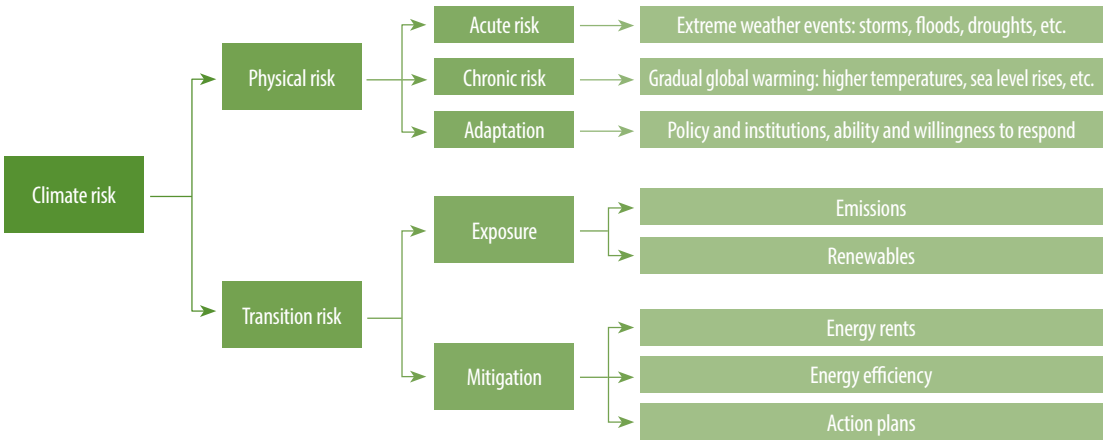
- acute risks, such as the damage caused by hydrological events (floods and landslides), meteorological events (extreme temperatures, fog and storms) and climatological events (droughts, wildfires and glacial lake outburst floods);
- chronic risks, including exposure to rising sea levels and the impact of changes in average temperatures or precipitation patterns (on agriculture, infrastructure and productivity).

Costs or losses due to these risks are expressed in terms of gross domestic product. The model then considers the country's adaptation capacity, assessed through fiscal strength and the quality of governance.

To assess transition risk at the country level, a composite indicator has been developed to capture:

- exposure to carbon emissions, based on the importance of fossil fuel rents in the economy and overall dependence on carbon-emitting activities;
- mitigation activities, based on the deployment of renewables, the pursuit of energy efficiency policies and future climate action commitments.

Figure 20: CLIMATE RISK COUNTRY SCORES AND UNDERLYING INDICATORS



Source: EIB Group

The model places these indicators on a common scale (normalisation), allowing them to be partially compensated against one another, and selects the appropriate weights of the various climate risk dimensions based on the literature and econometric analysis.

Lastly, the assessment evaluates the current state and policy effectiveness of each country in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and becoming less energy intensive over the past five years. It also evaluates each country's distance from the optimal global path for meeting Paris Agreement objectives.

Climate risk industry scores

The EIB Group has also developed a methodology for scoring industries according to their exposure to transition risk and physical risk.

This methodology uses the Bank's risk sector classification, which includes 30 risk sectors and 65 sub-sectors. Within these sub-sectors, industry experts have identified more granular industry segments exposed to the same transition risks.

These segments are scored – taking into account their current emission levels, their ability to decarbonise, their exposure to regulatory and technology risk and their resilience to potential changes in consumer behaviour. The resulting climate risk sector scores are then used as sector anchor scores for the screening tool.

The methodology is based on a mix of publicly available data and expert judgment. In view of the rapid developments in regulation, technology and market risk, the assessment is reviewed annually.

Industry physical risk factors were integrated into the climate risk screening tool in 2024. That assessment is based on a matrix combining qualitative and quantitative assessments at a highly granular level of industry classification.

Assessing and managing climate-related risks for treasury activities

Since 2022, treasury investments have respected the Paris Agreement goals laid out in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. Treasury activities refer to the management of financial portfolios with different instruments and maturities to ensure that the Bank and the EIF hold sufficient liquidity to meet their lending and financing commitments. As part of the Climate Bank Roadmap, environmental factors have been included in the EIB Group's long-term treasury investments since mid-2020.

The EIB Group has developed a methodology adapted to financial markets under the principles of the EIB Group PATH framework that applies to treasury investments.

Investments in green bonds follow the same methodology. Such investments are only possible in instruments complying with the Green Bond Principles of the International Capital Market Association, or the European Green Bond standard.

Climate risk reporting

The EIB Group has a reporting framework to track its climate risk exposure, based on the output of the climate risk screening tool. This framework includes:

- a quarterly synthesis report, with information on climate risk exposures across the EIB Group portfolio, which is part of the risk reports provided to the Management Committee, the Bank's Board of Directors and the Audit Committee;
- a more comprehensive climate risk report produced twice a year, giving an overview of physical and transition risk exposure in the EIB Group portfolio and of new operations – including operations under mandate – with breakdowns and deep analysis of the credit segment, sector, geography and credit rating, to better inform the decision-making processes.

Risk appetite framework

The EIB Group's risk appetite framework formalises the level of risk that the Group is willing to take as part of its activities and objectives. The framework covers the major categories of financial risk (including credit, liquidity, market and treasury risks) and non-financial risk (including operational, communication and technology, conduct and compliance, and reputational risks).

In 2022, the EIB Group introduced new indicators for monitoring climate risk from a financial and non-financial perspective, and began reporting on them in 2023. These indicators are based on the output of the climate risk screening tool and are reported on a quarterly basis.

Capital and liquidity adequacy assessment

As part of the EIB Group's best banking practice framework, an internal capital adequacy assessment process has been created to ensure that the Group identifies and is protected against all risks to which it is exposed, including credit, market, operational and other risks.

Climate change risk is considered in the risk identification process. Where relevant, outcomes from climate scenario analyses and stress tests are reflected in the assessment documentation. As climate risk is further integrated into the risk framework, the EIB Group will assess the potential need to set aside more capital to cover climate damage scenarios.

The EIB Group has also created an internal liquidity adequacy assessment process as part of its best banking practice framework. It recognises the impact of climate change and the environment on the Group's business, including transition effects and/or physical risks. Sensitivity analyses are used to assess the materiality of climate risk from a liquidity risk perspective.

Stress testing and sensitivity analysis

Climate sensitivity analyses were initiated in 2020, using the output of the climate risk screening tool. The EIB Group is not supervised by an external supervisory banking authority but it aims to meet the European Central Bank expectations with respect to climate and environment-related stress testing.

3.3.3.4. Overview of portfolio climate risks

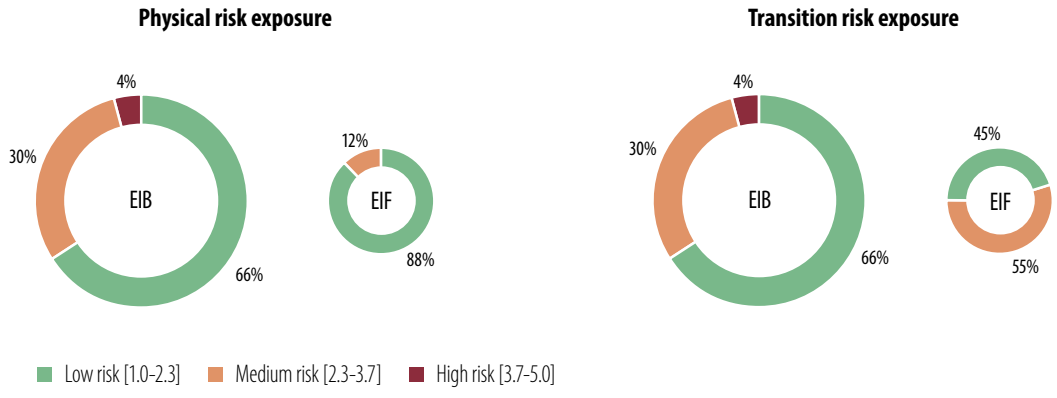
In its assessment framework, the EIB Group considers the impact climate change will have on its financing activities across different time periods.

To different degrees and across different periods, climate change may affect the various traditional banking risk categories to which the EIB Group is exposed. Credit risk is considered to be one of the risk categories most affected by climate change.

From the credit risk perspective, the EIB Group periodically analyses its portfolio's credit exposure to transition and physical risks, based on the output of the internally developed climate risk screening tool. In 2025, approximately 91% of the Group's exposure was screened using the tool.

Figure 21 shows the overall exposure of the Group portfolio to climate risks at the end of the year. The scores are classed as low, medium or high climate risk.

Figure 21: PHYSICAL AND TRANSITION RISK EXPOSURE

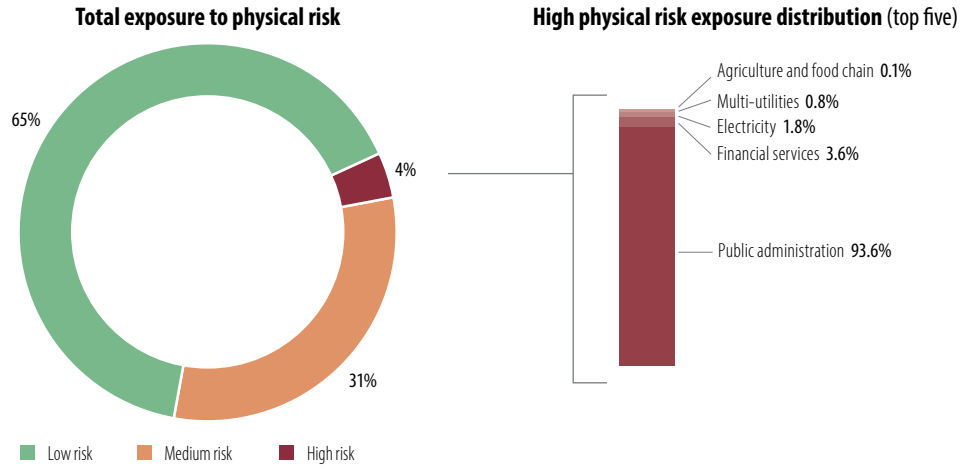


Source: EIB Group

According to the screening tool, in five to ten years a small number of EIB Group counterparties will have high exposure to physical risks. Exposure to transition risk is higher due to the Group's traditional focus on energy and infrastructure activities, as reflected by the much higher share of exposure with medium risk.

Exposure to these sectors will remain high given the climate bank's role in supporting the decarbonisation of critical industries. Under the EIB Group PATH framework, the Bank nevertheless ensures that higher-risk corporate counterparties either have transition and/or resilience plans in place, or develop and publish such plans within a given timeframe to mitigate the risk. (For more information about the PATH framework, including the fact that the Bank offers technical assistance to counterparties to develop these plans, please refer to Chapter 3.3.3.2 of this report.)

Figure 22: EIB GROUP EXPOSURE TO PHYSICAL RISKS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH RISKS, BY SECTOR

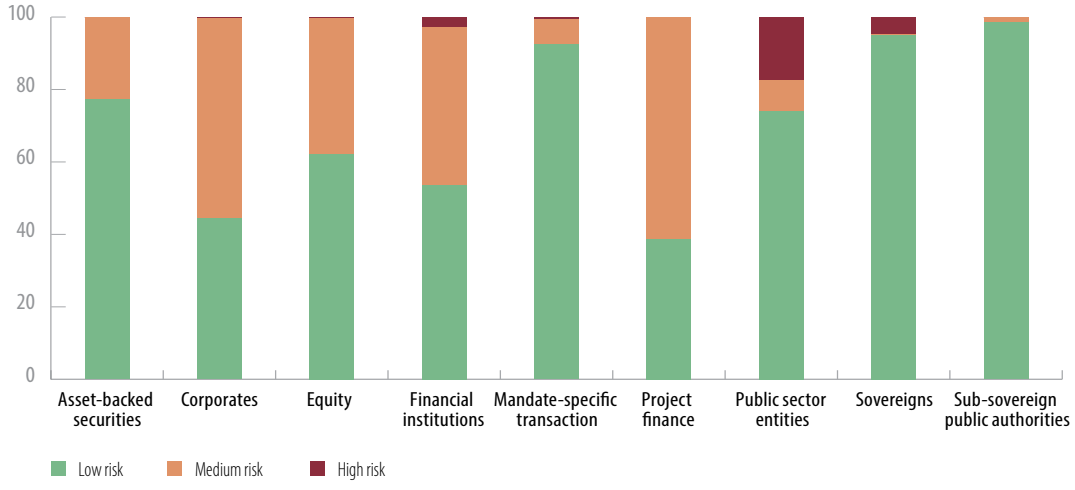


Source: EIB Group

Overall, the EIB Group's exposure to physical risk is relatively low. In the short to medium term, physical risk is expected to have a low material impact on the Group's overall risk profile, although certain sectors or operations have been identified as high or medium risk. In the long term, however, the exposure to high physical risk in the portfolio is expected to increase as global warming continues.

Most of the EIB Group's high physical risk exposure is concentrated in the public administration sector. This reflects the physical risk of countries beyond the European Union, which tends to be higher.

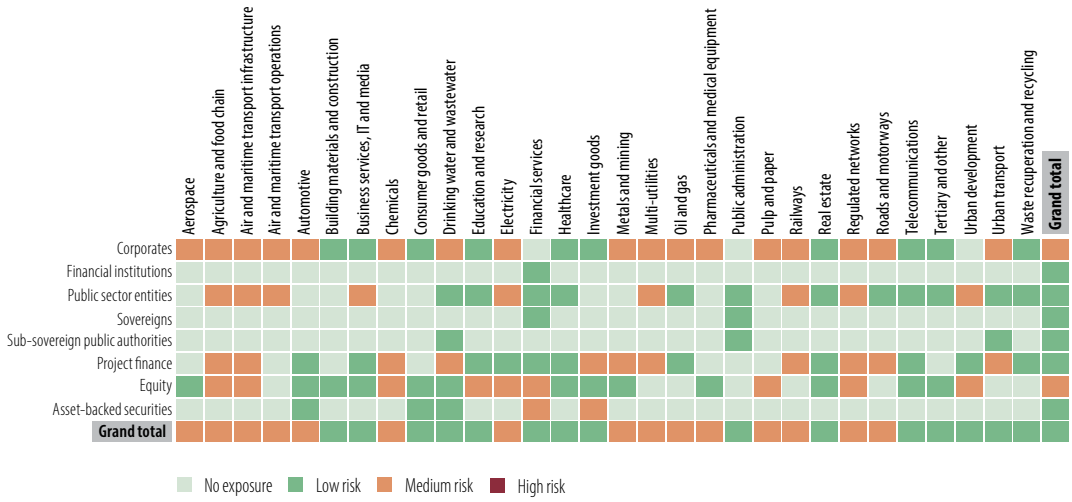
Figure 23: EIB GROUP EXPOSURE TO PHYSICAL RISKS (IN %), BY CREDIT SEGMENT



Source: EIB Group

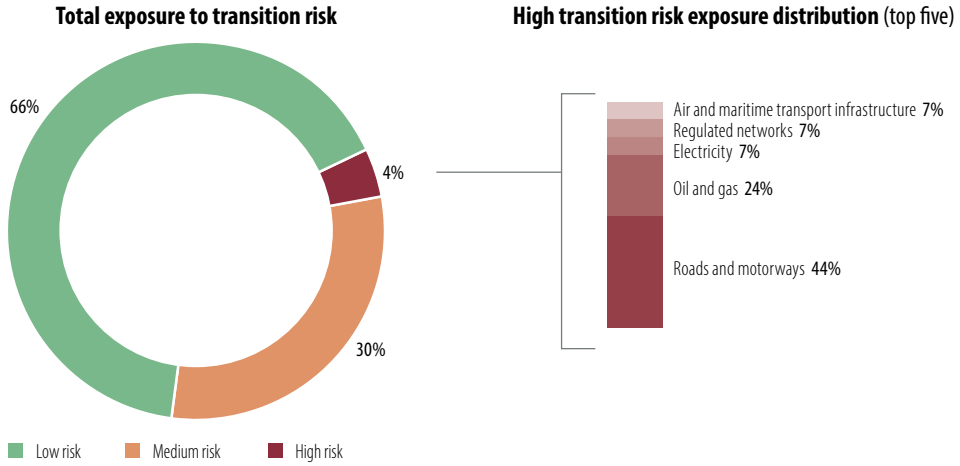
One reason for the large share of low-risk areas for sub-sovereign public administrations is that EU countries (to which the EIB Group is highly exposed) generally have a high capacity to mitigate physical risk. The corporate and project finance credit segments are more likely to present medium risk exposure due to their exposure to infrastructure sectors vulnerable to the physical effects of climate change, like regulated networks, transport and electricity.

Figure 24: EIB GROUP EXPOSURE TO PHYSICAL RISKS, BY SECTOR AND CREDIT SEGMENT



Source: EIB Group

Figure 25: EIB GROUP EXPOSURE TO TRANSITION RISKS AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH RISKS, BY SECTOR

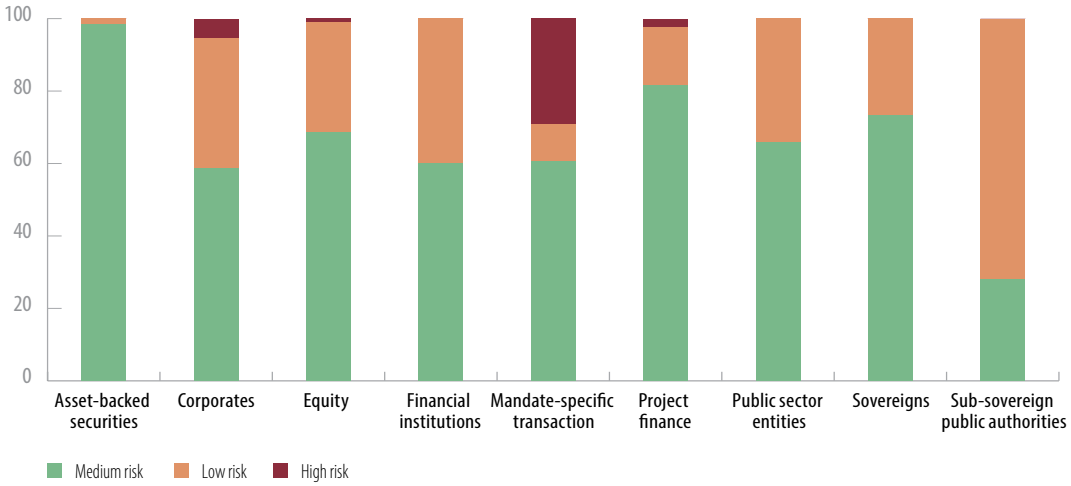


Source: EIB Group

In the short to medium term, the EIB Group's portfolio will be more sensitive to transition risks. Following updates of the methodology, there were changes in the distribution of high risk exposure by sector, which is now concentrated mostly in roads and motorways, oil and gas, electricity, regulated networks and air and maritime transport infrastructure. The EIB Group's exposure to the oil and gas sector comes predominantly from the outstanding portfolio (with a medium to long tenor), while new operations only support these counterparties in their transition to low-carbon activities. Medium risk

exposure is concentrated in the public administration and financial services sectors. Because financial services are exposed to so many different sectors, they reflect the average economic risk.

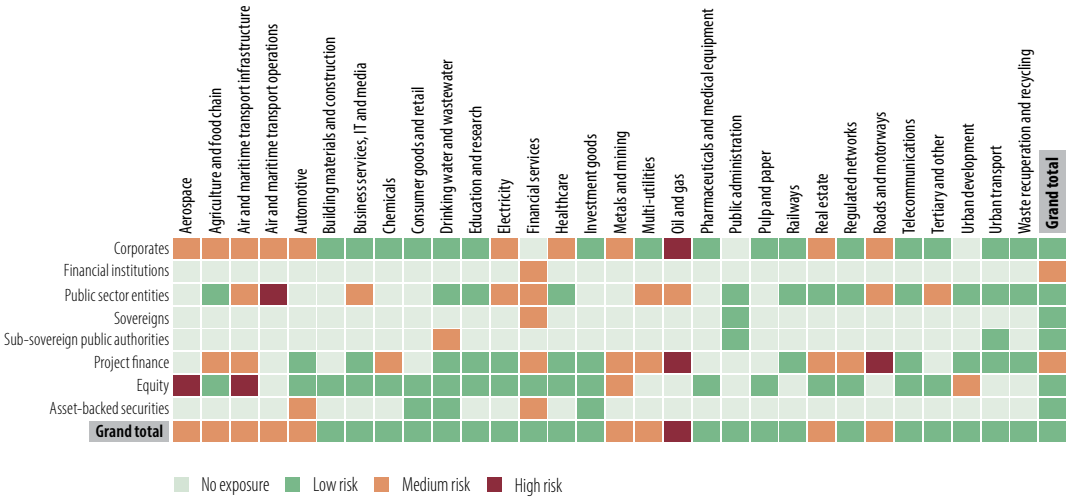
Figure 26: EIB GROUP EXPOSURE TO TRANSITION RISKS (IN %), BY CREDIT SEGMENT



Source: EIB Group

Financial institutions are generally exposed to the overall economy and therefore reflect the average transition risk. The predominant medium risk of sub-sovereign public authorities is linked to the overall average transition risk of the geographies the Group is exposed to. The high risk for project finance is mainly linked to operations in roads and motorways and legacy projects in oil and gas infrastructure.

Figure 27: TRANSITION RISK IN THE CREDIT SEGMENT VS. THE ECONOMIC SECTOR (AVERAGE WEIGHTED SCORE)



Source: EIB Group

3.3.4. Accelerating the transition through climate finance

The EIB Group has made key commitments on climate and green finance. These commitments and how the Group is supporting the transition through climate finance are presented in Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

3.4. CARBON FOOTPRINT OF THE BANK'S FINANCING 2023-2025

The Bank makes dual estimates of the carbon footprint of its projects: one of the greenhouse gas emissions of projects financed during the reporting year, and one of the greenhouse gas emissions of its whole portfolio.

3.4.1. 2025 carbon footprint of signed projects

For details on the scope and process of estimating the carbon footprint of projects financed in a given year, see the EIB Project Carbon Footprint Methodologies.

☑ In 2025, the EIB estimated and reported greenhouse gas emissions for projects with significant expected emissions that would exceed thresholds for absolute emissions (actual emissions from the project) or relative emissions (estimated increases or reductions compared with the expected alternative). In both cases, the threshold is more than 20 000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) per year, based on a standard year of the project's operations.

☑ In 2025, 86 projects had estimated emissions exceeding the absolute or relative thresholds and were included in the carbon footprint exercise. These projects represent total EIB signatures or allocation approvals of €23 billion.[69]

☑ The total absolute greenhouse gas emissions of projects in the 2025 carbon footprint exercise are estimated at 1.2 million tonnes of CO_2e per year. The overall reduced or avoided emissions from the same financing are estimated at 4.5 million tonnes of CO_2e per year.[70]

Table 22 shows the annual results for the last three years. The figures show large savings of 4.5 million to 5.7 million tonnes of CO_2e per year. Overall, EIB Group projects continue to help reduce emissions, as shown by the high figure for negative relative emissions.

Table 22: ☑ CARBON FOOTPRINT OF THE BANK'S FINANCING, 2023-2025

	2023	2024	2025
Number of projects	80	82	86
Amount signed by EIB (€ billion)	24	17	23
Absolute emissions (Mt CO_2e/year)*	1.2	2.6	1.2
Carbon sequestration from forestry (Mt CO_2e/year)*	0	0	0.2
Relative emissions (Mt CO_2e/year)*	-5.2	-5.7	-4.5

* Emissions and carbon sequestration are prorated to the Bank's lending volume before aggregation. Otherwise, total project emissions (absolute) and savings (relative) would be significantly larger. Mt CO_2e = megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

69. Projects with a finance contract signed or large allocations approved in the year. Large allocations under framework loans already signed include individual investment projects that have undergone a full individual project appraisal.

70. Carbon footprints are calculated using the version of the methodology in place at the time of appraisal. A project's carbon footprint is published in its environmental and social data sheet upon approval by the EIB Board of Directors, and individual carbon footprints are not subsequently adjusted due to methodology changes for the purposes of aggregating data in the annual carbon footprint exercise. The impact of applying different versions of the methodology has been assessed and is not deemed to be significant.

3.4.2. Estimating greenhouse gas emissions across our portfolio

In line with best practices, the Bank has been working to estimate and report on the total emissions associated with its entire portfolio of outstanding financed operations. While these estimations include most of the Bank's operations, they do not yet cover the whole portfolio, as they do not include intermediated finance to banks and other types of financial intermediaries. The EIB Group is exploring how best to calculate or model the emissions of these intermediated operations.

> ☑ *At the end of 2025, the Bank's operations assessed for portfolio emissions were equivalent to roughly €400 billion in disbursed exposure. These operations are estimated to account for around 36 000 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent in financed emissions for 2025. Of this total, about 52% are scope 1 emissions (direct emissions from a project), 16% are scope 2 emissions (emissions from generating the power used by the project) and 32% are scope 3 emissions (upstream and downstream emissions associated with the project).*

As explained in Chapter 7 of the EIB Project Carbon Footprint Methodologies, limited types of scope 3 emissions are calculated for certain projects.

Based on this assessment, it is estimated that the emissions intensity for the portfolio is approximately 90 tonnes CO_2 equivalent/€ million of disbursed exposure.

Most of the Bank's portfolio emissions arise from investments in transport (36%), energy (24%) and industry (19%). Through its financing, the Bank helps clients progress in their transition to low-carbon business models, including by investing in activities that could lead to high emissions, to support energy efficiency and other emissions reductions.

The analysis was guided by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard and the Global GHG Accounting and Reporting Standard for the Financial Industry developed by the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials.

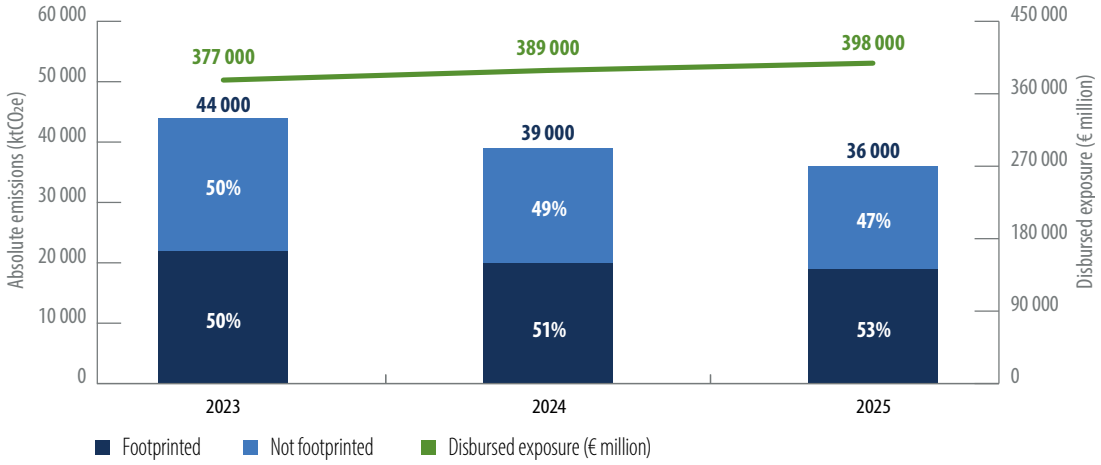
Around 52% of portfolio-financed emissions are based on the carbon footprints estimated for projects since 2013 using the EIB Project Carbon Footprint Methodologies and included in the Bank's annual project carbon footprint exercise. These emissions are prorated to reflect the share of each project financed by the Bank that has been disbursed and not yet repaid.

The remaining projects covered by the assessment did not have a calculated or estimated carbon footprint, either because they were financed before 2013 or fell below the thresholds in Chapter 5 of the EIB Project Carbon Footprint Methodologies. For these projects, emissions are generally estimated using sectoral emission factors per million euros invested. These factors are derived from projects with calculated or estimated carbon footprint, but capped at the thresholds applicable at the time of signature.

Estimating financed greenhouse gas emissions for a large and diverse portfolio, including projects dating back several decades, involves uncertainty. Outcomes may vary depending on the assumptions and tools used. The Bank continues to work with other institutions and users of portfolio-financed emissions methodologies to improve data quality and the robustness of its outcomes.

Figure 28 shows the Bank's portfolio-financed emissions and disbursed exposure between 2023 and 2025, showing a reduction of nearly 20% in financed emissions during this period, despite a slight increase in disbursed exposure. The reduction in emissions is to large extent due to changes in the composition of the Bank's portfolio, as it continues to shift away from high-emitting projects, and also reflecting a refinement of carbon footprint data used in the calculation.

Figure 28: EIB PORTFOLIO-FINANCED EMISSIONS AND DISBURSED EXPOSURE, 2023-2025



Note: Emissions for earlier years have been recalculated to account for data quality improvements.

Bringing down emissions from electricity generation

In 2025, the Bank analysed the emissions intensity of electricity generation projects in its portfolio and how this has changed under the new energy lending policy, which in 2020 phased out support for electricity generation projects based on unabated fossil fuel. Bank support for renewable energy projects increased significantly during that same period. It is estimated that the average emissions intensity from electricity generation projects in the portfolio fell significantly, to around 25g CO_2e/kWh in 2025 from around 120g CO_2e/kWh in 2018 (around 80% reduction).

3.5. CLIMATE GOALS AND ACTIONS IN THE EIB GROUP'S OWN CORPORATE OPERATIONS AND UPSTREAM ACTIVITIES

The EIB Group also works to reduce the climate impact of its own operations. This includes emissions linked to the use of its buildings, staff travel and the procurement of goods, works and services. While this footprint is small compared with that of its financing activities, the Group aims to lead by example.

3.5.1. EIB Group environmental policy and climate commitments

As set out in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021–2025, the Group has integrated the principles and objectives of the EIB Climate Strategy into its internal environmental policy, targets and action plans. This integration strengthens strategic coherence and accountability and ensures that sustainability is embedded in the Group's day-to-day operations and in the work of external service providers.

The Group's Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) Environmental Policy applies to all internal business activities in Luxembourg and in external offices. It sets out the Group's main climate ambitions, including:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with EU climate goals;
- promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy;
- mitigating climate change beyond the Group's value chain, including through the purchase of high-quality carbon credits.

The corporate climate programme for 2020-2025 translates these ambitions into concrete commitments and actions.

3.5.2. Actions addressing climate change in daily operations

3.5.2.1. Corporate climate targets and programme

In addition to applying Paris-aligned standards to its financing, the EIB Group seeks to lead by example through its internal operations. Its corporate climate programme for 2021-2025 focuses on reducing the environmental impact of internal activities and the corporate supply chain, supported by clear carbon and sustainability targets and action plans.

The Group has set a science-based target to reduce gross greenhouse gas emissions by 12.4% between 2018 and 2025. This corresponds to a reduction of around 30% in 2025 compared with a business-as-usual scenario.

The programme includes more than 100 projects across Luxembourg and external offices. These projects are structured around three areas: the way we work, the way we travel and the way we do business.

As part of the Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, the Group revised its internal carbon reduction pathway in 2025. From 2026, a new "going net zero" roadmap will set an absolute emissions reduction target of 34% by 2030, compared with 2018, and will cover a wider range of activities. It will also introduce objectives on biodiversity, circularity, social sustainability and resilience. The new roadmap will apply leading environmental management standards and strengthen transparency.

3.5.2.2. Key achievements

In 2025, the Group achieved a 42% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from internal operations compared with 2018, exceeding its science-based target of 12.4%. Carbon intensity per employee fell from 7.1 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) to 3.7 tonnes, a reduction of 54%.

The Group also extended the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) certification to all occupied buildings in Luxembourg, and the EKI building achieved a BREEAM Outstanding rating.

The way we work: The Group is constructing a nearly zero-emissions building, renovating offices using circular design principles and improving energy performance through more efficient heating, lighting, ventilation and air-conditioning systems. It is also digitalising processes, reducing printing, introducing a choice-based workplace strategy and minimising waste and single-use plastics.

The way we travel: The Group promotes low-carbon commuting and business travel, encourages video conferencing and teleworking and is transitioning to a hybrid or fully electric vehicle fleet. Staff are encouraged to commute by bicycle, on foot or by public transport.

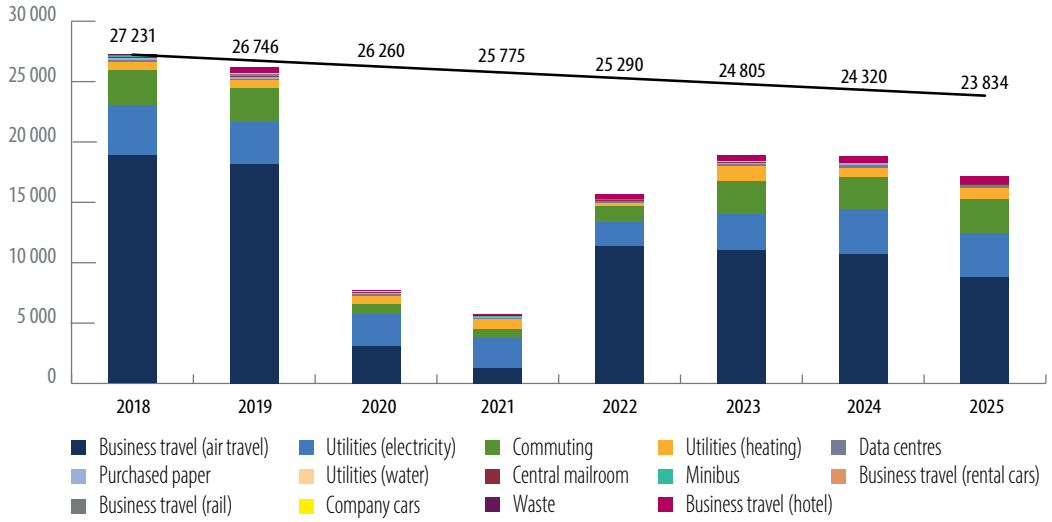
The way we do business: The Group integrates sustainability in its business practices by working with suppliers on the low-carbon transition and applying circular economy and sustainability criteria to the

procurement of goods and services with a high environmental impact. This includes office fit-outs, building maintenance and hospitality services. Office relocations within and beyond Europe follow environmental design guidelines and prioritise sustainable standards and the reuse of existing furniture, including recent relocations in Madrid and Paris.

Staff engagement remains a priority, as technological improvements alone cannot deliver the expected results without changes in behaviour. Awareness-raising campaigns, sustainability training and the OurPlanet platform support responsible practices. The platform reached 1 000 users following an inter-directorate challenge in September, and the Group also held its annual Green Up Day events.

Details on actions, time frames, progress and scope are available in the Environmental Statement 2026 Update, which includes performance data for 2025.

Figure 29: EIB GROUP GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS HISTORY AND TARGET



Source: EIB Group

Table 23: EIB GROUP GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN 2025, BY SCOPE

Emissions category	Scope	2025	2024	Var %	2018	Var %
Natural gas	1	0	0		24	(100%)
Company cars	1	12	15	(22%)	51	(77%)
Electricity	2	2 830	2 842	—%	4 209	(33%)
Heating	2	720	759	(5%)	625	15%
Purchased paper	3.1	28	31	(8%)	130	(78%)
Water	3.1	20	19	5%	68	(71%)
Data centres	3.1	266	257	3%	189	41%
Shipments	3.1	18	17	1%	62	(71%)
Waste	3.4	3	4	(19%)	17	(81%)
Air travel	3.6	8 790	10 736	(18%)	18 881	(53%)

Emissions category	Scope	2025	2024	Var %	2018	Var %
Rail	3.6	6	6	1%	25	(75%)
Minibus	3.6	0	0		60	(100%)
Car rentals	3.6	27	28	(6%)	52	(49%)
Commuting	3.7	3 118	2 931	6%	2 838	10%
Total		15 837	17 645	(10%)	27 230	(42%)

Source: EIB Group

3.5.2.3. Addressing unabated emissions

Some emissions remain unavoidable during the transition. The Group offsets these residual emissions through climate contributions, including the financing of emission reduction or carbon removal projects outside its value chain by purchasing high-quality carbon credits.

Between 2014 and 2023, the Group invested almost €19 million in carbon credits, offsetting more than 181 351 tonnes of CO_2e. In 2025, it retired 27 891 carbon credits to compensate for residual emissions from 2022 and 2023. These credits came from two forestry-based projects: the XiCO_2e Durango Forest project in Mexico and the Vichada Climate Reforestation project in Colombia.

The Group will continue to buy carbon credits on a voluntary basis to match its annual internal emissions. In early 2026, it published a call for tender to offset residual emissions for 2024 and 2025.

3.5.2.4. Ensuring integrity in carbon credit procurement

Since 2022, the EIB Group's procurement criteria for carbon credits have reflected the ten Core Carbon Principles of the Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market and the Group's requirements for sensitive activities, in line with the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards. All selected projects are certified by recognised international bodies and deliver additional benefits, including as biodiversity protection, improved water quality and local economic development. The procurement for carbon compensation of 2024 and 2025 internal carbon emissions will be concluded in 2026.



4.
FIGHTING POLLUTION



Key messages

Pollution remains one of the world's most pressing challenges, affecting air, water and soil quality and overall public health. It is a major concern for governments, communities and organisations worldwide, as it threatens ecosystems, contributes to climate change and undermines quality of life. Tackling pollution requires coordinated, innovative and sustained efforts at every level of society.

In Europe, people are exposed to pollution in their homes, at work and outdoors, when they eat, play, sleep, drive, walk, swim or run. Environmental pollution is linked to a range of diseases, including cancer, heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease and neurological disorders. European Environment Agency data show that environmental pollution, including air, noise and chemical pollution, significantly contributes to premature deaths and disease in Europe. An estimated 10% of annual premature deaths in the European Union are thought to be related to environmental pollution. These deaths are preventable and can be significantly reduced by cutting pollution.

EIB Group and EU commitments

The European Investment Bank (EIB) Group supports EU efforts to reduce air, water and soil pollution to levels that are no longer considered harmful to health and natural ecosystems, and that respect the planet's boundaries, thereby creating a toxic-free environment – as outlined in the EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil'.

Concrete actions and impact

In 2025, the EIB Group financed more than 146 projects supporting pollution prevention and control for a total investment of over €19 billion. Most of these projects also contributed to climate change mitigation (cutting greenhouse gas emissions), and therefore had a dual benefit. These efforts are central to supporting a low-carbon, resource-efficient and zero-pollution economy, which results in a healthier planet for all.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented policies and standards to prevent and control pollution across its investments.

EIB Group:

- **The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy**

European Investment Bank:

- **European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards**
- **The EIB Environment Framework**
- **European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria**

European Investment Fund:

- **Environmental, Social & Governance Principles**
- **Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations**

Examples of projects financed

- **a €35 million EIB loan to GreenLight Biosciences España to develop sustainable, alternative solutions to chemical pesticides;**
- **a €20 million EIB loan to PulPac, a sustainable packaging company, to scale up the production of its patented rigid packaging made from renewable cellulose fibre;**
- **a €40 million EIF investment in the SWEN Blue Ocean 2 fund, which supports innovative solutions that address the loss of ocean biodiversity, including efforts to reduce marine pollution.**

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
E2 - Pollution	√	√		√
Air pollution	√	√		√
Soil pollution	√	√		
Water pollution	√	√		
Substances of concern or very high concern		√		
Microplastics		√		

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Promotion of projects and innovations that reduce air, soil and water pollution, in line with EU priorities.	Air, soil and water pollution	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Investments in industrial activities that contribute to the deterioration of air, soil and water quality (such as transport and industry).	Air, soil and water pollution	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Investments in pharmaceutical, textile or mining industries involved in the formulation or manufacture of substances of concern and very high concern.	Substances of concern and very high concern	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential financing of companies that use microplastics or whose products release microplastics.	Microplastics	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Default risk arising from counterparties that are unable to fulfil the EIB Group's contractual requirements on air pollution prevention, leading to a decline in performance or the suspension of the project/activity.	Air pollution	Risk	Downstream	Short-term

4.1. POLICIES RELATED TO POLLUTION

Pollution prevention and control requirements are set out in Standard 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards. Standard 3 outlines the Bank's clients' responsibilities in contributing to the EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' through:

- sound management of hazardous substances and materials;
- avoiding the shift of pollution from one environmental medium to another;
- air, water and soil pollution prevention and control;
- waste management;
- emergency prevention, preparedness and response.

Mitigating air, water and soil pollution

Sound pollution risk management is key to abating air, soil, water and marine pollution and reducing waste and noise, which protects the environment and human health and well-being. The EIB Group finances projects that tackle these kinds of pollution through investments in cleaner transport, renewable energy, energy efficiency, wastewater treatment and upgrades to industrial facilities. It also invests in solutions to reduce problematic pollutants, such as nitrogen and phosphorus pollution from the agri-food sector and microplastics. These investments will help Europe deliver on its ambitious plan to prevent and reduce emissions.

The EIB Group is tackling marine pollution through its Clean Oceans Initiative, with investments that target pollution sources such as the discharge of untreated wastewater from inland and unsustainable waste management. For more details on the Clean Oceans Initiative, see Chapter 5, "Preserving water and marine resources."

Standard 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards outlines the responsibility of companies or public bodies that receive Bank funds, where applicable. Projects funded must use resources efficiently, prevent pollution wherever possible and limit emissions, noise pollution and radiation. The standard also covers accident prevention, as well as waste management and the safe use of hazardous substances and pesticides. The EIB Group avoids shifting pollution from one area to another, and follows the "do no significant harm" principle of the EU taxonomy for sustainable activities in supporting Europe's goal of zero pollution. Whether Standard 3 is applicable to a project is determined during the environmental and social impact assessment.

Supporting innovative solutions that protect the environment

GreenLight Biosciences España was founded in 2022 to develop ribonucleic acid interference (RNAi) products for crop protection as a sustainable alternative to conventional pesticides. A €35 million EIB loan will help the company develop, register, manufacture and commercialise new substances and plant protection products that improve plant and bee health. These solutions will reduce the use and risks of chemical and hazardous pesticides, support farmers and contribute to more sustainable agricultural practices.

In 2025, the Bank lent €20 million to PulPac, a sustainable packaging company based in Gothenburg, Sweden. PulPac is scaling up its patented Dry Molded Fiber technology, which produces rigid packaging from renewable cellulose fibre. This technology is a major improvement on traditional wet moulding – the dominant method for fibre-based packaging – as it enables faster production with a significantly lower environmental impact. The financing will support the company's research, development and innovation activities to develop and commercialise the next generation of food service and retail products. PulPac's technology is an example of a scalable solution that can help reduce global plastic waste and accelerate the green transition.

SWEN Blue Ocean: Reducing ocean pollution

In 2025, the EIF invested €40 million in SWEN Blue Ocean 2, an impact venture fund that aims to regenerate ocean biodiversity by scaling innovative solutions that address the key threats to marine ecosystems, including pollution. Marine pollution – driven in particular by plastic waste, industrial discharges and wastewater – remains a major threat to ocean health and biodiversity worldwide. Through its investments in early-stage companies, SWEN Blue Ocean 2 supports the development and deployment of technologies and business models that prevent, reduce or remediate pollution, contributing to healthier oceans and more sustainable blue economy value chains.

The EIF Environmental, Social & Governance Principles complement The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy by describing the EIF's basic principles for assessing, managing and reporting environmental, climate and social risks in its transactions with financial intermediaries and other relevant counterparties.

Managing hazardous substances and potentially dangerous materials

Paragraphs 20 and 21 of Standard 3 address the management of hazardous substances. They require project promoters to avoid, reduce or eliminate the use and storage of hazardous and potentially dangerous materials, and consider replacing them with less hazardous substitutes, when economically suitable and technically viable alternatives are available. If replacing these materials is not feasible, promoters must ensure that they use and store hazardous substances and materials safely by adhering to EU horizontal chemicals legislation (the REACH Regulation and others) and international good practices.

Avoiding incidents and emergency situations

Paragraphs 14 to 16 of Standard 3 require promoters to identify specific pollution risks and be prepared to respond to any incident, accident or emergency. They must have management systems in place and implement control measures to prevent and prepare for major accidents and respond effectively if they

happen, in line with the applicable legal framework and international good practices. Where relevant, the promoter's overall environmental and social management system should set out the following:

- a major accident prevention policy and the safety management system to be put in place to implement it;
- a contingency plan that analyses disaster risks and establishes arrangements that enable timely, effective and appropriate responses, including actions to ensure that those plans are tested, revised and implemented.

Contribution to the EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil'

Paragraph 2.3 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy confirms the EIB Group's commitment to the EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' of 12 May 2021.

The action plan sets targets for 2030 to quickly reduce how much pollution is created by tackling it at its source. Investments by the EIB Group contribute to several of these targets:

- Improving air quality to reduce the number of premature deaths caused by air pollution by 55%. For example, air pollution caused by fine particulate matter led to an estimated 200 000 premature deaths in the European Union in 2022. The EIB Group invests in clean public transport (rail, electric buses, metro systems, trains, etc.) that support the shift away from combustion engines powered by fossil fuels.
- Improving water quality by reducing waste, plastic litter at sea (-50%) and microplastics released into the environment (-30%). The EIB Group invests in wastewater treatment infrastructure, waste management infrastructure and stormwater drainage that reduce the plastics and microplastics released into the environment.
- Reducing the amount of waste generated and residual municipal waste by 50%. The EIB Group strives to maximise investments in businesses and production processes that are based on a circular economy model, minimising waste production and increasing the use of secondary raw materials in all sectors.

4.2. ACTIONS AND RESOURCES RELATED TO POLLUTION

For a detailed presentation of how EIB Group financing and advisory activities support pollution prevention and control, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

4.2.1. Financing

The EIB Group carefully tracks all investments that prevent and control pollution through its climate action and environmental sustainability tracking system. Of the four environmental non-climate objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation, the EIB Group currently invests the most in pollution prevention and control. In 2025, the EIB Group financed more than 146 projects supporting pollution prevention and control, investing a total of over €19 billion. For a summary of EIB Group investments, see Chapter 1, "General information."

Pollution prevention and control is the environmental sustainability objective that overlaps the most with climate action, providing a dual benefit. Pollution represents 77% of investments in environmental sustainability, of which the majority also contribute to climate action. This mainly comes from sustainable mobility (railways and urban transport) and renewable or low-carbon energy investments that improve air quality while also mitigating climate change. For example, electrified transport projects

support climate change mitigation and pollution prevention because they reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants. In 2025, the greatest contributors to pollution projects that did not also benefit climate action were investments in the water sector (58%) and the circular economy (20%).

The EIF sets an annual target for the share of its financing devoted to climate and environmental activities outlined in its climate action and environmental sustainability guidelines, which include activities related to pollution prevention and control.

4.2.2. Due diligence and monitoring

Broadly, the EIB Group responds to pollution by:

- conducting environmental due diligence on operations;
- ensuring that promoters can manage pollution-related risks;
- including conditions in financing contracts that ensure pollution is minimised and managed;
- monitoring investments.

According to Standard 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, all operations located in the European Union, the European Free Trade Association, and EU candidate and potential candidate countries must comply with the applicable national and EU environmental laws. When national environmental standards and requirements are more stringent than those contained in EU environmental laws, as may be the case for environmental quality standards and/or emission limits, national standards take precedence.

Projects beyond the European Union must comply with national laws and, where relevant, any specific EU standards that the Bank deems should be respected.

For projects associated with activities listed in the Industrial and Livestock Rearing Emissions Directive (IED 2.0), the promoter must provide the Bank with:

- an environmental impact assessment (if the project is subject to the assessment), which includes a description of the proposed technology and other techniques (including the use of best available techniques or cutting-edge techniques) for preventing or reducing emissions to the air, water and land, as well as waste generation, use of raw materials, noise and energy use, in addition to information on accident prevention and restoring conditions of full compliance, in line with the requirements of the directive;
- the relevant decision(s) from the competent authority that satisfy the requirements set out in the assessment, where applicable, and the directive;
- the existing permit issued by the competent authority in accordance with directive requirements, including the results of emission monitoring, if applicable. For the appraisal of projects located beyond the European Union, the same principles of the directive apply, and the promoter must therefore work with the Bank to consider whether best available techniques and any emerging techniques can be applied in whole or in part, and include the timeframe for their implementation.



5.
PRESERVING WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES



Key messages

By 2050, over 40% of the world's population may face severe water stress, meaning water resources are not enough to meet the needs of people, industry and agriculture. Energy, transport, agriculture and industry all depend on a reliable supply of fresh water. As climate change intensifies and demand for water grows, safeguarding this vital resource has become increasingly urgent.

In 2025, water became a core pillar of the European Union's agenda for security, competitiveness and climate resilience. The adoption of the European Water Resilience Strategy reflects a growing recognition that water scarcity, floods, droughts and pollution are no longer isolated environmental issues. They are systemic risks that affect people, economies and ecosystems across Europe.

Water pollution is central to this challenge and has wide-ranging consequences for ecosystems, economies and human health. Contaminants from industrial discharge, agricultural run-off, untreated sewage and plastic waste are damaging freshwater and marine environments at an alarming rate. In Europe, pollutants such as nitrates, pesticides, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), microplastics and pharmaceutical residues are frequently found in rivers, lakes and coastal waters. These substances accumulate in the food chain, disrupt aquatic ecosystems and pose risks to public health.

Water efficiency and circular water use are now seen as drivers of European competitiveness. In 2025, the European Union positioned its water sector as a strategic asset, encouraging innovation, modernising infrastructure and supporting investment in a water-smart economy that reduces pressure on scarce resources.

By promoting water efficiency, reuse and digital solutions, the European Union's 2025 water agenda strengthens innovation and investment in water technologies that are essential for the blue economy. This sector includes aquaculture, marine biotechnology, coastal tourism and renewable energy, all of which depend on clean and resilient water systems. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated, innovative and long-term efforts at every level of society. These include stronger enforcement of water quality standards, investment in nature-based solutions and circular economy practices, and broad public engagement to support systemic change.



EIB Group and EU commitments

As the world's largest multilateral investor in the water sector, the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group introduced its Water Resilience Programme in 2025 to support the European Commission's Water Resilience Strategy. The programme is built on three pillars that together aim to secure Europe's water future. It improves access to clean and safe drinking water and sanitation by financing modern and reliable water and wastewater infrastructure. It strengthens the resilience of communities and the economy to climate change by supporting projects that address droughts, floods, water scarcity and pollution, including efficiency measures and nature-based solutions. It also supports innovation and competitiveness in the water sector by financing digitalisation, smart water management and new technologies, helping Europe remain a global leader in water solutions.

The Water Resilience Programme targets €15 billion in EIB lending between 2025 and 2027, or around €5 billion a year. This represents a significant increase in water financing. The Bank's contribution is expected to mobilise around €40 billion in total investment by attracting public and private co-financiers.

The programme has already begun to deliver results. In 2025, the Bank signed around 68 water-related projects with total financing of almost €5 billion,[71] in line with the programme's early scale-up. This shows that strategic ambition is already translating into concrete operations, less than one year after its launch in mid-2025. Over the last three years (2023-2025), water sector signatures reached around €13 billion in total (about €4 billion in 2023, €3.8 billion in 2024 and €5 billion in 2025), confirming a clear upward trend consistent with the programme's objectives.

Concrete actions and impact

The EIB water sector orientation sets clear investment priorities and operational guidelines for water projects. It was published in 2023 after consultation with the European Commission and other relevant institutions such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),

71. This figure includes €4.5 billion in green finance for water-related projects, as well as other water-related projects signed in 2025.

the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Agence Française de Développement and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW). The orientation recognises the need to strengthen water security across the globe in a changing climate, and the important role water projects can play.

The EIB Group also participates in collective initiatives like the UN Environment Programme's Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles and the Clean Oceans Initiative. By rigorously assessing projects throughout their life cycle, the EIB Group guarantees that its investments minimise environmental harm and protect water resources worldwide.

As a result of the Bank's investments in 2025, more than 32 million people will have access to cleaner and safer water and sanitation, including 13 million beyond Europe. In the context of accelerating climate change, the projects supported last year will also strengthen resilience by reducing drought risk for more than 18 million people and lowering flood risk for nearly 7 million.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented policies and standards to help preserve water and marine resources.

EIB Group:

- **The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy**

European Investment Bank:

- **European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards**
- **The EIB Environment Framework**
- **EIB water sector orientation**
- **European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria**

European Investment Fund:

- **EIF Environmental, Social & Governance Principles**
- **Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations**

Examples of projects financed

- an EIB-backed investment of nearly €60 million in The Gambia, co-financed with Agence Française de Développement, to deliver cleaner and safer water in the Greater Banjul area, improving health conditions for more than a quarter of the population, particularly women and vulnerable groups;
- a $100 million EIB loan to Banco de Desarrollo del Ecuador to expand access to safe water, sanitation and stormwater protection nationwide, building on a successful first operation that already benefits more than 750 000 people;
- a €200 million EIB loan to Poland to strengthen flood risk management and support climate-resilient and sustainable water infrastructure across the country;
- a €40 million EIF investment in the SWEN Blue Ocean 2 fund to support innovative solutions that restore ocean biodiversity and address the key threats to marine ecosystems, including pollution, overfishing and climate change.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
E3 - Water	√	√		√
Water use, including withdrawal, consumption, discharges and storage	√	√		√

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Promoting projects that support sustainable water management systems.	Water use	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Financing companies that are water-intensive or that have a negative impact on water withdrawal and discharges.	Water use	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Default risk arising from counterparties facing operational disruption and cost increases due to water scarcity and physical water stress, particularly in water-intensive sectors and stressed geographies.	Water use	Risk	Downstream	Short-term

5.1. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCE POLICIES

The EIB Group has policies governing water management, water treatment, water pollution prevention, and the design of products and services. They address water issues, consumption and efficiency, and sustainable oceans and seas.

Details of each topic and policy are provided below, along with the impact they have on water and marine resources.

5.1.1. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy sets out how the EIB Group integrates environmental, climate and social considerations into its activities and processes. It provides an overarching framework for all other policies. Under this policy, the EIB Group reviews water projects to ensure that investments do not significantly harm the environment, do not impede the sustainable use of natural and living resources, and respect human rights. Operations must adhere to the environmental and social commitments set out in the policy, and the requirements detailed in the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards and the EIF Environmental, Social & Governance Principles.

The European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards cover several topics related to water. They state that the Bank supports projects in line with the European Commission's Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC) and other directives. The standards also set out additional goals, such as efficient water use, wastewater treatment and the reduction of contaminants. In particular, Standard 3 acknowledges the need to reduce pollution and pressure on natural resources, including water, and encourages the use of appropriate technologies and processes to achieve environmental objectives.

5.1.2. The EIB Environment Framework

The EIB Environment Framework summarises how the Bank delivers on its environmental commitments, especially its target of increasing green finance to more than 50% of overall investment by 2025, as set out in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Mid-term Review. The framework lays out how the EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy addresses existing and emerging environmental challenges. It covers several topics related to water and marine resources, in particular the efficient use of water, the protection and restoration of water resources, and the reduction, control or elimination of water pollutants. It also aligns with the EU Action Plan: 'Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil' to improve water quality by reducing waste, plastic litter and microplastics. The EIB Environment Framework identifies additional areas in which the Bank can further support the sustainable use and protection of water resources in the face of increasing water scarcity. This includes using nature-based solutions to meet climate change adaptation goals (for instance, flood management and better drought preparedness).

The framework also covers the blue economy and healthy oceans, recognising that protecting oceans and seas is indispensable to meeting the EU and global environmental and climate objectives. The Bank will continue to support the development of a sustainable blue economy by devoting more financing to investments that:

- reduce ocean pollution;
- protect coastal ecosystems;
- develop innovative sustainable aquaculture.

5.1.3. EIB water sector orientation

The EIB water sector orientation gives an overview of the Bank's investment priorities. It was published in 2023 after consultation with the European Commission and other relevant institutions such as the OECD, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Agence Française de Développement and the German development bank KfW. The orientation confirms the need to strengthen water security across the globe in a changing climate. Moreover, it recognises the significant impact of water projects and the strategic role that the sector plays in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change, particularly for adaptation and environmental sustainability.

The orientation guides investment in water projects and addresses their specific environmental and social challenges. It defines the Bank's strategic orientation towards specific water issues:

- drinking water supply;
- wastewater collection and treatment;
- flood protection (including inland and coastal areas);
- agricultural water management.

The orientation prioritises investments in conventional water infrastructure and innovations like the circular economy, nature-based solutions and digitalisation. It highlights the types of investments that will maximise the Bank's impact.

The orientation supports investments that ensure access to secure water supplies, protect against destructive events like floods, and provide reliable, sustainable and affordable water and wastewater services. It strives to improve efficiency across the agriculture, energy, chemicals and water sectors; fosters investment in climate-resilient water systems to mitigate droughts and floods; and supports compliance with the EU water directives.

Table 24: WHAT THE BANK IS DOING...

What the Bank is doing...	
...and will continue to do	... and will seek to develop or do more of [72]
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY	
New or extended water supply systems (in EU Member States)	New or extended water supply systems (in countries beyond the European Union)
Improved efficiency of water supply systems	Digitalisation of water utilities
Rehabilitation of existing water supply systems	Optimised asset management
Desalination plants (last resort)	Alternative water resources and additional storage to cope with climate change, especially drought risk
WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT	
Rehabilitation of existing sewer networks	New or extended sewer networks
Upgrade of wastewater treatment plants	New and/or extended wastewater treatment plants
	Systems for removing micropollutants
	Digitalisation of wastewater utilities
	Sludge management, including recovery of phosphorus and other nutrients
	Wastewater reuse

72. Developing or increasing activities in line with strategic sector orientations does not necessarily mean increasing the lending volumes for these types of investment projects.

FLOOD PROTECTION	
Flood protection structures for inland and coastal areas	Urban stormwater management systems (including sustainable urban drainage systems)
	Early warning systems
	Nature-based solutions
AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT	
New irrigation or drainage schemes	Crop diversification as a strategy for climate adaptation and mitigation
	Energy-efficient pumping systems with increased use of renewable energy
	Multipurpose infrastructure including flood protection/energy generation/provision of drinking water/agricultural water systems
	Extended use of alternative water sources and focus on increasing water productivity
Modernisation of existing irrigation or drainage schemes	Investments to reduce water losses, improve water efficiency and reliability, or match irrigation service with actual needs
	Increased use of information technologies to improve water management

The Bank follows external directives and strategies for the water sector, such as those issued by the European Commission. Aligning policies with these goals ensures that the Bank's actions are consistent with broader EU objectives and strategies. The EIB water sector orientation also reiterates the strong role that climate-resilient water systems can play in achieving sustainable development for all.

5.1.4. European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria

The European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria establishes the framework for identifying and classifying projects that qualify for green financing by the Bank and the EIF. It is a tool for ensuring investments are transparent and consistent and align with the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025. It outlines specific criteria for water-related projects with climate action objectives – for mitigation and adaptation – as well as for projects supporting environmental sustainability, in particular those that protect and promote the sustainable use of water and marine resources.

Similarly, the Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations describes the activities it identifies as contributing to climate action or environmental sustainability objectives. This includes activities related to the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources.

5.2. ACTIONS RELATED TO WATER AND MARINE RESOURCES

For a detailed presentation of how EIB Group financing and advisory activities support water and marine resources, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

The EIB Group introduced a Water Resilience Programme in July 2025 to improve access to water, control pollution and increase the resilience and competitiveness of the EU water sector, including through large-scale infrastructure and nature-based solutions. This programme supports the European Commission's Water Resilience Strategy, which took effect in June 2025.

5.2.1. Due diligence and monitoring

As with all its investments, the EIB Group applies a risk-based approach to due diligence and monitoring of water and marine resource projects, ensuring compliance with The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy and the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards. This due diligence takes into account the environmental impact a project will have over its lifetime, and that of any products produced.

Standard 1 (Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks) requires promoters to assess projects according to the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive or the principles it sets forth for projects beyond the European Union. For marine environments, this assessment must be coordinated with the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

When performing due diligence for water sector projects, the Bank verifies that each project adheres to relevant water legislation and strategic frameworks. This includes compliance with the EU water directives – such as the Water Framework Directive, the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and the Drinking Water Directive – or, for projects beyond the European Union, adherence to the core principles of legislation and directives. The Bank ensures projects respect national legislation, river basin management plans and other overarching water management strategies. Other standards of the Bank, like Standard 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), encourage the identification, design and use of technologies, processes and services that respect and advance environmental objectives. This includes adopting best available techniques and emerging techniques as well as using energy and resources more efficiently and relying on renewable or less carbon-intensive energy sources.

In alignment with the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, the Bank monitors and reports on investments that contribute to the objectives defined in the Taxonomy Regulation, in particular the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources. In 2025, this contribution was €4.5 billion.

5.2.2. Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles

In 2017, the European Commission, the Bank, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the World Resources Institute released the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles, the first global framework to guide public and private investment in the ocean economy. Since 2019, these principles have been part of the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, led by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative. Over 70 institutions representing $11 trillion in assets have joined the initiative. In 2021 and 2022, the initiative released practical guidance for financing key ocean sectors – food production, shipping, ports, offshore renewable energy and coastal tourism. The list was later expanded to include waste management and coastal protection, providing standards, indicators and actions that encourage investors to finance projects promoting ocean sustainability.

5.2.3. Clean Oceans Initiative

The Clean Oceans Initiative is a collaborative effort by development banks to help reduce the plastic pollution discharged into marine waters. It was founded in 2018 by the EIB, KfW and Agence Française de Développement, and later joined by Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, Instituto de Crédito Oficial and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The initiative finances projects that help prevent plastic pollution from entering the ocean and that increase the collection and recycling of plastics. Supported projects include solid waste management, wastewater collection and treatment, and stormwater management. In June 2025, the initiative reached its joint financing target of €4 billion ahead of its planned end in December 2025. The partners have since agreed to begin a second phase with a new target of €3 billion by 2030.

Although the new target may seem lower than the previous one, it applies over a shorter period of four years instead of six. The second phase also places greater emphasis on preventive measures, such as projects that avoid plastic production through alternative materials and that promote circular production methods to reduce the overall use of plastics. The initiative has also invited new partners, especially those from regions that are major sources of oceanic plastic pollution. The Asian Development Bank joined as a new partner in 2025.

To help identify and prepare Clean Oceans Initiative projects, the Bank has set up three technical assistance facilities covering different regions:

- a facility under the Clean Oceans Project Identification and Preparation Programme, which identifies projects in sub-Saharan Africa, and the Project Preparation and Identification Programme for Timor-Leste, both completed in 2025;
- the Caribbean sustainable water management and clean oceans programme.

Progress under the Clean Oceans Initiative is reported each year and includes information on the number of projects financed and the amount of financing provided. The initiative is featured in the annual reporting for the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and the EU Blue Economy Report.

5.2.4. EIF financing

The EIF sets an annual target for the share of its financing devoted to climate and environmental activities outlined in the Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations, which include activities related to the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources.

In 2025, the Fund invested €75 million in Serena Infra II, an infrastructure fund that supports early-stage infrastructure projects across Europe, including water projects. By targeting water infrastructure alongside other sustainable infrastructure assets, the fund helps improve water management, strengthen climate resilience and support more efficient and sustainable water services.

5.2.5. Examples of Bank projects that support water and marine resources

The Gambia: Cleaner and safer water

In The Gambia, the EIB partnered with Agence Française de Développement to co-finance essential water investments in the Greater Banjul area. This €60 million operation is the largest ever in the Gambian water sector and will improve the lives of more than one-quarter of the population by providing cleaner and safer water and reducing health risks, especially for women and vulnerable groups.

Ecuador: A second step in a successful partnership

The Bank is providing a second framework loan of $100 million to Banco de Desarrollo del Ecuador to support investments in water and sanitation across the country. This builds on the first loan, which has already improved access to safe water, sanitation services and stormwater protection for more than 750 000 people. By continuing its long-standing partnership with the national development bank, the EIB aims to further scale up climate-resilient infrastructure investments that strengthen public services and contribute to better living conditions and environmental sustainability.

Poland: Strengthened flood risk management

The Bank is providing €200 million to support Poland's flood risk management and sustainable infrastructure strategy. This programme-based operation helps co-finance national investments that reduce flood risk, strengthen climate change adaptation and disaster resilience, and improve sustainable water management. Through this support, the Bank helps protect communities and economic assets, improving environmental performance and enhancing the long-term resilience and sustainability of public infrastructure.

5.3. WATER AND MARINE RESOURCE INVESTMENT

The sector has received strong support in recent years, with average annual financing of €4.3 billion over the past three years. In 2025, financing increased significantly to €5 billion, reflecting the roll-out of the Water Resilience Programme. This programme has been a major driver of increased investment in water and marine projects, with the EIB Group aiming to maintain investment of around €5 billion a year in 2026 and 2027.



6.
PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS



Key messages

Biodiversity and healthy ecosystems support the economy, livelihoods and social well-being. They provide essential services that underpin food and water systems, energy, infrastructure and health. As biodiversity loss accelerates, nature-related financial risks are increasing across economies and financial systems. These risks can disrupt economic activity, weaken resilience and reduce competitiveness. The degradation or collapse of ecosystems can also create systemic impacts on food security, water availability, infrastructure stability and migration patterns. These challenges threaten national resilience and preparedness. Protecting and restoring biodiversity and nature is therefore not only an environmental priority but also a strategic investment in economic stability, sustainable prosperity, human health and social well-being.

For institutions like the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group, integrating biodiversity into decision-making is an existential responsibility and a strategic necessity. Phase 2 of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap strengthens the Group's approach to biodiversity and ecosystems by integrating them more explicitly into climate and environmental financing. It also embeds biodiversity and ecosystem considerations across investment areas including agriculture and food systems, forestry, water security, the blue economy, urban development and infrastructure. By integrating nature and biodiversity into its policies, investments and activities, the Group supports an inclusive, resilient and just transition. This work contributes to the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and helps ensure that nature is protected for future generations.

EIB Group and EU commitments

In 2023, the Bank, together with the Inter-American Development Bank, co-chaired the multilateral development bank working group on nature, after signing the Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks: Nature, People and Planet released at the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow (COP26). The joint statement is an important milestone in efforts to scale up actions to protect nature. It outlined four main areas for multilateral development banks to focus on:



- supporting countries in implementing their commitments;
- tackling the drivers of nature loss by investing in nature-positive projects;
- fostering national and regional synergies;
- placing value on nature to guide decision-making.

Under the joint statement, multilateral development banks agreed on common definitions and principles to guide nature-positive finance. In 2025, the Bank and the other multilateral development banks introduced the MDB Common Principles for Tracking Nature Finance, together with the related taxonomy. The Inter-American Development Bank and the EIB co-led the drafting of Financing Nature: A Practitioner's Guide to Results Metrics Selection on behalf of the other multilateral development banks. The guide aims to increase financing for nature and climate by helping project developers, commercial and public institutions and investors select robust, effective and results-focused metrics that align with global biodiversity and climate goals.

Concrete actions and impact

The EIB Environment Framework sets the parameters for meeting the commitments in the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Mid-term Review and The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy. It reflects the joint statement by multilateral development banks that protecting and restoring nature is essential for sustainable development, climate action and human well-being.

The Bank is developing a natural capital action plan to integrate biodiversity and natural capital into EIB Group operations in areas where nature can support economic, inclusive and climate-smart development. The plan will also help accelerate the transition efforts of corporate and institutional clients as they work to protect and value nature.

The plan outlines how the Bank will integrate natural capital into its activities, from early engagement with promoters and public sector partners to project preparation, implementation, knowledge sharing, advisory work, capacity building and resource mobilisation. Its proposed actions and objectives are consistent with the strategic orientation of the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the objectives of the Kunming-Montreal

Global Biodiversity Framework. The plan has four parts:

i. early engagement with promoters, peer and partner institutions and client countries;
ii. operations and accountability;
iii. knowledge and advisory products and capacity building;
iv. resource mobilisation, origination and nature financing.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented policies and standards to protect biodiversity and ecosystems.

EIB Group:

- EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025
- EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap Mid-term Review
- Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030
- The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

European Investment Bank:

- European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards
- The EIB Environment Framework
- European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria
- Forests at the heart of sustainable development

European Investment Fund:

- Environmental, Social & Governance Principles
- Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations

Examples of projects financed

- In 2025, the Bank invested €50 million in the Ardian Nature-Based Solutions Fund to support reforestation, afforestation and ecosystem restoration across 100 000 hectares in Africa, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region.
- The Bank signed a €100 million loan with Côte d'Ivoire to promote sustainable cocoa farming. The project supports agricultural cooperatives working with farmers to preserve protected forests and biodiversity while improving crop yields.
- The EIF invested €60 million in the Below One Fund II, which backs science-based solutions that protect and enhance biodiversity and reduce pressures on ecosystems, including land-use change, pollution and resource depletion.
- The Fund also provided Sienna AM with its first uncapped guarantee of €60 million dedicated exclusively to biodiversity. The guarantee aims to preserve natural ecosystems, reduce environmental footprints and promote biodiversity-friendly practices across business partners.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
E4 - Biodiversity	√	√		√
Drivers of biodiversity change		√		
State of species		√		√
Extent and condition of terrestrial and marine ecosystems		√		√
Ecosystem services		√		√

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Contribution to the protection, restoration, sustainable use and management of biodiversity and ecosystems by financing projects that help achieve the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework goals.	Biodiversity and ecosystems	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Degradation of natural habitats and species populations and disruption of migration routes through financed projects causing habitat loss and destruction.	State of species	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Soil sealing, artificialisation and ecosystem damage through financed projects.	Drivers of biodiversity and ecosystem change	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
	Extent and condition of terrestrial and marine ecosystems			
	Ecosystem services			
Default risk arising from counterparties causing biodiversity loss – including declining species populations and increased global extinction risk – leading to regulatory constraints, project delays or increased remediation costs.	State of species	Risk	Downstream	Short-term
Default risk arising from counterparties causing land degradation, where declining soil quality, land productivity or ecosystem services may lead to regulatory constraints or increased remediation costs.	Extent and condition of terrestrial and marine ecosystems	Risk	Downstream	Short-term

6.1. POLICIES RELATED TO BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

The EIB Group has comprehensive policies and standards to protect or restore biodiversity and ecosystems, including those that address land degradation, sustainable agriculture and deforestation, taking into account the impact of projects on local and indigenous communities.

As stated in The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy and The EIB Environment Framework, the Bank's activities support the objectives of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (in particular Target 19) and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, as well as commitments made in the Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks: Nature, People and Planet, signed by nine leading multilateral development banks in 2021. These policies integrate nature and biodiversity concerns into respective policies, investments and activities, by:

- maintaining thought leadership in the development of biodiversity safeguards;
- fostering nature-positive investments;
- creating regional synergies and setting out strategic approaches through partnerships and initiatives;
- placing value on nature to guide decision-making;
- enhancing reporting on efforts and initiatives to include nature concerns in analyses, advice, investments and operations.

6.1.1. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

The EIB Group recognises that protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity and healthy ecosystems are key to enhancing our resilience, preventing the emergence and spread of diseases and fighting climate change. The EIB Group contributes to the long-term goal of "living in harmony with nature by 2050," set in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, by supporting biodiversity in several ways:

- addressing the main drivers of biodiversity loss by better integrating biodiversity considerations into EIB Group activities, including with biodiversity-related standards and safeguards;
- enhancing and valuing natural capital, and measuring the impact of related measures, to maximise synergies with climate action and other relevant sector strategies.

See Chapter 1.4.4.2, "The EIB Group Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework," for more details on The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

6.1.2. The EIB Environment Framework

The EIB Environment Framework strives to integrate biodiversity and natural capital into key areas where nature can support economic, inclusive, climate-smart and resilient development. Here, the Bank pursues five objectives:

- Protection: The EIB Group applies The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy and standards to support promoters that implement good practices, such as managing biodiversity risks and impacts in operations and at counterparty level.
- Early engagement: The Bank works together with the European Commission, peer institutions and promoters to help effectively integrate biodiversity and nature into projects.
- Knowledge, advisory and capacity building: The Bank works with its partners to develop adaptable tools for long-term use to positively benefit nature and society.
- Investing: The Bank identifies and pursues opportunities to support nature investments and develops effective partnerships to leverage blended finance, combining loans and guarantees.

- Impact measurement, tracking, reporting and disclosure: The Bank works with its peer institutions to develop definitions and metrics for impact measurement, valuation methods and standardised approaches for tracking nature finance. This work helps the Bank assess nature-related risks and impacts linked to its operations.

6.1.3. EIB Environmental and Social Standards

Standard 4 (Biodiversity and Ecosystems) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards recognises that protecting and conserving biodiversity and ecosystems and maintaining their ecological functions and processes are fundamental to environmental and social sustainability. The Bank supports projects compatible with maintaining the integrity of areas important for biodiversity, and those that halt and reverse its loss.

Recognising that the degradation of ecosystems and the value they provide may disproportionately affect vulnerable and indigenous communities (see also Chapter 9, "Supporting communities"), the Bank promotes a holistic and human rights-based approach to biodiversity conservation and to the sustainable use of natural resources.

Standard 4 applies to operations identified during the environmental or social impact assessment (as described in Standard 1 (Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks) and in Chapter 6.2, "Actions to support biodiversity and ecosystems"), if those operations have an impact on the following:

- biodiversity and ecosystems;
- ecosystem services, including the communities whose access to or use of ecosystem services may be affected by project activities;
- protected areas or recognised areas of high biodiversity value;
- critical habitats.

The standard also applies to operations that involve primary production (cultivation or rearing) and/or the procurement of living natural resources.

Standard 4 covers various topics related to managing risks and impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems:

- impact on land degradation, desertification or soil sealing (making the ground impermeable);
- sustainable agriculture, where this relates to primary production and/or the procurement of living natural resources;
- social consequences of the impact on biodiversity or ecosystems;
- consultation with affected communities.

Where a project has an impact on natural resources on which indigenous communities depend (as defined in Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender)) or affects natural heritage sites (as defined in Standard 10 (Cultural Heritage)), Standard 4, 7 and/or 10 must be taken into consideration.

6.1.4. Specific biodiversity policies

6.1.4.1. Impact on land degradation, desertification and soil sealing

The Bank assesses a project's impact on land degradation, desertification and soil sealing during its due diligence process. Investments must meet the relevant requirements of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, where they apply.

6.1.4.2. Sustainable agriculture

As the climate bank, the EIB Group puts agriculture and rural development at the centre of its policies and strategies, aligning them with EU and international frameworks such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the European Green Deal, the EU Farm to Fork strategy and biodiversity strategies.

The Bank finances projects across the bioeconomy value chain, such as the agriculture, fisheries, food and forestry sectors and their relevant industries. EIB Group support increases the productivity, resilience and competitiveness of agricultural and food production systems, while protecting nature and forests and preventing land degradation. Investments reduce the environmental footprint of agrifood sectors and enhance carbon sequestration, while supporting biodiversity, minimising food losses and supporting development in rural areas.

6.1.4.3. Social consequences of biodiversity loss

Standard 4 recognises that growing pressure on natural resources and ecosystems have led to unprecedented loss of biodiversity, which is exacerbated by the adverse effects of climate change. This loss may have a disproportionate impact on poorer rural households and vulnerable and indigenous communities that depend on ecosystem services for their livelihoods and well-being.

The Bank promotes a holistic and human rights-based approach to the conservation and protection of biodiversity and ecosystems by systematically integrating a gender perspective that considers the different needs of women and men, especially within traditional and indigenous communities. It also engages with relevant traditional and indigenous communities, which have particular expertise in protecting and managing biodiversity and natural resources, while respecting their rights to their lands, culture and spirituality.

As an example, the Bank provided technical advice and lent €100 million to finance a sustainable forest management project in Morocco. Its aim is to preserve and restore more than 600 000 hectares of forest, combat soil erosion, regulate the flow of water, create 27 500 new jobs and foster businesses in eco-tourism.

6.1.4.4. Consulting with affected communities

Consultation with affected communities, including indigenous peoples and local communities, is integrated into the Bank's Environmental and Social Standards. Where applicable, Standard 4 calls for communities and people affected by an investment to be involved during the assessment of the impact on biodiversity and ecosystems, and the risks affecting them, to obtain relevant data; understand the uses, values and benefits associated with the natural resources involved in the project; or develop acceptable mitigation strategies. Standards 2 and 7 define how this engagement should be carried out. See Chapter 9, "Supporting communities" for more details.

6.1.4.5. Investing in forests to meet biodiversity and climate goals

There is an urgent need for measures to protect and regrow the world's forests: sustainable forest management, reforestation and afforestation of degraded lands, processing and marketing of wood products and other non-timber forest products, and research and innovation, among others. The Bank's forestry policy, Forests at the heart of sustainable development, is anchored in EU and international forestry policies and commitments.

The Bank has been financing the forestry sector for more than 50 years and remains the leading international financial institution in this field. Between 2021 and 2025, the Bank invested close to €8 billion in forest-related operations worldwide, covering resource protection (about €1 billion), wood-based and pulp and paper industries (about €4.4 billion), bioenergy (about €1.8 billion) and primary forestry activities (about €0.75 billion). This activity is fully aligned with the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 and the objectives of the European Green Deal.

The Bank takes a holistic approach to forestry finance, supporting the entire value chain from sustainable forest management and reforestation to the processing of renewable materials and the creation of rural jobs. Its projects enhance forest resilience, prevent wildfires, control erosion and protect biodiversity, while promoting circularity and innovation in bio-based materials. By crowding in private investment, the Bank helps to address market failures and mobilise additional capital for long-term, nature-based solutions.

Through the projects it finances, the Bank contributes to the global biodiversity, climate and land degradation goals set out in the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Meeting these goals will require nature-positive forest investment to at least triple by 2030 and quadruple by 2050.

The Bank's commitment to sustainable forestry is aligned with its broader strategic objectives. The EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap includes supporting agriculture and the bioeconomy as a key policy priority, recognising the importance of sustainable forest management in addressing climate change and promoting economic development. Additionally, the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025 highlights the Bank's contribution to mitigating climate change through its investments in sustainable forestry. The Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 – 2026-2030 recognises the role of nature and biodiversity-related investments, including forestry-based solutions, in climate adaptation, ecosystem resilience and sustainable land use.

The EIB Group supports active and sustainable forest management investments that include relevant stakeholders and local communities. In particular, it supports investments that promote multipurpose forest management and uses (timber production, carbon, biodiversity, ecosystem services, etc.), as well as closer-to-nature forest management practices.

Public banks such as multilateral development banks and international financial institutions play a crucial role in adopting forest certification programmes and systems that track how forest products are used. By requiring borrowers to adhere to international best practices in sustainable forest management, public banks help reduce the risk of illegal logging and deforestation, ensuring that timber and other products come from sustainably managed forests.

When financing forestry investments, the Bank requires borrowers to have due diligence systems in place that respect the EU Timber Regulation (which requires companies to verify that timber they buy was produced legally and to trace the origin of their products). This helps prevent the entry of illegally harvested timber into the EU market and supports efforts to combat deforestation. It also helps prepare companies to comply with the EU Regulation on Deforestation-free Products.

The Bank also requires borrowers to align their projects with the principles and standards of forest certification programmes. Programmes like the Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification independently verify that products respect sustainable forest management practices.

Revenues from the Bank's €50 million investment in the Ardian Nature-Based Solutions Fund, which supports reforestation, afforestation and ecosystem restoration across 100 000 hectares in Africa, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region, will come exclusively from carbon credit sales on the voluntary

carbon market. These revenues will be backed by long-term purchase agreements to ensure stable and predictable income. This innovative model shows how private finance can be mobilised for large-scale, sustainable forest-based climate solutions.

6.2. ACTIONS TO SUPPORT BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

For a detailed presentation of how our financing and advisory activities support biodiversity and ecosystems, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

6.2.1. Due diligence and monitoring

The Bank carries out due diligence on its operations, which includes assessing and monitoring the environmental, climate and social impact of a project and the risks that should be managed and monitored throughout. The Bank assesses whether the investments have been structured to meet the requirements of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, in particular Standards 1, 4, 7 and 10, which include requirements concerning biodiversity and ecosystems.

The requirements of Standard 4 are applied during the process of identifying environmental and social risks and impacts. Tools such as the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool are used to screen and assess the risks to biodiversity, ecosystems and ecosystem services, and the potential impact on them.

Promoters that use natural resources – such as food, timber and fibre – from regions where the risk of degrading biodiversity or affecting critical habitats is high are required to work with companies and suppliers that have committed to internationally recognised standards or certification schemes for sustainable resource management.

6.2.1.1. Mitigation measures

Where applicable, investments must meet the requirements of Standards 1 and 4 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, which require clients to manage risks and impact by applying the mitigation hierarchy (as defined in the glossary of these standards). Required mitigation measures are to be listed in biodiversity action plans or in more comprehensive environmental and social management plans. This requirement is reflected in the environmental and social data sheet made for the investment, which includes conditions and monitoring requirements for promoters.

6.2.1.2. Screening tool for biodiversity risks

Beyond the project level, the Bank has developed a biodiversity screening tool enabling it to identify transition and physical risks that could affect its clients' operations financially. Analysing portfolios for biodiversity risks could highlight the risks inherent in certain projects or sectors. The methodology is in line with the European Central Bank's assessment approaches, and it is based on public databases from entities like ENCORE, EXIOBASE and the World Wildlife Fund.

6.2.2. Financing

6.2.2.1. Tracking climate action and environmental sustainability

The EIB Group tracks its financial flows contributing to biodiversity and ecosystems through its climate action and environmental sustainability methodology. See Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition," for more information on tracking.

6.2.2.2. Tracking nature finance

The MDB Common Principles for Tracking Nature Finance were developed by the ten multilateral development banks that participate in the multilateral development bank working group on nature. The first version, introduced in 2023, responded to the 2021 Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks: Nature, People and Planet. The statement recognised the links between poverty, climate change and the drivers of nature loss, and reaffirmed the multilateral development banks' commitments to further integrate nature into their policies, analytical work, assessments, advisory services, investments and operations. It also outlined joint commitments to address the drivers of nature loss by increasing nature finance and by developing methodologies to track nature-related investments across multilateral development bank portfolios.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework sets a global agenda to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and achieve full recovery by 2050. It calls for a whole-of-economy approach and highlights the need to mobilise financial flows from all sources to support its implementation. Nature finance from multilateral development banks contributes to these objectives, in particular Target 19, by supporting countries in implementing their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and biodiversity finance plans, and by helping to attract private investment aligned with the framework's goals.

In this context, the common principles have been strengthened to support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework. The updated principles:

i. reflect the need to capture the full range of investments that contribute to the framework's goals, including those that support wider economic transitions;
ii. incorporate lessons from the experience of multilateral development banks in testing nature finance tracking in their financial flows and internal systems;
iii. introduce a nature finance taxonomy that defines eligible nature-positive activities across sectors.

6.2.2.3. Biodiversity offsets

The EIB Group uses biodiversity offsets as a last resort to address the residual effects of its investments. The aim is to compensate for any loss of biodiversity.

Where applicable, Standard 4 requires the promoter to develop an implementation and management plan. This plan must explain the reasons for the compensation or offsets and provide supporting evidence, following the principle of "equivalence or better."

The plan must describe how compensation measures will be carried out and monitored. It should consider not only the possible negative effects on biodiversity and any effect that ecosystem damage could have on people's livelihoods, but also any potential negative effects of the compensation measures themselves on local communities and their livelihoods.

The plan must also ensure that the offset arrangements are effective and maintained for as long as the impact lasts. The affected communities, including indigenous peoples and local communities, and any relevant groups or experts, should be consulted when preparing the plan.

Again, biodiversity offsets are a last resort. If the project affects critical habitat (as defined in paragraph 16 of Standard 4), a net positive impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services must be achieved. All other forms of mitigation must be implemented before offsets are used. Offsets cannot be used to achieve a net positive impact for critical habitat. Should offsets be required in an investment, its environmental and social data sheet will reflect this requirement.

6.2.2.4. Engaging with traditional and indigenous communities

Where applicable, Standard 4 requires that traditional, indigenous and local communities be considered in the design and management of mitigation measures and any associated actions (nature-based solutions) on the use, management and protection of nature and ecosystems. Where relevant, the EIB Group engages with traditional and indigenous communities, appreciating their expertise in protecting and managing biodiversity and natural resources, while seeking to respect their rights to their lands, culture and spirituality. See Chapter 9.2, "Policies related to affected communities," for more information on indigenous peoples.

6.2.2.5. Stakeholder engagement

Where applicable, Standards 1, 2 and 4 require the Bank to engage with stakeholders when assessing and managing risks and the potential impact of investments on biodiversity and ecosystems. This engagement can be to obtain relevant data, or to understand how the resources are used, the values and benefits associated with biodiversity, and how to mitigate any potential impact. Efforts must be made to identify marginalised, excluded or minority groups who may have a different relationship with the ecosystems because of their cultural customs and social norms. The consultation and stakeholder engagement are summarised in an environmental and social data sheet. See Chapter 9.2, "Policies related to affected communities" for more details on the stakeholder engagement process.

As part of its involvement in the research programme Mistra BIOPATH, the Bank supported a policy lab that examined how payments for ecosystem services could encourage Swedish forest owners to protect biodiversity and other ecosystem services. The work combined stakeholder dialogue with empirical research, including a large discrete choice survey, to help design feasible policy options.

6.2.2.6. Examples of EIB and EIF projects

Below One Fund II: Protecting biodiversity through science-based venture capital

The EIF invested €60 million in Planet A Ventures' Below One Fund II, a science-based impact venture fund that targets biodiversity protection by scaling innovative technologies and business models designed to operate within planetary boundaries. Biodiversity loss – driven by factors such as land-use change, pollution and the overexploitation of natural resources – remains one of the most critical global environmental challenges, undermining ecosystem resilience and the services nature provides. Through its early-stage investments, Below One Fund II supports solutions that reduce pressures on ecosystems and help protect and enhance biodiversity across terrestrial and industrial value chains.

Côte d'Ivoire: Funding fair and forest-friendly beans

In Côte d'Ivoire, the Bank is providing €100 million to a local development bank to support sustainable cocoa farming. About 90% of the financing will help farmers and firms in the cocoa sector meet the requirements of new EU standards and national legislation designed to prevent child labour and deforestation.

Hungary: Using food by-products to enrich soil

Agroloop transforms local food-processing by-products into high-value insect protein, oil and organic soil conditioners, which help control water erosion and improve soil quality. This process cuts waste and dependence on soybeans and fishmeal. Agroloop's products reduce the land and water needed to produce food and its by-products, and strengthen soil health and biodiversity through a circular model.

6.2.3. Collective initiatives and partnerships

The EIB Group partners with civil society organisations, bringing local groups into its efforts to apply nature-based solutions that improve climate resilience, protect biodiversity and support the sustainable bioeconomy. These partnerships help originate, develop and scale nature-based solutions, while encouraging groups to buy into measures that address climate change and nature loss.

Climate resilience and biodiversity partnerships include:

- the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and The Nature Conservancy, to accelerate investments in nature-based solutions that support biodiversity and improve ecosystem resilience and climate change adaptation;
- the International Institute for Sustainable Development, to boost local demand for nature-based solutions early in investment planning by helping local authorities better communicate their costs and benefits compared to conventional forms of infrastructure and investment;
- the Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation, to identify opportunities to finance nature-based measures for coastal adaptation that address rising sea levels and erosion;
- Wetlands International, to identify innovative projects that remove barriers on Europe's rivers, improving flood resilience and biodiversity;
- ICLEI Europe, a network of European towns, cities and regions undertaking socially, environmentally and economically sustainable projects to protect biodiversity, and enabling these types of projects to be replicated in local communities across the European Union.

Under the International Platform on Sustainable Finance Biodiversity Working Group, co-chaired by the European Commission and the EIB Group, a new set of voluntary principles has been developed to integrate biodiversity and nature into transition planning and finance. These "transition finance plus" principles build on the platform's 2022 report on climate-focused finance. They guide policymakers, supervisory authorities and market participants in aligning transition finance with the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The principles provide a coherent approach for embedding biodiversity considerations into corporate transition plans, financial instruments and policy frameworks, helping to bridge the gap between climate and nature goals.

Climate-resilient bioeconomy partnerships include:

- Finance Earth and Earthworm Foundation, on a report and workshop titled, Scaling the adoption of climate resilient agriculture in the EU: demonstrating the business and investment case. The work brought together key representatives from the agri-food value chain and the finance sector to explore how financial institutions can work with companies, cooperatives, supply chain participants and civil society to expand regenerative agriculture as a viable investment opportunity.
- Global Seaweed Coalition, to identify finance opportunities in seaweed and bivalve aquaculture, supporting the blue economy, biodiversity and climate goals while improving livelihoods in coastal areas.

In the next five years, partnerships will continue to address a range of ecosystem challenges, including biodiversity loss, land and forest degradation, overfishing and coastal erosion. This work will help strengthen resilience to floods and droughts and protect water resources.

6.3. BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS METRICS

Protecting nature is one of the defining challenges – and opportunities – of our time. Conserving, restoring and using ecosystems sustainably are moral responsibilities and strategic investments in our shared future. But the principle remains clear: We cannot manage what we do not measure, and we cannot finance what we cannot explain.

For governments, financial institutions and practitioners working on nature-focused projects, showing measurable results is essential. Yet with hundreds of available metrics, frameworks and standards, choosing the right ones can be difficult. This can slow investment and make it harder to communicate results in ways that investors understand and trust.

To help address this challenge, the Inter-American Development Bank and the EIB, on behalf of the multilateral development bank working group on nature, developed the knowledge product Financing Nature: A Practitioner's Guide to Results Metrics Selection, with technical support from The Biodiversity Consultancy. The guidance provides a practical roadmap to help practitioners identify meaningful metrics and align them with financial instruments, ecosystems and project outcomes.

With the global biodiversity finance gap estimated at $711 billion per year (Paulson Institute, Financing Nature 2025), scaling investment in nature requires not only more capital but also clearer and more consistent ways to measure and communicate results. The guidance supports the Joint Statement by the Multilateral Development Banks: Nature, People and Planet and complements the MDB Common Principles for tracking nature-positive finance by strengthening monitoring, reporting and verification across the nature finance landscape. By creating a shared language between environmental practitioners and investors, the guidance helps turn nature ambitions into credible, finance-ready outcomes. Protecting nature requires investment – and investment begins with measurement.



7.
FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Key messages

To effectively tackle the growing challenges of resource scarcity and rising waste volumes, production must shift from traditional linear models to a circular approach that supports sustainable development and reduces emissions. This transition is becoming increasingly urgent. The global population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2050, with more than half of people residing in urban areas. Such rapid urbanisation will place immense pressure on existing natural resources and significantly increase the volume of waste generated.

Current models of production and consumption are no longer viable. They contribute heavily to environmental degradation, with around half of global greenhouse gas emissions resulting from resource extraction and processing. These systems deplete finite resources and generate excessive waste and emissions, making them unsustainable in the long term. This challenge underpins the release of the circularity plastics package by the European Commission in December 2025.

The circular economy provides a practical way forward. By extending product life cycles and improving resource efficiency, it helps reduce environmental impact. This approach is central to the European Union's Clean Industrial Deal and critical to achieving the target of reducing emissions by 55% by 2030 compared with 1990 levels. Innovation in recycling, reuse and sustainable design can help cities and industries meet the demands of a growing population, while preserving the planet for future generations.

The circular economy also plays a strong role in strengthening the European Union's economic autonomy and resilience, as highlighted in the EU Critical Raw Materials Act.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) Group's Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2 also announced the preparation of a circular economy orientation to be published in 2026.



EIB Group and EU commitments

The Group actively supports EU efforts to promote a circular economy, as laid out in the Circular Economy Action Plan, by providing advisory services and financing to help companies and public bodies transition. As one of the world's largest lenders to circular economy initiatives, the EIB Group evaluates the projects it supports to ensure they use materials and natural resources efficiently. In line with the Group's circular economy objectives and the Critical Raw Materials Act, the Bank rolled out its critical raw materials strategic initiative in 2025. The initiative supports recycling, resource efficiency and material recovery to reduce reliance on imported raw materials and reinforce the European Union's strategic autonomy and resilience.

Concrete actions and impact

In 2025, the Bank provided €1.1 billion to finance 44 circular economy projects, underscoring its commitment to sustainable growth and resource conservation. Between 2021 and 2025, the EIB Group supported 188 circular economy projects worth €5.5 billion. The Bank also provides advisory services to help clients prepare and structure circular economy projects. The EIB Group is an active member of the multilateral development bank working group on the circular economy, collaborating with other institutions. Through this and other initiatives, it shares the most successful approaches for circular economy projects and drives innovation in sustainable finance globally.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented policies and standards to support the circular economy.

EIB Group:

- **The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy**

European Investment Bank:

- **European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards**
- **The EIB Environment Framework**
- **European Investment Bank Climate Action and Environmental Sustainability: List of eligible sectors and eligibility criteria**

European Investment Fund:

- **Environmental, Social & Governance Principles**
- **Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations**

Examples of projects financed

- **a €100 million loan to Greene Enterprise to treat non-recyclable waste;**
- **a €40 million loan to Technip Energies for research and development investments in decarbonisation technologies and circular economy solutions;**
- **an EIF investment of €36 million in the SHIFT Invest IV fund to accelerate the development and scaling of early-stage companies delivering circular economy solutions, including circular materials, resource efficiency and waste reduction technologies.**

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
E5 - Resource use and circular economy	√	√		
Resource inflows		√		
Resource outflows		√		
Waste		√		

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Financing circular economy solutions that reduce resource use, waste generation and reliance on virgin materials by improving material efficiency, extending the life of products and assets, enabling high-value recycling and promoting circular business models, thereby supporting the transition from linear to circular models in line with EU policy objectives.	Resource use and circular economy	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Investments in activities or companies that rely on non-renewable resources or consume resources beyond renewable capacity, particularly critical and strategic raw materials.	Resource inflows	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Financing counterparties that produce non-repairable products with low recyclability or limited durability.	Resource outflows	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Investments in activities or companies that generate large quantities of waste during production or at the end of a product's life.	Waste	Actual negative impact	Downstream	Short-term

7.1. POLICIES RELATED TO RESOURCE USE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

As set out in section 2.6 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy, the EIB Group encourages and supports the transition to a circular economy in which:

- new products and assets are designed and produced in a way that reduces the use of virgin materials and limits waste;
- new business models and strategies improve capacity use and extend the useful life of products and assets;
- resources and materials are recycled at the end of their useful life, thereby "closing the loop."

Standard 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards addresses various topics around resource use and the circular economy:

- resource efficiency and pollution prevention;
- sustainable sourcing and use of renewable resources;
- waste hierarchy;
- waste treatment.

7.1.1. Resource efficiency and pollution prevention

Standard 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards addresses how the efficient use of resources relieves pressure on the environment and combats climate change. It talks about how circularity can reduce the use of limited resources and result in substantial savings on materials needed throughout the value chain and production processes. Relevant procedures and practices are evaluated during the project appraisal process, such as how the promoter works with external suppliers and its capacity to implement the procedures in its own production process. The promoter is encouraged to apply best practices, and specific guidance may be provided. As relevant, this information is described in the environmental and social data sheet for the project.

7.1.2. Sustainable materials sourcing and renewable resources

Standard 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, where applicable, requires an assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of a project's use of materials and natural resources (land, soil, water, biodiversity, etc.) and its use of energy, especially in production processes. The assessment also includes the environmental impact resulting from resource use over the project's lifetime and the life cycles of any products produced. Based on this assessment, promoters are encouraged to implement measures to protect natural resources and avoid any significant environmental harm, helping to safeguard the long-term availability of those resources.

These measures include reducing inefficiencies in the use of materials and substances, or in the direct or indirect use of natural resources (such as non-renewable energy sources, raw materials, water and land) at any stage of the life cycle of products and assets. They also take into account durability and the potential for reuse, repair, upgrading or recycling, as well as how easily products and assets can be disassembled or adapted.

In November 2025, the EIB Group rolled out a critical raw materials strategic initiative. The initiative promotes circular economy principles to reduce demand for primary raw materials, increase recycling

and support resource efficiency. By reducing dependence on imported raw materials, it strengthens the resilience and strategic autonomy of the European Union and helps secure a reliable supply of critical raw materials.

The European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards apply specifically to the Bank. The EIF also has its own Guideline on EIF's criteria for Group Green Finance operations, which covers climate action and environmental sustainability and activities related to the circular economy.

7.1.3. Waste hierarchy

Standard 3, paragraph 8 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, where applicable, requires project promoters to avoid waste and to reuse and recycle materials in accordance with the waste hierarchy. This is a multistep hierarchy, established in the EU Waste Framework Directive, which outlines types of waste management and disposal. Preventing the use of virgin materials is prioritised, and sending waste to landfills is a last resort. EU countries are required to meet a series of targets relating to the waste hierarchy. The EIB Group lends money to companies and governments to help them comply with the directive.

An example of the Bank's operations to support waste prevention include a €40 million loan to Technip Energies for research and development investments in decarbonisation technologies and circular economy solutions.

Technip Energies circular economy solutions

Technip Energies is a global technology and engineering company based in France and active in the energy and chemical sectors. The Bank is lending €40 million to the company to accelerate its research and development investments in clean and circular technologies. The financing also supports the expansion of its Reju demonstration hub in Germany, which is pioneering technologies to regenerate polyester textiles and post-consumer PET waste. These investments will help improve recycling outcomes for the millions of tonnes of textile waste generated globally each year.

SHIFT Invest IV: Scaling circular solutions

Through a €36 million investment in SHIFT Invest IV, the EIF is supporting early-stage companies that develop circular business models designed to reduce waste, extend product life cycles and improve resource efficiency across sectors. The fund backs entrepreneurs working on solutions such as circular materials, recycling and reuse technologies and resource-efficient industrial processes. By providing capital at proof-of-concept, seed and Series A stages, SHIFT Invest IV helps promising circular innovations to grow from pilot projects into commercially viable solutions. This supports lower material demand, reduced waste and emissions and more resilient and sustainable value chains across north-western Europe.

7.1.4. Waste treatment strategy

Standard 3, paragraph 8 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards requires promoters, where relevant, to avoid activities that would significantly increase waste generation, incineration or disposal. These requirements reflect the broader body of EU legislation on waste management.

The Bank supports these directives by financing investments that reduce waste and improve resource efficiency. Examples include a €100 million loan to Greene Enterprise to treat non-recyclable waste and convert more than 200 000 tonnes of waste a year into secondary raw materials for industry, and a €40 million loan to Renewi to build new waste sorting facilities to recycle plastics and produce biogas from food waste.

7.2. ACTIONS RELATED TO RESOURCE USE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

For a detailed overview of how financing and advisory activities support resource efficiency and the circular economy, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

The EIB Group supports the circular economy through three types of activity: financing, advisory support, and awareness raising and partnerships.

7.2.1. Financing

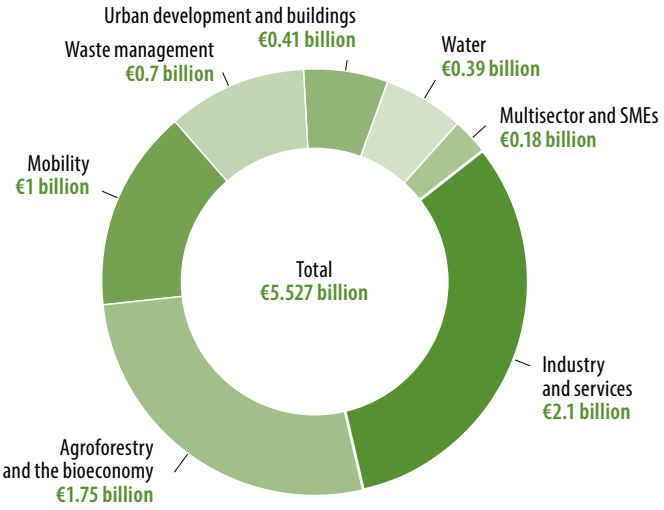
EIB Group investments help reduce waste and increase recycling across multiple sectors, such as solid waste management, the bioeconomy, industry and construction. Financing is also used to improve resource efficiency, support reuse of by-products and back innovative circular business models – including product-as-a-service leasing businesses – circular technologies and social innovations.

The Group offers a range of financing products and instruments that can be tailored to circular economy needs, including sovereign or corporate loans for individual projects, framework loans to finance a group of sub-projects, intermediated lending for small and medium-sized enterprises, and quasi-equity and equity investments. Circular economy eligibility criteria can be integrated into these products, and the Bank provides training or technical assistance on how to apply and report based on these criteria.

The Bank is also increasing its support for circular cities through tailored framework loans that finance the circular components of long-term municipal investment programmes. These can include investments in the built environment, waste and water management and mobility.

In 2025, the Bank financed 44 circular economy projects totalling more than €1.1 billion. From 2021 to 2025, the Bank financed 188 circular economy projects worth approximately €5.5 billion (vs. 166 projects and €5.1 billion from 2020 to 2024).

Figure 30: EIB CIRCULAR ECONOMY FINANCING (2021-2025)



Source: EIB Group

For its part, the EIF focuses financing on vertical strategies (supporting new circular products or solutions) and horizontal strategies (transforming business processes to incorporate circularity). For example, in 2025 the EIF signed a €40 million commitment to Climentum Capital Fund II. With a target size of €100 million, the fund backs companies developing hard tech solutions that directly advance Europe's shift towards a circular economy. It focuses on technologies that enable circular material flows, improve resource efficiency and reduce emissions in Europe's most material- and energy-intensive industrial sectors.

7.2.2. Advisory support

To further support the circular economy, the Bank provides tailored advisory services through several initiatives offering both technical and financial support.

One example is the Circular City Centre – C3, which works with the European Commission through the InvestEU Advisory Hub to help EU cities in their transition to circular models (see also the Circular City Funding Guide).

The Bank also provides advisory support to commercial banks and central banks in developing countries through initiatives such as the SWITCH to Circular Economy Value Chains programme.

In addition, EIB Advisory helps regions and cities in Europe and accession countries prepare circular economy strategies and projects. This work supports local, regional and national circular economy goals, improves resource efficiency by designing out waste, increases reuse and recycling and extends the useful life of project assets and construction materials.

For more information on advisory services, see Chapter 2, "Supporting the green transition."

7.2.3. Awareness raising

The Bank is an active member of the multilateral development bank working group on the circular economy. Following the publication of a shared vision and a report titled The circular economy in motion in 2024, the group continues to strengthen collaboration across institutions. Members exchange practical insights on scaling up circular economy finance and discuss emerging approaches to definitions, reporting and metrics. The group also maintains a forward-looking dialogue on priority themes and engages with external organisations to explore evolving global standards.

The Circular City Centre – C3 has published several guidance documents, e-learning tools and case studies that can be found on the C3 website.

The Bank also takes part in major circular economy events, including the World Circular Economy Forum – of which it is a sponsor – and meetings convened by the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform.

The Bank participates in a technical assistance programme financed by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment: SWITCH to Circular Economy Value Chains. The programme maps circular economy opportunities and investment needs in Bangladesh, Morocco and Egypt and includes training for banks and other financial institutions on circular economy lending and opportunities.

7.2.4. Collective initiatives and partnerships

In 2019, the Bank kicked off the Joint Initiative on Circular Economy with the European Union's largest national promotional banks and institutions: Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (Poland), Groupe Caisse des Dépôts (France), Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (Italy), Instituto de Crédito Oficial (Spain), KfW (Germany) and Invest-NL (Netherlands). When the group was created, members committed to investing at least €10 billion in the circular economy by 2023. This five-year goal was exceeded, with a total of €11.57 billion invested.

In 2024, the group agreed on a new cumulative target of €16 billion by 2025, which was surpassed by the end of 2025. Members are now preparing targets for the next period, aligned with the developing landscape for the circular economy in Europe.

Through its participation in the multilateral development bank working group on the circular economy and other initiatives, the EIB Group promotes effective approaches for circular economy projects and advances innovation in sustainable finance globally.





PART V

SOCIAL INFORMATION

8. IMPROVING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, COHESION AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT 179
8.1. Ukraine 183
8.2. Secure transport, safe roads 184
8.3. Sustainable cities and communities 185
8.4. Access to affordable healthcare 185
8.5. Supporting gender equality and women's economic empowerment 186
8.6. Access to quality education 187
8.7. Financial inclusion 188
8.8. Social inclusion 189

9. SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES 191
9.1. How the EIB supports communities 195
9.1.1. A just transition focusing on resilience for workers, communities and territories 195
9.2. Policies related to affected communities 196
9.2.1. The EIB Group's approach to human rights in the broader policy context 196
9.2.2. Land-related impacts and involuntary resettlement 197
9.2.3. Security-related impacts, vulnerable groups and adequate resources for affected communities 197
9.2.4. Civil and political rights 198
9.2.5. Rights of indigenous peoples 198
9.2.6. How the EIB approaches fragility and conflict 199
9.3. Engagement with and grievance mechanisms for affected communities and value chain workers 199
9.3.1. Stakeholder engagement 199
9.3.2. Grievance mechanisms 201
9.4. Preventing and managing the impact on affected communities 202
9.4.1. Assessing and preventing potential negative effects 202
9.4.2. Avoid causing or contributing to adverse impact 202
9.4.3. Minimise and mitigate unavoidable negative impact 202
9.4.4. Promote access to grievance mechanisms and remedy 203
9.5. Actions to remediate negative impacts 203
9.5.1. Actions led by the promoter 203
9.5.2. Actions led by the Bank 203

10. BOOSTING QUALITY EMPLOYMENT 207
10.1. How the EIB Group supports and protects workers 212
10.1.1. Quality employment for youth and women 212
10.1.2. Collective initiative and partnerships 215
10.2. The impact of EIB Group projects on workers 216
10.2.1. Who is covered 216
10.2.2. Vulnerable workers in the downstream value chain 217
10.3. Policies related to workers in the downstream value chain 217
10.3.1. EIB Group guidelines 217
10.3.2. Zero tolerance of forced and child labour 219
10.4. Stakeholder engagement with project workers and access to grievance mechanisms 219
10.4.1. Promoters' obligations to engage with project workers 219
10.4.2. Grievance mechanisms provided by promoters 220
10.5. Preventing and managing negative impacts on workers 220
10.6. Actions to remediate negative effects 221

11. EMPOWERING OUR WORKFORCE 223
11.1. Policies related to our workforce 228
11.1.1. Staff-related policies 228
11.1.2. Diversity, equity and inclusion 229
11.1.3. Health and safety policies 231
11.2. Processes for engaging with employees and workers' representatives 233
11.2.1. EIB and EIF College of Staff Representatives 233
11.2.2. Other mechanisms to communicate with employees 233
11.2.3. Channels for workers to raise concerns 234
11.3. Actions with a positive impact 235
11.3.1. Equitable treatment in recruitment and career development 235
11.3.2. Inclusion of people with disabilities 235
11.3.3. Speak-up and Dignity at Work Action Plan 236
11.3.4. Empowering staff through continuous learning and skills development 236
11.3.5. Health and safety 238
11.3.6. Well-being of EIB Group staff 239
11.3.7. Support for people with disabilities 241
11.4. EIB Group workforce metrics 241



8.
IMPROVING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, COHESION AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT



Key messages

By financing projects that improve access to essential services, reduce regional disparities and support vulnerable groups, the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group contributes to resilient societies that can better withstand economic, social and climate challenges.

EIB Group investments deliver tangible benefits for communities through improved education, healthcare, sanitation, energy supply and climate-resilient infrastructure. Many projects modernise public services, improve energy efficiency, expand capacity and support job creation. They also promote social inclusion and strengthen opportunities for people to enter the labour market.

EIB Group and EU commitments

Social and territorial cohesion is one of the key drivers of shared prosperity in the European Union. In 2025, half of all EIB Group financing supported investment in less developed and transition EU regions, bringing financing for projects and businesses to all parts of the European Union. This support helps ensure that all regions can benefit from the growth opportunities created by the green transition.

The Group allocates around 10% of its financing to projects beyond the European Union. As a core member of the multilateral development bank community, the Group uses this financing to support global development and to build partnerships that strengthen Europe's role in a changing global landscape.

The Group continues to provide unwavering support to Ukraine and its people. From the first day of the war, Ukraine has been a key priority. The Group finances projects that strengthen the country's resilience by improving infrastructure and essential public services, including energy grids, clean water, schools, hospitals and railways.



Concrete actions and impacts

By combining loans, grants (EU and other) and advisory support, the EIB Group increases the impact of its work and helps clients deliver high-quality projects. These investments are already showing measurable results, including better living conditions, lower exposure to climate risks and stronger local economies.

The EIB Group is committed to strengthening social cohesion and supporting inclusive communities by investing in sustainable projects that create jobs, drive economic growth and improve essential services. Its finance helps promote equality, climate resilience, decent employment and financial inclusion.

Targeted initiatives, such as the EIF's SME Competitiveness Portfolio Guarantee under InvestEU, help small businesses grow and promote social inclusion for vulnerable groups. The Group also works with partners, including the Council of Europe Development Bank, on affordable housing, social infrastructure, microfinance and support for displaced people, including Ukrainian refugees.

Key policies and standards

The Group's investments contribute to resilient communities, now and in the future. In line with the EIB Statute, and reflected in the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap and the EIB Global strategic orientation, EIB Group investments reduce systemic inequalities within and across regions.

The Bank's Financing for gender equality approach and the Fund's Empowering equity initiative further strengthen the benefits of investment projects for women and diverse groups.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
Entity-specific topics	√			
Innovation, digital and human capital	√			
Small and medium enterprise and mid-cap finance	√			
Sustainable cities and regions	√			

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Supporting the inclusive digital and green transformation of the EU economy and strengthening its competitiveness by supporting the development of cutting-edge technologies and innovation.	Innovation, digital and human capital	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Helping small businesses and mid-caps access financing through a wide range of intermediated products to support their development and foster employment, economic stability, growth and competitiveness.	Small and medium enterprise and mid-cap finance	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Financing integrated urban development, regeneration and renewal, as well as water and waste management services, low-carbon mobility, education and healthcare to make urban areas more liveable and sustainable and to provide rural communities with equal access to essential infrastructure.	Sustainable cities and regions	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term

HOW THE EIB IMPROVES SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, COHESION AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

The Group prioritises growth, prosperity and technological and social progress in all EU countries and works to reduce inequalities between regions. It tackles systemic discrimination and exclusion by investing in projects that advance gender equality, women's empowerment and equal access to opportunities. This mandate is embedded in the EIB Statute and reflected in the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap. Gender analysis and related actions, set out in Financing for gender equality with the European Investment Bank, help ensure that projects deliver meaningful benefits for women and diverse groups.

The Bank also supports a just and fair green transition by identifying ways to strengthen the impact that projects have on climate and social outcomes. Through advisory services and project financing, it helps clients design projects that maximise social benefits, and encourages the exchange of knowledge across sectors and regions.

Project designs can include measures that make public services more accessible to underserved groups, rural communities, communities in fragile contexts and cohesion regions. For example, the Bank works with financial intermediaries to strengthen the effect that lending to small and medium-sized enterprises has on social inclusion by promoting leadership, employment and economic opportunities for vulnerable and priority social groups, such as ethnic and religious minorities, women, young people, people with disabilities and displaced people.

For more information on the Group's impact, see the EIB Group Activity Report 2025. The report describes how projects have improved conditions in specific communities, including better health services and sanitation, lower flood risk and new jobs. As outlined in Chapter 1.5.2, "Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals," the Group's activities have also made a significant contribution to economic growth and to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

8.1. UKRAINE

In 2025, the EIB Group provided a record €1.5 billion in new financing for energy, infrastructure, small businesses and EU integration in Ukraine. The EIB Group has invested approximately €10 billion in Ukraine since 2007, including more than €4 billion mobilised since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022. The aim is to strengthen critical infrastructure, protect essential municipal services and sustain economic activity during wartime.

Through three recovery programmes worth €740 million – including €100 million signed in 2025 – the Bank is supporting the reconstruction of water supply systems, district heating and municipal infrastructure such as schools, hospitals and housing in over 150 communities. More than 500 projects are currently underway across the country.

To help maintain economic activity, the Bank also signed agreements in 2025 with seven Ukrainian banks under the EU4Business Guarantee Facility. This is expected to unlock around €250 million in financing for about 4 600 small and medium firms, including businesses led by veterans, displaced people, women and young entrepreneurs.

Another recent initiative is the Ukrainian Export Credit Pilot, an innovative initiative managed by the EIF that aims to help revive trade by reducing risks for European companies and reconnecting them with Ukrainian partners. Within the €300 million guarantee, the first transaction was signed in May 2025, when the Danish export credit agency EIFO and the EIF signed a €20 million deal. Since then, six more

transactions have been signed in Italy, Finland, Romania, Latvia, Slovakia and Slovenia, bringing the total guarantee amount to almost €150 million.

Through the EU4Business programme, the EIF – working alongside EIB Global, the Bank's development arm – is also extending loan portfolio guarantees to several banks in Ukraine. The goal is to build loan portfolios exceeding €100 million for more than 1 500 Ukrainian businesses, on more favourable terms, making financing more accessible and supporting recovery.

The Bank has also designed specific products to improve economic opportunities for underserved groups. These include financial and non-financial incentives that help small and medium businesses adopt more inclusive training and employment practices.

8.2. SECURE TRANSPORT, SAFE ROADS

Safe road infrastructure requires long-term, sustainable investment, but many countries still face major funding gaps. The Bank devotes substantial funding and advisory services to safer transport – especially road safety – in line with its Transport Lending Policy. As highlighted in the Evaluation of EIB support for urban public transport in the European Union, the Bank's support has helped improve traffic safety and passenger security.

The Transport Lending Policy notes that the greatest benefits occur when investments in safe and secure transport are combined with broader investments in transport and network planning, public transport, road construction, traffic operation and maintenance.

Following new commitments signed in 2025, the Bank estimates that its investments helped deliver:

- 297 million additional passenger trips on public transport;
- improved urban or regional infrastructure for 6.4 million people.

Case study: Strengthening Poland's transport infrastructure

The Bank is supporting the Polish National Roads Strengthening Programme through advisory services and €500 million in financing until 2030. The programme aims to improve the climate resilience, safety and long-term performance of Poland's national road network. It focuses on rehabilitating bridges and road sections with insufficient load-bearing capacity, prioritising assets that are particularly exposed to climate change risks, in line with the EU taxonomy's climate adaptation criteria.

Rather than expanding road capacity, the investment strengthens existing infrastructure to better withstand extreme weather events through improved drainage, flood protection and higher technical standards. By focusing on asset preservation and climate adaptation measures, the programme avoids premature deterioration, limits environmental impacts and improves safety and reliability for users. At the same time, smoother traffic flows and improved road safety help cut emissions per vehicle-kilometre and support stronger socioeconomic cohesion.

Overall, the Polish National Roads Strengthening Programme shows how targeted investment in transport infrastructure can deliver lasting economic value and support European cohesion and climate adaptation and environmental sustainability objectives.

8.3. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

The Bank plays a central role in promoting sustainable urban development across the world. Its approach to sustainable cities and regions improves people's quality of life in urban areas and aims to ensure inclusive access to infrastructure and services. The Bank's approach focuses on:

- Urban mobility: Financing safe, green and efficient public transport systems that reduce emissions and improve accessibility, including for low-income and underserved populations.
- Urban development: Supporting integrated urban regeneration, land-use planning and infrastructure investment that fosters social inclusion and environmental sustainability.
- Affordable and sustainable housing: Investing in the construction and renovation of housing that is energy-efficient, accessible and affordable, particularly for vulnerable groups.
- Climate-resilient infrastructure: Promoting low-carbon and climate-adaptive urban infrastructure, in line with the European Green Deal and Europe's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.
- Advisory services: Providing cities and regions with the tools and expertise needed to design and implement impactful, inclusive urban projects. The Bank also supports cities in addressing urgent challenges such as integrating refugees and displaced populations, ensuring that urban investments contribute to social cohesion and equitable access to services.

The EIB Group is a leading investor in infrastructure that supports inclusive and sustainable growth across Europe. In 2025, the Bank stepped up its support for the European housing sector. A new housing platform with the European Commission brought together key stakeholders in new materials and building techniques, the renovation of Europe's existing housing stock and the development of new homes. Financing rose by nearly 50% to reach €5 billion, with a strong pipeline to address one of Europe's most pressing challenges.

The EIB Group aims to help deliver additional affordable and sustainable homes by 2030. In Czechia, Česká spořitelna, one of the country's largest banks, is financing 763 affordable homes in Prague for nurses, teachers and other essential workers, with a €60 million loan from the Bank. The Bank has approved a €1.3 billion framework loan to support the construction and renovation of affordable housing units in Portugal. In Ireland, the Housing Finance Agency created a €400 million loan facility with Bank support to provide long-term, fixed-rate financing for social and affordable housing providers, helping them develop innovative approaches that lead to lower rents. Austria's Erste Bank received €200 million for housing investments, including projects that adapt housing supply to the specific needs of young people and older tenants.

8.4. ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

Healthcare systems around the world face significant resource shortages, with serious consequences for individuals and communities. Investment in infrastructure increases the availability and resilience of healthcare services, while funding for innovation and life sciences helps manage new, recurring and growing health threats. The EIB Group is a major investor in these areas, financing the construction and modernisation of healthcare facilities to make care better and more accessible.

Stronger health systems start with strong foundations. The Group supports primary healthcare, pandemic preparedness and training for medical staff – all essential to building resilient healthcare systems. In 2025, Group lending totalled €1.8 billion, mobilising investment of €3.5 billion. This includes EIF equity operations of €81 million (supporting investments worth €312 million) and debt operations of €365 million.

New Group commitments signed in 2025 enabled:

- 18.4 million people to gain access to better health services;
- 1.6 million patients to be treated in new or improved facilities.

With €450 million in financing and technical support from the Bank, the regional government of Galicia, Spain, is building a new university hospital in A Coruña. The facility will provide more beds, better intensive care and outpatient surgery services for 550 000 people.

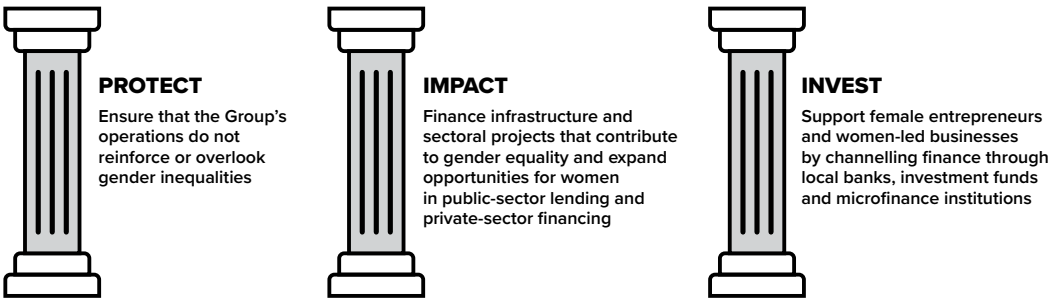
Long-term care to support Europe's ageing population is also a key area of the Group's activity. A €150 million loan helped build and upgrade care homes, day centres and assisted living facilities across Catalonia, Spain, benefiting older people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. The co-financing with Institut Català de Finances and the Council of Europe Development Bank is expected to help create around 7 500 new residential care places and is a strong example of effective partnership with other financial institutions.

8.5. SUPPORTING GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Since 2018, the EIB Group has embedded gender equality and women's economic empowerment into its core business model. It has invested systematically in initiatives that improve women's access to capital, promote equal participation in economic life and close gender gaps across sectors.

The Group's approach is built on three pillars, as set out in the EIB Group gender action plans.

Figure 31: THE THREE PILLARS OF GENDER ACTION PLANS



Source: EIB Group

These pillars are complemented by targeted advisory initiatives designed to strengthen the Group's institutional capabilities to accelerate progress towards gender equality.

Given its public-private scope and close relationship with the European Commission, the EIB Group has aligned its internal eligibility criteria and tracking systems with the standards of the 2X Challenge criteria for gender lens investing and the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) gender equality policy marker. These frameworks have been adapted to reflect the specific operational models of the Bank and the Fund, ensuring consistency and relevance across the Group's activities.

In 2025, the Bank financed 54 projects that made a significant contribution to gender equality and women's economic empowerment, providing €2.6 billion of investment (€1.1 billion within and €1.5 billion beyond the European Union). Gender equality was included in 30% of the operations

financed by EIB Global. Under the Gender Action Plan II (2021-2025), the Bank signed 236 operations that significantly contributed to gender equality and women's economic empowerment, totalling €19.2 billion in financing for gender equality.

These investments supported women's access to finance and public and private sector projects that advance gender equality and close gender gaps in sectors such as the bioeconomy, health, mobility, urban development, energy and water.

In 2025, 30 projects (slightly more than 55% of the Bank's financing for gender equality) also contributed to climate action and environmental sustainability. The Bank expanded its Sustainability Awareness Bond (SAB) framework to include gender equality and women's economic empowerment, in partnership with the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, helping mobilise capital markets for impactful gender investments.

In 2025, new EIF equity operations contributed €174.3 million to gender equality, of which €20 million in Unconventional Ventures' UV Fund II, a venture capital fund focused on the Nordic countries. The fund aims for all of its portfolio companies to be led by diverse teams, primarily women, but also LGBTIQ+ people and entrepreneurs with diverse ethnic and migration backgrounds.

The EIF, together with the Bank and Santander Bank Polska, also agreed to inject €1.1 billion into small and medium-sized enterprises in Poland, with a specific focus on supporting gender equality initiatives in the business sector. At least 40% of this financing will go to women-led businesses or companies promoting gender-inclusive practices.

The EIB Group's investments contribute to resilient communities. In line with the EIB Statute, and reflected in the EIB Group 2024-2027 Strategic Roadmap and the EIB Global strategic orientation, the Group's financing helps reduce systemic inequalities within and across regions. The Bank's Financing for gender equality approach and the Fund's Empowering equity initiative further strengthen the benefits of investment projects for women and diverse groups.

8.6. ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

Education and training are fundamental human rights. Investment in this area is one of the most efficient ways to support human empowerment and development. Knowledge and skills improve employability and foster social inclusion, while research and innovation strengthen competitiveness and create new jobs.

The impact of the Bank's investment in education is significant, with benefits for society and the broader economy – mainly in literacy, skills development and economic advancement. The Bank finances education, research and innovation to help address structural weaknesses in Europe's economy and to improve its competitiveness and sustainability.

The Bank finances projects that increase the quality and capacity of education facilities, especially through the renovation of school buildings, investment in training and support for student loan schemes and student mobility programmes. The Group is one of the world's largest financiers of education infrastructure. In 2025, it provided €3.3 billion for education and skills.

Examples of projects financed

In 2025, the Bank financed the modernisation of university campuses in the Greek cities of Heraklion and Rethymno through a €95 million loan, supporting improvements to student housing and academic facilities. Two further investments will benefit 30 000 primary school children in the French city of Marseille, with €425 million supporting school modernisation projects led by Société Publique des Écoles Marseillaises.

As part of the European Year of Skills 2025, the EIF signed three InvestEU-backed guarantee agreements to support higher education and reskilling in Germany and Spain. These agreements will benefit nearly 40 000 students and learners through more than €100 million in financed support.

Montenegro's education programme represents a long-term, sector-wide effort to build a more modern, inclusive and future-ready education system. The programme will modernise more than 500 primary and secondary schools with updated information and communication technology equipment, rehabilitate 13 education facilities and expand national schooling capacity by creating nearly 1 700 new student places and 530 full-time teaching jobs.

To date, EIB Global has committed a total of €55 million to Montenegro's education sector, including €36 million in loans (including a key €18 million loan signed in July 2025), €11 million in EU grants channelled through the Western Balkans Investment Framework, and more than €8 million in grants through the Economic Resilience Initiative Fund.

This financing is already delivering results. The newly inaugurated Vladimir Nazor School in Podgorica means that nearly 1 000 students are now benefiting from state-of-the-art facilities and improved energy efficiency, renewable energy use and climate resilience.

By upgrading service delivery and facilities in vocational education and training, the project also helps improve youth employability. Without the project, improvements to Montenegro's education services would have been slower, access would have remained limited for many pupils, and the overall impact would have been much smaller.

8.7. FINANCIAL INCLUSION

The EIB Group continues to prioritise financial inclusion, with a strong focus on supporting small businesses and microentrepreneurs. Expanding access to finance and suitable financial products is a key driver of local economic development. To advance this goal, the Group works with microfinance institutions and financial intermediaries to provide tailored solutions that strengthen digital capabilities, improve financial literacy and broaden access to essential financial services for small business owners.

By supporting entrepreneurship and more inclusive economic growth, the Group helps improve the livelihoods of underserved communities by:

- increasing the volume of microfinance loans;
- expanding access to financial services for women and young people;
- increasing the number of small enterprises that receive targeted support.

For example, in 2025, the Bank signed a €100 million loan to Stanbic Bank Uganda for on-lending to eligible micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. The operation is part of joint work with the Gates Foundation to support women's economic empowerment in East Africa by strengthening financial inclusion. It helps address the limited access to finance faced by small firms in Uganda, many of which operate in the agricultural sector and employ a large share of the adult population. As part of this operation, Stanbic Bank Uganda will allocate €20 million to women borrowers directed through a number of microfinance institutions.

In February 2025, the EIF expanded its microfinance support by committing a €100 million facility for the Swedish fintech company Froda under the InvestEU programme. This initiative aims to close the microfinance gap in Europe and enable underserved businesses – especially women-led businesses and sole traders – to access essential capital.

8.8. SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Bank has also developed specific products to improve economic opportunities for underserved communities. These include financial and non-financial incentives that enable small and medium businesses to adopt more inclusive training and employment practices.



9.
SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES



Key messages

The EIB Group places the well-being of communities at the centre of its work. Its investments take into account the impact on local communities and the potential risks and added value they create.

Through robust standards aligned with EU law and international standards such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the EIB Group seeks to prevent, mitigate and address adverse impacts on people. These requirements apply throughout the project cycle and are supported by transparency, stakeholder engagement and access to remedy, including through the EIB Group Complaints Mechanism. This ensures that the EIB Group conducts business responsibly and is accountable to the communities it serves.

The Group also promotes a just transition, recognising that the shift to a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy must be fair and inclusive.

EIB Group and EU commitments

The EIB Group has integrated the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights into its policy framework to seek to ensure that projects meet rigorous environmental and social standards. Using a risk-based approach, it carries out its due diligence to ensure that promoters and financial intermediaries comply with the requirements of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards and the EIF's Environmental, Social & Governance Principles to engage with and protect the rights of communities affected by financed projects.

The Bank reports publicly on the potential impact of projects and on the measures it takes to mitigate that impact through its public register. It also works to ensure that promoters make grievance mechanisms available to affected communities.



Concrete actions and impact

The Bank helps clients design projects for maximum social impact and encourages the exchange of knowledge across sectors and regions. Gender analysis and action planning are integrated to ensure projects benefit women and diverse groups. Other measures focus on helping underserved and fragile communities access public services, strengthening social inclusion and enabling wider economic participation.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented policies and standards that govern how it engages with communities and the impact it has on them.

EIB Group:

- **The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy**
- **EIB Group Transparency Policy**
- **EIB Group Complaints Mechanism Policy**
- **The EIB Group Strategy on Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment**

European Investment Bank:

- **European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, in particular standards 1, 2, 6, 7, 10 and 11**
- **The European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note**

European Investment Fund:

- **Environmental, Social & Governance Principles**
- **EIF Transparency Policy**

In addition, the EIB Strategic Approach to Fragility and Conflict guides the Bank's work in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, and its approach to the just transition addresses the socioeconomic impact of decarbonising economies.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
S3 - Affected communities	√	√		
Communities' economic, social and cultural rights	√	√		
Communities' civil and political rights		√		
Rights of indigenous peoples		√		

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Financing of essential services, infrastructure and projects that foster social cohesion and economic development.	Communities' economic, social and cultural rights	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Financed infrastructure could trigger land acquisition, resettlement, livelihood disruption and security-related incidents.	Communities' economic, social and cultural rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential restriction of the civil and political rights of the communities affected by an EIB Group-financed project.	Communities' civil and political rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential violation of indigenous peoples' rights through land loss, cultural disruption, exclusion from decision-making or unequal benefit sharing.	Rights of indigenous peoples	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term

9.1. HOW THE EIB SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES

The Bank also supports a just and fair green transition to a low-carbon economy by identifying ways to strengthen the impact of projects in support of territories and communities that rely heavily on fossil fuel extraction and use. It helps clients design projects that maximise social impact and encourages the exchange of knowledge across sectors and regions. These project designs can include measures to improve access to public services for underserved communities, rural communities, people living in fragile contexts and cohesion regions.

For more information on the EIB Group's impact, see the EIB Group Activity Report 2025. The report describes how projects have supported specific communities through better health services and sanitation, reduced flood risk and new jobs. As outlined in Chapter 1.3 of this report, "Strategy, business model and value chain," the EIB Group has also contributed to economic growth and to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

9.1.1. A just transition focusing on resilience for workers, communities and territories

The Bank aims to ensure that the transition to a low-carbon and sustainable economy creates opportunities and shared benefits for the workers, communities and regions most affected by decarbonisation. It supports workers and businesses facing economic losses and works for inclusive economic development and community resilience in the European Union and beyond. This includes helping people adapt to new realities while promoting long-term prosperity. The Bank also prioritises skills development and worker empowerment in regions undergoing economic transformation.

At the heart of this commitment is the Bank's role in the European Union's Just Transition Mechanism,[73] which helps EU regions and workers shift away from carbon-intensive industries by financing new economic opportunities, such as renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable infrastructure. The mechanism has three key pillars: a Just Transition Fund based mainly on EU grants, an investment scheme under InvestEU and a loan facility that blends EIB loans with EU grants.

Beyond the European Union, the least developed countries – many of them in Africa – have some of the lowest greenhouse gas emissions but are among the most affected by climate change. Small island states and fragile countries face similar challenges. Marginalised groups risk losing their homes and land, and often live in areas most exposed to climate risks such as mudslides, contaminated water and flooding. In many cases, the poorest people also face the greatest risk of job losses as governments incentivise industry to shift to more sustainable economic activities.

This is why EIB Global, the Bank's development arm beyond the European Union, has coupled a just transition with a just resilience approach. The aim is to support the countries and people most affected by climate change or climate adaptation actions, notably in the least developed countries, fragile and conflict-affected states and small island developing states. This combined approach helps build low-carbon and climate-resilient societies.

To back a just transition, EIB Global supports workers affected by the green transition and finances low-carbon infrastructure, energy efficiency, renewable energy, the development of small and medium-sized companies, education, training and retraining and environmental rehabilitation.[74] It supports just energy transition partnerships and works with Team Europe to end coal-based energy production. EIB Global targets climate adaptation projects that help vulnerable groups and people

73. See Supporting the Just Transition Mechanism – comprehensive proposal of the EIB Group.
74. For more information, see EIB Global's approach to a just transition and just resilience.

who depend on natural resources and ecosystems for their livelihoods, including indigenous people, women, young people and migrants. For example, in Cambodia, an EIB investment supported the modernisation and climate resilience of the agricultural sector, with a focus on smallholder farmers, including women.

The Group's Climate Bank Roadmap Phase 2, published in 2025, confirmed the need for a just transition as part of a broader focus on inclusive prosperity.

9.2. POLICIES RELATED TO AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

9.2.1. The EIB Group's approach to human rights in the broader policy context

The Bank's approach to protecting communities affected by its financing is guided by international and EU human rights legislation and best practice.

As an EU body, the Bank is legally bound by the provisions of The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

Its strong commitment to human rights is reflected in The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy. This policy is guided by key international and regional human rights frameworks, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the European Convention on Human Rights, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the EU global human rights sanctions regime.[75]

The EIB Group's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework is grounded in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct. Through its Environmental and Social Policy and 11 Environmental and Social Standards, the Bank applies a human rights-based, risk-based due diligence approach that covers impacts, stakeholder engagement, labour rights and value chain responsibilities. This approach reflects the core expectations set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines.

Furthermore, the Group's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework is aligned with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This is reflected in Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, which is described in more detail below.

The Bank explains this approach to key stakeholders, including civil society and project promoters, through The European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note.[76] This information note serves two primary purposes: (1) to inform involved parties of the Bank's commitment to respecting and promoting human rights in its lending operations; and (2) to describe how the Bank identifies, avoids and addresses human rights risks and effects. It also explains that the Bank has not adopted a stand-alone human rights policy. Instead, it has integrated a human rights-responsive approach across its policies and standards, particularly within the EIB Group's Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework.

75. Paragraph 4.5 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.
76. Annex B of the note lists the human rights instruments referenced in the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, reinforcing the Bank's alignment with globally recognised standards and principles.

In promoting social inclusion and development, equal opportunities and fair working conditions, the Group supports relevant EU social policies and the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.[77] Other policies that address the negative impact on affected communities include the EIB Group Complaints Mechanism Policy and the EIB Group Transparency Policy (supplemented for the EIF by the EIF Transparency Policy). Together, these ensure that the EIB Group's approach is consistent with international frameworks such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-Up and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct. For more information, see the information note, The European Investment Bank's approach to human rights.

9.2.2. Land-related impacts and involuntary resettlement

The EIB Group opposes forced displacement resulting from the projects it finances. Movements of people must be humane, safe, legal and based on sustainable choices that enhance the economic prospects of those affected.[78]

Project promoters should prioritise alternatives that prevent displacement. When relocation cannot be avoided, it must be minimised and managed in a way that protects the rights and well-being of affected people.[79]

To ensure this, promoters must consult with affected people, provide timely and transparent information and involve them in planning and decision-making. They must offer fair compensation for lost assets at full replacement cost, ensure access to grievance mechanisms and, where appropriate, treat resettlement as a development opportunity that enables displaced people to benefit directly from the project.[80]

9.2.3. Security-related impacts, vulnerable groups and adequate resources for affected communities

Discrimination, entrenched social and gender roles and attitudes, gender-based violence and limited access to decision-making can weaken the resilience of certain individuals and groups. These factors can also make them disproportionately vulnerable to the adverse effects of investment projects. This understanding of vulnerability guides the Bank's approach to affected communities. Its aim is to promote equitable access to project benefits and ensure that people who may be marginalised, discriminated against or at risk of exclusion are protected and supported.[81]

For projects beyond the European Union, promoters must assess whether certain groups – based on socioeconomic characteristics such as gender, ethnicity or disability – may be disproportionately affected or excluded from project benefits.[82] This analysis forms the basis of measures designed to minimise the negative impact on these vulnerable groups.

The Bank also considers women's vulnerability when assessing and mitigating the impact of projects. This includes applying the Group's zero-tolerance policy towards gender-based violence and harassment.[83] Through the Protect pillar of its original Gender Action Plan, the Group seeks to ensure

77. Standard 8 (Labour Rights), paragraph 36 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
78. See paragraph 2.14 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.
79. See Standard 6 (Involuntary Resettlement), paragraph 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
80. See Standard 6, paragraph 4(e) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
81. See Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender), paragraph 6 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
82. See Standard 7, paragraphs 21-22 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
83. See paragraphs 2.12 and 2.13 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

that projects do not reinforce or overlook gender inequalities. This includes identifying and mitigating gender-specific risks, such as gender-based violence and harassment, during project appraisal and implementation.

The Bank's Environmental and Social Standards require promoters to take the necessary measures to avoid, mitigate and manage risks and potential adverse impacts on public health and safety arising from the influx of workers. These risks and impacts may be associated with changes in population composition, pressures on natural resources, intangible cultural heritage, health implications and exposure to communicable diseases. The standards put particular emphasis on identifying, preventing and addressing gender-based violence risks in affected communities that may become more vulnerable due to the arrival of project workers.

Context can also exacerbate vulnerability. Investing in fragile and conflict-affected contexts is particularly challenging due to the lack of reliable data and analytics, higher levels of risk and uncertainty and a weaker legal and regulatory environment. As a result, communities affected by projects in these contexts face increased risks, which promoters and the Bank must take into consideration.

9.2.4. Civil and political rights

When conducting environmental and social impact assessments, promoters must ensure that the assessment of social aspects is fully embedded in the process. This includes identifying potential human rights risks such as the rights to privacy and data protection, freedom of assembly and association, and non-discrimination.

Promoters must engage with partners, promoters, groups and communities in a way that respects human rights, including privacy, data protection and freedom of expression. Engagement must be free from intimidation, coercion or retaliation, especially for people who raise concerns about a project. This includes human rights defenders, environmental activists and vulnerable individuals.[84]

The EIB Group has a zero-tolerance policy for retaliation, harassment or intimidation against anyone who raises concerns. Promoters are expected to uphold this and take appropriate action if such incidents occur. This is especially important for protecting human rights defenders and others who may be at risk because they participate in the grievance process.[85]

9.2.5. Rights of indigenous peoples

The Bank recognises the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination and the protection of their cultural rights. Projects must respect their distinct identities, social and governance institutions, customary laws and their close relationship with their lands, territories and natural resources.

To ensure full respect for the rights, identity, culture and livelihoods of indigenous peoples in the projects it finances, the EIB Group may require promoters to negotiate in good faith with indigenous peoples affected by a project and obtain their Free, Prior and Informed Consent when required. Promoters must respect the rights of indigenous communities, including those living in voluntary isolation, and follow the principle of no contact unless initiated by the communities themselves.[86]

84. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 9 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
85. Paragraph 4.5 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.
86. When required by Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

The impact of Bank-financed projects on indigenous peoples is also addressed in the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards on Stakeholder Engagement, Biodiversity and Ecosystems, Involuntary Resettlement, and Cultural Heritage.

These requirements reflect and put into practice the principles of equality, non-discrimination and cultural integrity set out in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

9.2.6. How the EIB approaches fragility and conflict

When working in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, the EIB Group follows the EIB Strategic Approach to Fragility and Conflict. This approach ensures strategic coherence across the Bank's operations in such contexts, emphasising prevention, continued engagement during acute phases of conflict, recovery support and crisis response. Differentiated, context-sensitive approaches help maximise the Bank's impact while supporting social cohesion, inclusion, job creation and climate action.

The approach is aligned with the European Union's commitment to peace and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It also recognises that no institution can operate effectively in fragile and conflict-affected contexts alone. It therefore promotes strong partnerships and collaboration with EU institutions, Team Europe, international organisations and local stakeholders. It supports European initiatives such as Global Gateway and seeks to deepen cooperation with the European Commission's directorates-general, including those responsible for civil protection and humanitarian aid, international partnerships, neighbourhood policy and the southern and eastern regions. Through these partnerships and context-sensitive methods, the approach enables more efficient and impactful EIB operations in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

9.3. ENGAGEMENT WITH AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS FOR AFFECTED COMMUNITIES AND VALUE CHAIN WORKERS

9.3.1. Stakeholder engagement

The EIB Group has an engagement process that applies to all types of stakeholders, including affected communities.

Where applicable, Standard 2 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards requires project promoters to lead engagement processes that are systematic, constructive, inclusive, transparent and respectful of human rights. These processes help ensure that projects are designed and implemented in a way that reflects the needs and concerns of affected communities and other stakeholders.

Promoters must identify all relevant stakeholders – those who may be directly or indirectly affected by a project, or who have an interest in it or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively – and engage with them early in the project's life cycle. Stakeholders include individuals, affected communities, project workers[87] and their legitimate representatives.[88] Engagement must begin early enough for stakeholders to meaningfully influence decisions, and it must be transparent and continuous.

87. For more information on project workers and workers in the downstream value chain more generally, see Chapter 10.3. of this report.
88. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

Where national authorities are formally responsible for engagement, promoters are expected to collaborate closely with them to ensure that the outcomes align with the Bank's standards.

Inclusive and equitable participation

Where applicable, promoters must ensure the participation of all stakeholder groups, including those who are vulnerable, marginalised or traditionally excluded. This includes adapting communication methods to overcome barriers related to gender, literacy, disability or cultural context.[89]

Where applicable, promoters must also identify and prioritise groups that may be disproportionately affected by a project's impact. They are required to engage with these groups directly or through legitimate representatives, ensuring that their concerns are heard and addressed.

In addition and where applicable, promoters must take the necessary measures to identify and avoid potential project risks and outcomes that would affect the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable, marginalised or discriminated people and groups and indigenous peoples. When it is not feasible to avoid having an impact, promoters must reduce, minimise, mitigate or effectively compensate people or find a remedy. As relevant, promoters must seek to help affected groups to adapt to the impact and give them equal opportunity to voice their opinions about proposed activities and mitigation measures that might affect them.

Transparent and informed dialogue

Where applicable, to support meaningful participation, promoters must provide stakeholders with timely and accessible information. This includes:

- the purpose, scope and timeline of the project;
- potential environmental, social and climate-related effects;
- mitigation and compensation measures;
- opportunities for public consultation and participation;
- grievance mechanisms at the project and EIB Group levels and how to access them;
- any potential benefit-sharing and added value for affected communities, where applicable.[90]

Information must be shared in formats that are understandable and culturally appropriate, including for people with limited literacy or special needs. Promoters must also disclose any significant changes to the project that could affect stakeholders, and explain how these changes will be managed.

Responsiveness

Where applicable, promoters are expected to disclose how stakeholder feedback has influenced project design and implementation. This includes sharing information on mitigation or compensation measures or explaining why certain suggestions could not be adopted.[91] Promoters must also inform affected groups about the grievance mechanism itself: how it works, how to access it and what to expect from the process.

Where project changes result in new or increased environmental, social or climate-related risks, promoters must update stakeholders and engage with them on revised mitigation strategies.[92]

89. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 10; and Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender), paragraph 5 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
90. Standard 1 (Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
91. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraphs 40-41 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
92. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 35 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

Special considerations for indigenous peoples

Where applicable, and where indigenous peoples are affected, promoters must engage in culturally appropriate and inclusive consultations. This includes respecting customary laws and traditional authorities, and (where required) obtaining Free, Prior and Informed Consent. Engagement should begin early and continue throughout the project cycle.[93]

9.3.2. Grievance mechanisms

The EIB Group seeks to ensure that affected communities have accessible, trusted and effective channels to raise concerns about Bank-financed projects. While the Bank maintains its own institutional grievance mechanisms (see Chapter 1, "General information"), project promoters play a central role in establishing and managing grievance processes at the project level.

Promoter-led grievance mechanisms

Promoters may be required to establish a project grievance mechanism as early as possible in the project cycle.[94] This mechanism must meet the effectiveness criteria laid out in Principle 31 of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.[95] It must be accessible to all concerned parties and able to receive and address concerns throughout the life of the project.[96] It should also be designed to support continuous dialogue, allowing stakeholders to share their views on project impacts, risks and mitigation measures.

Promoters must ensure that legitimate representatives – such as community leaders, civil society organisations or trade unions – can help facilitate communication between affected communities and the project team.[97]

Ongoing monitoring and improvement

To ensure the effectiveness of grievance mechanisms, promoters may be required to regularly monitor the stakeholder engagement process. This includes tracking the types of concerns raised, how they are addressed, and whether the process is trusted by affected communities. Whenever feasible, third-party monitoring (by civil society, community-based organisations or independent experts) is encouraged to enhance transparency and accountability.[98]

93. Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
94. Where applicable, pursuant to Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 22 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
95. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 25, footnote 18 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
96. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 22 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
97. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 18 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
98. Standard 2 (Stakeholder Engagement), paragraph 42 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

9.4. PREVENTING AND MANAGING THE IMPACT ON AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

9.4.1. Assessing and preventing potential negative effects

In line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Bank seeks to identify and understand the risks to human rights of communities affected by the projects it finances, to avoid and address these risks, and to enable their remediation where necessary.

The Bank expects promoters to meet their human rights responsibilities by integrating human rights considerations into their environmental and social due diligence processes.[99] This applies throughout the project life cycle and across all sectors and regions where the Bank operates.

9.4.2. Avoid causing or contributing to adverse impact

The Bank is committed to preventing harm to affected communities by applying a forward-looking, risk-based approach to environmental and social due diligence. This approach is grounded in international standards, including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and is designed to identify and avoid potential adverse impacts before they occur.

Each project financed by the Bank undergoes a comprehensive risk assessment. This assessment identifies environmental, climate and social risks, including those related to human rights. The Bank uses this process to seek to ensure that projects are designed in a way that avoids causing or contributing to harm, particularly in vulnerable or high-risk contexts.

In fragile and conflict-affected settings, the risk of adverse impacts is heightened. These situations can range from:

- areas at risk of conflict or institutional collapse;
- regions experiencing intense violence;
- places beginning to recover and stabilise;
- contexts facing political or economic challenges.

Where applicable, the Bank conducts detailed context analysis that identifies various groups affected by the project. Based on this analysis, the Bank helps promoters to design and implement projects that are strategic, high-impact and sensitive to conflict dynamics, ensuring they are appropriate for the specific context. The Bank also strives to collaborate with other financial institutions to better understand how conflict affects the private sector and sustainable investments.

9.4.3. Minimise and mitigate unavoidable negative impact

Where negative effects cannot be entirely avoided, the EIB Group applies its European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards, which seek to ensure that harm is minimised in line with international good practice. Integrated impact assessments can be used to evaluate environmental, climate and social risks in a holistic manner and to develop appropriate mitigation strategies.

The Bank's due diligence is human rights-responsive and tailored to the specific risks of each project. Taking a risk-based approach, it seeks to ensure continuous monitoring throughout the project life cycle so that mitigation measures remain effective and emerging risks are addressed in a timely manner.

99. As outlined in paragraph 3.2 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

9.4.4. Promote access to grievance mechanisms and remedy

The Bank is committed to providing affected communities with ways to remedy any negative effects from projects. In line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Bank supports the establishment and use of effective grievance mechanisms that allow individuals and communities to raise concerns and seek redress.

9.5. ACTIONS TO REMEDIATE NEGATIVE IMPACTS

9.5.1. Actions led by the promoter

Promoters are required[100] to assess whether the project may disproportionately affect individuals or groups who are vulnerable, marginalised or at risk of exclusion. If such risks are identified, promoters are required to conduct further social or gender analysis to better understand these dynamics. To support this process, qualified specialists can be engaged as needed to ensure the analysis is robust and contextually appropriate. Based on the understanding gained through such studies, promoters must identify and implement measures to avoid, mitigate or remedy negative impacts and enhance positive outcomes.

9.5.2. Actions led by the Bank

9.5.2.1. Project-level actions

During project implementation, the Bank monitors project performance through a risk-based approach, drawing on promoter reports, independent assessments and site visits. Where necessary, it engages local or international experts to strengthen oversight, conduct additional studies and support promoters as they address emerging issues.

This monitoring helps to ensure that promoters identify and assess potentially adverse consequences early, take steps to avoid or mitigate that impact, and ensure that effective mechanisms are in place to provide remedy when harm occurs. This can include incorporating tailored measures into environmental and social management plans[101] to ensure that vulnerable or marginalised groups are not disproportionately affected and can benefit from the project.

9.5.2.2. Capacity building on human rights in the financial sector

As part of its commitment to capacity building on human rights in the financial sector, the EIB financed and supported the development of the Human Rights Toolkit for Financial Institutions in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme Finance Initiative.

This comprehensive step-by-step toolkit, introduced in January 2025, is designed to help financial institutions integrate human rights considerations into their operations.

100. Where the requirements of Standard 7 (Vulnerable Groups, Indigenous Peoples and Gender) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards are applicable.
101. See Standard 1 (Environmental and Social Impacts and Risks) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

The toolkit:

- offers actionable steps for aligning with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including policy development, due diligence and access to remedy;
- provides tailored recommendations for various industries and regions to address unique human rights challenges;
- explains key human rights frameworks in clear language to support informed and ethical decision-making;
- encourages institutions to track progress to ensure that human rights considerations are embedded throughout financial operations;
- highlights real-world examples of organisations with strong human rights practices for inspiration and learning.

Although designed primarily for banks, the toolkit is also useful for investors, insurers, civil society and national human rights institutions. It supports implementation of the UN Principles for Responsible Banking and contributes to a more responsible and sustainable global financial system.



10.
BOOSTING QUALITY EMPLOYMENT



Key messages

Sustainable and quality employment and the protection of workers' rights are essential for a fair, just and prosperous society. They ensure that people are treated with dignity and respect. The European Investment Bank (EIB) Group promotes these rights as a basis for economic growth by supporting fair and safe working conditions, improved productivity and equal access to better job opportunities for all.

EIB Group and EU commitments

Expanding economic opportunities for women and groups facing gender discrimination – including through improved access to finance, employment and leadership – supports inclusive and competitive growth. In addition to promoting workers' rights in its projects, the Bank uses its financing to strengthen employment and economic empowerment, especially for groups that face structural disadvantages in the labour market, such as women. It does this through its Gender Action Plan, by leading initiatives such as the Women Climate Leaders Network and participating in the 2X Challenge.

The European Investment Fund (EIF) supports broader EU efforts such as InvestEU and Horizon Europe to channel more capital to women-led and gender-diverse companies, microfinance institutions and social impact investors that provide loans and mentoring to women entrepreneurs, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds. It also works with investment fund managers that apply a gender lens by taking gender into account in investment decisions, from portfolio company leadership to product impact.

Concrete actions and impact

The Group strives to ensure that workers involved in the projects it finances and the transactions it supports benefit from fair conditions, decent wages and the protection of their labour rights. It has embedded the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work of the International Labour Organization



and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights into its policy framework and management systems.

Its risk-based approach to due diligence aims to protect the rights of workers impacted by activities financed by the Group through the application of its Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework. The Bank reports, where relevant, on individual project impacts on labour rights in the environmental and social data sheets, which are published in its public register. These efforts are complemented by measures to ensure that workers in the value chain have access to remedy and grievance mechanisms.

Key policies and standards

Several key instruments reflect the Group's commitment to protecting workers' rights and economically empowering vulnerable or marginalised groups through better employment opportunities:

EIB Group:

- The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy
- EIB Group Transparency Policy
- EIB Group Complaints Mechanism Policy
- The EIB Group Strategy on Gender Equality and Women's Economic Empowerment

European Investment Bank:

- European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards (Standards 8, 9 and 11)
- The European Investment Bank's approach to human rights: Information note

European Investment Fund:

- Environmental, Social & Governance Principles
- EIF Transparency Policy

EIF financing for sustainable and women-led firms

- A €200 million green private credit fund to finance sustainability-focused small and medium-sized enterprises. A key objective is to support women-led businesses, helping them expand and create new employment opportunities for women across Europe.
- A €100 million EIF investment in five social impact funds, including Greece's first of its kind, and a €20 million investment in Unconventional Ventures Fund II supporting portfolio companies with at least one under-represented founder in the core team and a business model that delivers measurable environmental or social impact. These investments reflect the EIF's strong commitment to social impact.
- A €30 million EIF investment in Booster Capital Fund, a private equity fund that targets smaller and medium-sized companies, primarily in Romania and Hungary, to enhance competitiveness, create jobs and stimulate regional development in emerging European markets.

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
S2 - Workers in the value chain	√	√		
Working conditions	√	√		
Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining		√		
Training and skills development	√			
Health and safety		√		
Diversity and equal treatment	√	√		
Other labour-related human rights		√		

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Promoting economic development and employment for workers in projects and sub-projects through financing.	Working conditions	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Supporting skills development and training for workers in the value chain through financing and technical assistance for the education and training components of a project.	Training and skills development	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Promoting diversity and equal treatment among counterparties' workforce.	Diversity and equal treatment	Actual positive impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential failure of counterparties to provide adequate working conditions, including poor conditions on construction sites, wage theft and excessive working hours.	Working conditions	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential failure of counterparties to ensure effective social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining and respect for participation rights.	Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential occurrence of work-related incidents and adverse health impacts in financed sectors.	Health and safety	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential lack of respect for diversity and equal treatment of counterparties' workers.	Diversity and equal treatment	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term
Potential human rights infringements in counterparties' value chains.	Other labour-related human rights	Potential negative impact	Downstream	Short-term

10.1. HOW THE EIB GROUP SUPPORTS AND PROTECTS WORKERS

10.1.1. Quality employment for youth and women

In the final year of implementing its Gender Action Plan II (2021-2025), the Group continued to promote quality employment and leadership opportunities for women. This work addresses participation and pay gaps, especially in sectors where men continue to dominate in the workforce and in management.

For example, in 2025, the EIB Group invested in research and development and in companies and projects in the energy, bioeconomy, financial and transport sectors that were spearheading efforts to improve leadership and employment opportunities for women. These efforts include measures to address gender bias in recruitment, retention and career progression.

10.1.1.1. Getting capital to female entrepreneurs and women-led firms

Women entrepreneurs around the world continue to face financial barriers, even though they contribute to economic growth and innovation. According to the Global Impact Investing Network report, In Focus: Gender and Impact Investing in 2024, investment that supports gender equality is growing, but women-led enterprises still face a $1.7 trillion financing gap. Closing this gap could significantly boost global economic output, but systemic constraints persist.

In 2025, the Bank provided €531 million to women entrepreneurs and women-led small and medium-sized enterprises implemented through banks and microfinance institutions. The EIB complements this access to capital with additional forms of support aimed at women entrepreneurs, women leaders, and quality employment for women.

Since 2021, more than 450 000 women entrepreneurs and women-led businesses have benefited from access to finance, products and skills development, including targeted groups such as female farmers. Through increased access to the resources and skills essential to sustainable livelihoods and business development, they are able to overcome gender financing gaps and mobilise capital resources in line with their needs.

10.1.1.2. Employment opportunities for underserved groups

In Serbia, the Bank has signed a €10 million loan and a €1.3 million grant with Erste Bank to provide affordable financing to small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-caps that commit to offering permanent employment, career development and leadership opportunities. The focus is on women, young people and people with disabilities. The project also includes technical assistance for small businesses to help them adopt more inclusive policies and practices with measurable and lasting social impact.

Under a €3 billion pan-European agricultural package, new investments were made in 2025 to support young entrepreneurs' access to finance. In Italy and Portugal, the Bank is working with Banca di Asti, a regional bank in northwest Italy, and Santander in Portugal to promote access to finance for young farmers and small bioeconomy companies through dedicated lending.

Through an InvestEU-supported guarantee scheme in 2025, the EIF partnered with MicroBank, CaixaBank's social bank, to provide a €450 million guarantee. This is expected to mobilise up to €750 million in loans for entrepreneurs, self-employed people and microenterprises across Spain. This scheme significantly improves access to finance for underserved and financially excluded groups.

10.1.1.3. Improving women's access to equity finance

In 2024, the EIF initiated two major programmes – the Empowering Equity Mentorship Programme and the Empowering Equity Academy – to support women in finance and female entrepreneurs.

Together with EIB Advisory and the European Commission, the Fund started the Empowering Equity Mentorship Programme in March 2024. The initiative connects early-career female investment professionals with experienced mentors in venture capital, private equity and finance. Participants receive free advice and mentoring in seven areas, including fundraising, fund management, environmental, social and governance issues, and career planning.

Through the Empowering Equity Academy, more than 60 students in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and sustainability fields have benefited from online and in-person courses since the programme began.

The Fund integrates gender-smart investing criteria into its decision-making to ensure that diversity is considered in all supported investments.

A financial intermediary meets the gender criteria if it satisfies at least one of the following:

- At least one-third of its partners are women.
- At least 40% of its senior investment team are women.
- At least 40% of the members in its investment committee are women.

In 2025, 61% of investments were directed to financial intermediaries that met the gender-smart criteria.

10.1.1.4. Investing in women and young businesses in Africa

In 2025, the Bank signed several agreements to improve access to finance and employment for women and young people. These included a €20 million loan to Banque El Amana to support opportunities in blue economy sectors in Mauritania, and €50 million to WEMA Bank in Nigeria for small businesses in transport, agriculture, manufacturing and tourism. In both cases, the Bank's support will expand opportunities for groups that are often under-represented in access to finance, but play a central role in local development. In Mauritania, 60% of the working population is under 35, while in Nigeria over 45%

of the working-age population is under 30, and young people aged 15-34 make up the majority of the active labour force. While unemployment among young people is high in both countries, women face disproportionate challenges, including higher rates of informal work and greater difficulty accessing formal, secure jobs compared to young men.

10.1.1.5. Empowering women in agriculture

Women play a central role in agriculture, yet a global gender productivity gap of 24% persists. This gap stems from women's limited access to knowledge, land and credit, and from the greater time they spend on unpaid work. Closing this gap could raise global GDP by 1% and lift 45 million people out of food insecurity.

In 2025, the Bank continued to support more inclusive and sustainable agriculture by expanding access to finance for women farmers and entrepreneurs. In Cambodia, a €60 million loan supported the ASPIRE-AT programme, alongside €15 million in EU grants, €4.5 million in technical assistance and co-financing from the International Fund for Agricultural Development. The programme will reach 100 000 smallholder farmers, 25 000 land-poor households and 500 agricultural enterprises, with at least half of beneficiaries being women.

In West Africa, €40 million in intermediated loans to Vista Gui and Vista Bank will finance agribusiness small and medium-sized enterprises. At least 70% of this financing will support agricultural value chains, and 30% will go to businesses that are owned or led by women or that serve women in Guinea and Sierra Leone. Technical assistance and gender-smart measures strengthen value chains, improve rural livelihoods and help ensure that women can fully participate in and benefit from sustainable agricultural development.

10.1.1.6. Promoting equal employment opportunities for women in the European Union

In 2025 under the InvestEU Advisory Hub, the Bank published a study showing that only 12.7% of financial institutions across the European Union offered products specifically targeting women entrepreneurs – just 95 products in total – despite a $700 billion global revenue opportunity. In response to these gaps, the Group established the InvestEU Gender Finance Lab in 2025. The lab offers an online learning programme that equips commercial banks and financial intermediaries with tools and expertise to better serve women entrepreneurs. The programme was informed by comprehensive EIB research on debt financing for gender equality in the European Union, which identified both a significant market gap and a strong business opportunity.

In 2025, the Bank also made investments with four financial institutions to provide €250 million in financing for women entrepreneurs in EU countries. For example, the EIB and the Spanish bank CBNK introduced a €150 million initiative to support women-owned and women-led pharmacies in Spain. This is the Bank's first intermediated financing programme in the European Union dedicated exclusively to women entrepreneurs and has the potential to reach up to 600 pharmacies across the country.

10.1.2. Collective initiatives and partnerships

The EIB Group works through global partnerships and collective initiatives to promote gender equality, more inclusive high-quality employment and stronger labour rights across industries.

10.1.2.1. 2X Challenge

The Bank helped establish 2X Global, an organisation that helps financiers and other investors vet projects based on their impact on female entrepreneurship, employment and economic opportunities. It was the first multilateral development bank to join the 2X Challenge, introduced in 2018 to develop and promote a common set of criteria for gender lens investing (the 2X Criteria).

The 2X Criteria are closely aligned with the Bank's commitment to advancing gender equality and supporting diversity within its own organisation and the companies it finances. The Bank helps clients that qualify to label their projects under the 2X Challenge, a global effort to improve investment in female entrepreneurs and women-led companies. Building on the success of the 2X Challenge, the Bank also worked with partners to establish 2X Global, a global membership and gender lens field-building organisation for investors that now hosts the 2X Challenge.

In 2025, four EIB operations qualified under the 2X Challenge.

10.1.2.2. Multilateral development bank working groups

The Bank takes part in working groups with other multilateral development banks and development finance institutions to exchange knowledge and compare practices. These groups focus on standards and policies that reduce the risks of forced labour in promoter supply chains, improve gender equality and strengthen the protection of vulnerable groups. For example, in 2025, the Bank co-hosted the first in-person meeting of the development finance institutions' working group on labour and supply chains in Vienna. The meeting provided a forum for discussion, institutional learning and debate on sustainable supply chain practices.

10.1.2.3. Women Climate Leaders Network

2025 marked the first anniversary of the EIB Group's Women Climate Leaders Network, which brings together women who demonstrate exceptional leadership in driving climate action. Members come from all 27 EU countries and represent a wide range of private sector fields. The network leverages these women's leadership in climate action and environmental sustainability to:

- promote networking among high-level women leaders on issues of critical importance to climate mitigation and adaptation, the environment and sustainability, in Europe and beyond;
- generate ideas for business models, financial products, non-financial reporting and new technologies and innovation that support climate action;
- boost the visibility of women who are thought leaders for climate action, promote the environment and sustainability in the European Union and globally, and further encourage women's leadership;
- raise awareness on how gender and climate intersect through discussions and knowledge sharing.

To mark this anniversary, in March 2025 the network published a paper outlining five actionable recommendations to help small and medium-sized enterprises and mid-caps accelerate green investment and scale innovation.

10.1.2.4. Networks to increase female employment in transport

In January 2025, the Bank co-published a report titled, Addressing Barriers to Women's Participation in Transport: Global, ECA, and MENA Perspectives. The report outlines global trends and provides detailed analysis of women's roles in transport in Europe and Central Asia (ECA) and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Women remain under-represented in transport jobs, which limits the extent to which their needs and perspectives are reflected in transport policy and project design. Failing to make transport more inclusive for women also holds back economic growth.

To help address these gaps, the Bank, together with the World Bank Group, the Asian Development Bank, the German development agency GIZ and the International Transport Forum, co-founded the Women in Transport Network in 2025. Since then, the Women in Transport Network has been joined by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Union for the Mediterranean. The network brings together transport stakeholders committed to empowering women across all parts of the transport sector. It serves as a forum for networking, recruitment, information exchange, training and mentoring.

10.1.2.5. Women for Stronger Communities and Growth

In 2025, the Bank launched a flagship gender initiative to unlock the potential of women-owned businesses to drive resilient and inclusive economies. Under the EU Global Gateway, the Women for Stronger Communities and Growth initiative provides a structured approach to supporting women entrepreneurs and gender-smart businesses through catalytic financing, technical assistance and knowledge sharing across Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

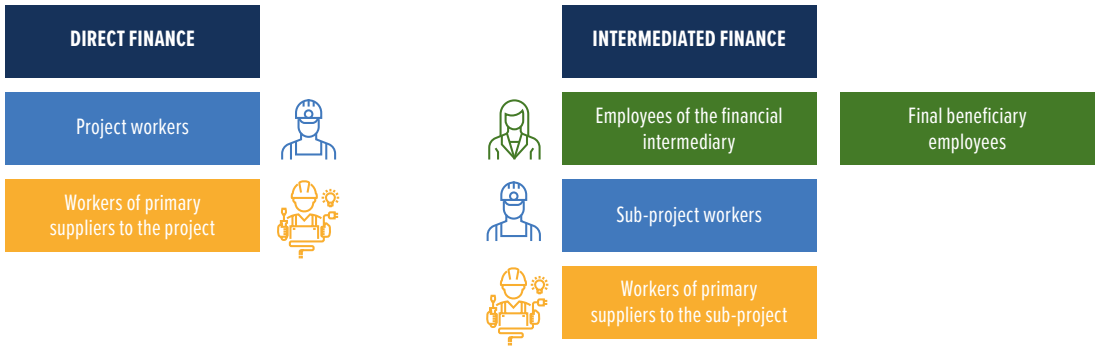
By the end of 2025, the initiative had already mobilised €1.15 billion to strengthen women's economic resilience. This was achieved through partnerships with the government of Luxembourg, the Gates Foundation, the World Bank's Consultative Group to Assist the Poor and the International Labour Organization.

10.2. THE IMPACT OF EIB GROUP PROJECTS ON WORKERS

10.2.1. Who is covered

Through its direct and intermediated financing, the EIB Group influences the working conditions of many workers involved in or linked to its projects. Direct financing affects workers employed to carry out EIB-financed projects, third-party workers and those working for primary suppliers. Intermediated financing extends this impact further to employees of financial intermediaries, the promoters implementing sub-projects and the businesses they support.

Figure 32: WORKERS IN THE EIB GROUP DOWNSTREAM VALUE CHAIN



Source: EIB Group

10.2.2. Vulnerable workers in the downstream value chain

The EIB Group recognises that not all workers face the same level of risk. Some groups may be particularly vulnerable due to their socioeconomic circumstances or because they work in sectors with heightened risks of labour rights abuses, including forced labour or child labour. For example, specific supply chains – such as those linked to the production of components for renewable energy technologies – carry elevated risks.

To address these risks, the Bank applies a risk-based approach to each project and uses a mitigation hierarchy to guide its actions. This approach prioritises avoiding harm wherever possible, minimising negative impacts when risks cannot be fully eliminated and ensuring that affected workers have access to effective grievance and remedy mechanisms.

The EIF also assesses a range of factors, including negative media or reputational concerns related to how financial intermediaries or fund managers treat workers. These issues are taken into account in its investment decisions to ensure alignment with its ethical standards and responsible investment principles.

10.3. POLICIES RELATED TO WORKERS IN THE DOWNSTREAM VALUE CHAIN

10.3.1. EIB Group guidelines

10.3.1.1. The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy

The Bank does not tolerate forced or child labour and takes measures to protect workers from discrimination, exploitation, any form of harassment, violence or violation of core labour rights in the projects it finances. The Bank considers the right of workers to fair and just working conditions, to life and to integrity as core elements of its activities.[102]

102. See paragraphs 2.12-2.13 of The EIB Group Environmental and Social Policy.

10.3.1.2. European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards

The Bank's strong labour and social standards align with international labour rights frameworks, including the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Standard 8 (Labour Rights) of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards promotes the fair and dignified treatment of all project workers. When it applies, it requires promoters to ensure that Bank-financed projects have policies in place that protect key labour rights (in particular, policies to prevent and address any form of violence, harassment, bullying, intimidation or exploitation, including any form of gender-based violence or harassment at project level)[103] and ensure the presence of accessible and effective grievance mechanisms. Standard 8 also details specific requirements to protect third-party workers and those in the primary supply chain. These measures embed respect for labour and human rights across all areas of the project and suppliers.

Standard 9 (Health, Safety and Security) encourages promoters to put in place robust systems to safeguard worker health and safety. This includes risk management, training, protective equipment, access to sanitation and secure accommodation, as well as clear procedures for reporting incidents and addressing grievances. Like Standard 8, it also outlines specific requirements regarding third-party workers and workers in the primary supply chain.

Standard 11 (Intermediated Finance) also promotes labour rights and the right to a safe and healthy working environment for employees of the Bank's financial intermediaries.

These standards collectively reinforce the Bank's commitment to responsible business and to protect workers throughout the project life cycle. For further information on the Bank's approach to human rights, including in respect of workers in the downstream value chain, please also see Chapter 9, "Supporting communities" and the information note on the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights.

10.3.1.3. The EIF's commitment to human rights and stakeholder engagement

Under the EIF Transparency Policy, the Fund adheres to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The Fund's partners and investees uphold standards that protect workers' rights, prohibit forced and child labour and ensure safe working conditions.

The EIF also advocates under its transparency policy that beneficiaries of its funding provide transparent consultation and grievance mechanisms. These social principles reflect the Fund's broader commitment to responsible investment practices that not only mitigate social risks (such as violations of human rights or labour rights, or when harm is caused to disadvantaged groups), but also foster social cohesion and economic resilience across the European Union.

103. See Standard 8, paragraph 36 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

10.3.2. Zero tolerance of forced and child labour

10.3.2.1. Project workers

The EIB Group does not tolerate forced or child labour. This principle is reflected in the labour laws of all EU Member States.

The Group's Environmental and Social Policy and Environmental and Social Standards prohibit trafficking in human beings, forced or compulsory labour and child labour across the downstream value chain.

In line with International Labour Organization conventions 29, 105, 138 and 182, all forms of forced labour, human trafficking and exploitative or hazardous child labour are prohibited in Bank-financed projects. Project promoters are required to assess and manage these risks, ensure compliance with applicable labour laws and take immediate corrective actions if violations are identified.[104] Promoters must pay special attention to identifying which project workers may be at greater risk of trafficking, considering factors like age, disability, ethnicity and gender.[105]

10.3.2.2. Workers in the project supply chain

Across the world, the Bank requires all project promoters to make reasonable efforts to assess whether any labour risks – especially forced or child labour – are associated with the primary suppliers of goods and materials essential to a project's core functions.[106] If such risks are identified, the Bank specifies the steps the promoter must take, according to the leverage available. These steps reflect the expectations set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

10.4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT WITH PROJECT WORKERS AND ACCESS TO GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS

Project workers have access to the same EIB Group grievance and complaints mechanisms as other groups. For a detailed description of these mechanisms – which assess whether the Group's actions comply with internal policies and relevant legislation – see Chapter 1.6.4, "Complaints and grievance redress mechanism process."

In addition, the Group places specific obligations on promoters to establish project-level mechanisms, described below.

10.4.1. Promoters' obligations to engage with project workers

Promoters must ensure that project workers have access to effective means to raise and address workplace concerns.[107]

Where applicable, beyond the European Union, promoters must engage with project workers in good faith, individually or through their representatives, and provide them with timely information that is

104. See Standard 8, paragraph 9 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
105. See Standard 8, paragraphs 28-30 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
106. See Standard 8, paragraphs 6 and 56-59 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
107. Where applicable, in line with Standard 8, paragraph 3 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

adequate for meaningful negotiation. They must also establish consultative forms of worker participation with management on matters of mutual concern, without prejudice to bargaining on working conditions.[108]

Standard 8 places emphasis on vulnerable workers who face specific risks due to context-specific socioeconomic characteristics (such as gender or religion). The Bank may request that promoters adapt their policies and procedures in line with the provisions of the standard.

10.4.2. Grievance mechanisms provided by promoters

Promoters are required to maintain an effective grievance mechanism that is accessible, culturally appropriate and gender-responsive, enabling project workers and their representatives to raise reasonable workplace concerns without fear of retaliation.[109]

This mechanism must be clearly communicated to workers at the time of hiring and remain easily accessible throughout their employment. It should ensure timely, transparent and fair resolution of complaints, including options to submit information anonymously and confidentially, and must include special safeguards for sensitive issues, such as sexual or psychological harassment, exploitation, abuse and other forms of gender-based violence or discrimination. Workers must be allowed to participate in the grievance process directly or through representation by a trade union or a person of their choice.

Importantly, access to this mechanism cannot preclude or limit workers' rights to pursue other forms of redress, such as arbitration procedures, or judicial or administrative means of redress.[110]

10.5. PREVENTING AND MANAGING NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON WORKERS

The Bank applies risk-based due diligence and monitoring to identify and prevent potential negative impacts on workers throughout a project's life cycle. This process pays particular attention to socioeconomic factors such as gender, age, ethnicity, disability, migrant status, and affiliation with unions or civil society organisations, in line with Standards 8 and 9 of the European Investment Bank's Environmental and Social Standards.

A worker's vulnerability is assessed by considering their legal protections, bargaining power and degree of isolation. The Bank's understanding of these risks is strengthened by the expertise of its social development specialists, continuous dialogue with civil society and insights from the EIB Group's Complaints Mechanism, which also helps evaluate the effectiveness of safeguards and highlight systemic issues.

The EIF follows a similar approach, which reflects the EIB Group's overarching expectations for protecting suppliers' employees. As part of its due diligence process, the EIF assesses diversity, equity and inclusion not only at the fund management level, but also across investee companies.

In the EIF Private Debt Survey 2021, the Fund provided detailed information on how fund managers integrate diversity and inclusion in the due diligence process. This includes whether portfolio companies have the necessary policies in place to promote an inclusive workplace, such as a code of conduct, family leave policies or other relevant frameworks. Fund managers are also asked to disclose any claims

108. See Standard 8, paragraph 38 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
109. Where applicable, in line with Standard 8, paragraph 44 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.
110. See Standard 8, paragraph 46 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.

of harassment, misconduct or discrimination involving current or former employees over the past five years, including how such matters were addressed.

The EIF also collects information on whether fund managers have taken action to foster diversity and inclusion, and whether they actively measure related indicators (like gender representation across roles) or have established concrete targets as part of the due diligence process. Fund managers are expected to describe these indicators, the actions taken to meet their targets, and whether progress is on track. The EIF also requests information on whether diversity and inclusion targets have been set at the portfolio company level, including specific objectives for the representation of women among board members, high-level executives, founders and managers. This approach ensures that diversity, equity and inclusion are embedded not only at the fund management level, but also across investee companies.

Note that this section is limited to value chain workers, and should be read in conjunction with Chapter 1.6, "Stakeholder engagement and accountability."

10.6. ACTIONS TO REMEDIATE NEGATIVE EFFECTS

Depending on the risk identified by the Bank during due diligence, the Bank may require the promoter[111] to regularly monitor the project's workforce, including contractors, subcontractors and primary suppliers. This monitoring must identify any labour risks or violation of labour standards, and ensure that effective corrective measures are implemented with clear priorities for action and evaluation of the results. The results of such monitoring are reported to the Bank, which may request additional measures such as labour or occupational health and safety audits.

The approach to grievance and remedy is outlined in more detail in Chapter 10.4 above and the information note on the European Investment Bank's approach to human rights.

111. See Standard 8, paragraphs 60-61 of the European Investment Bank Environmental and Social Standards.



11.
EMPOWERING OUR WORKFORCE



Key messages

The European Investment Bank (EIB) Group employed 5 111 people as of December 2025. Staff members are primarily based in Luxembourg (92%) but the Group also operates a network of over 61 locations across the European Union and the rest of the world. The workforce is diverse, representing all EU members.

Employees have access to a wide range of opportunities to develop their skills and careers. They benefit from comprehensive social protection and competitive remuneration. The EIB Group promotes the well-being of its workforce through robust health and safety policies, mental health support and ergonomically designed workspaces. All staff members are treated in accordance with the EIB Group's principles of transparency, fairness and accountability. A strong framework underpins employee relations and engagement. This includes an active College of Staff Representatives and regular staff surveys, which enable continuous dialogue and help ensure that staff perspectives inform the organisation's development.

A Bank or EIF employee is defined as a private individual who has a direct employment relationship with the European Investment Bank or the European Investment Fund. Employees fall under the following two categories:

i. Staff members, as defined in Article 14 of the Staff Regulations;
ii. Local agents who are recruited locally in countries outside the EU Member States. Their employment contracts are governed by local legislation and by the applicable general regulations that define their employment conditions. At the end of 2025, 81 local agents were employed by the EIB Group, representing 1.6% of its total workforce.

Concrete actions and impact

The EIB Group's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) approach, approved in mid-2024, sets clear goals to ensure that all employees thrive, irrespective of their gender, sexual identity, ethnic background, disability or neurodiversity, with a commitment to promote inclusive hiring, talent development and diverse backgrounds. The EIB Group DEI approach sets a target of 40% women managers.



The governance of our DEI approach is ensured by the DEI Council, DEI champions, our four active employee resource groups (ConnectedWoMen, EnAble, Proud and Mosaic), each sponsored by EIB vice-presidents, and the Joint Committee on Equal Opportunities, or Comité Paritaire pour l'Égalité des Chances (COPEC) at the EIB.

All employees and managers benefit from a wide offer of learning, either facilitated or through self-learning, a new career guidance centre and facilitated internal mobility. Building on the Digital Academy created the previous year, the Group continued to invest in digital upskilling in 2025, focusing mainly on Microsoft 365 applications and artificial intelligence (AI) skills.

In addition, in 2025 the EIB Group's senior and middle management participated in a 360° feedback initiative. The aim was to strengthen leadership skills by fostering greater self-awareness and supporting targeted development actions aligned with the Group's values.

The new Horizontal Opportunities (HOP) process facilitates internal mobility. Together with the talent reviews and the career guidance centre, these initiatives allow staff to develop their careers and managers to develop and deploy talent more effectively.

EIB employees participate in a performance review process that provides clarity and direction on their contributions to EIB Group results. At the beginning of each year, managers discuss performance objectives with employees, ensuring they are aligned with team and organisational priorities as well as with individual strengths. Throughout the year, managers discuss performance with employees to ensure progress towards these objectives, revise them if needed and provide coaching and feedback. A year-end evaluation with the manager enables employees to reflect on their performance.

In 2025 we continued to raise awareness through dedicated campaigns to promote diversity and career development, including diversity week, disability inclusion week, career week and summer learning.

Key policies and standards

- **Staff Regulations: Define employment conditions and rights and responsibilities of staff members. The EIB and the EIF each apply their own, separate but fully aligned regulations.**
- **EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct: Sets out expectations for integrity, respect, cooperation and equal opportunities. It includes strict anti-discrimination and anti-retaliation provisions.**
- **Dignity at Work Policy: Aims to prevent harassment and promote respectful workplace behaviour. It provides both informal and formal mechanisms for addressing concerns.**
- **Health, Well-Being and Safety Policy: Ensures occupational health and safety and promotes a proactive approach to well-being, including for staff on overseas assignments.**
- **Integrity Policy and Compliance Charter: Defines the ethical standards and compliance procedures to encourage transparency and accountability.**
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the EIB Group: Highlights the Group's approach to diversity, equity and inclusion through six commitments and five priority goals in major areas of diversity, a gender target of 40% women managers by the end of 2026, and governance to ensure progress.**
- **EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy: Protects employees who report suspected misconduct and ensures concerns are addressed without fear of retaliation.**
- **EIB Group Personal Data Protection Policy: Sets out how the EIB Group complies with EU data protection laws and safeguards the personal data of employees and other data subjects.**
- **Talent development strategy: Establishes that managers review all employees and propose opportunities to develop skills so that employees can evolve in their current role or prepare for their next role or promotion.**

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
S1 - Own workforce	√			
Working conditions	√			
Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining	√			
Training and skills development	√			
Health and safety	√			
Diversity and equal treatment	√			
Other labour-related human rights				

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Job security, fair wages, reasonable working hours and work-life balance, supporting employee well-being and retention.	Working conditions	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
Robust social dialogue.	Social dialogue, freedom of expression, collective bargaining	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
Skill-building and development opportunities, supporting career advancement and employee satisfaction.	Training and skills development	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
Safe working conditions, ensuring mental and physical health.	Health and safety	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term
Diversity and equal treatment, supporting broader talent pipelines and organisational performance.	Diversity and equal treatment	Actual positive impact	Own operations	Short-term

11.1. POLICIES RELATED TO OUR WORKFORCE

The relationship between the EIB Group and its staff members is governed by a comprehensive set of internal policies and procedures. Staff of both the EIB and EIF may consult these policies and procedures on the intranet, which also provides explanatory articles and practical guidance on specific situations. A selection of key policies is also available on the EIB and EIF websites.

In addition to the internal framework described below, the EIB Group is bound by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which guarantees all employees the same high level of protection.

11.1.1. Staff-related policies

The EIB's Staff Regulations govern the relationship between the Bank and its staff members, establishing the general conditions of employment. They provide a comprehensive framework covering, among others, recruitment, career progression, remuneration, benefits, working time, leave entitlements, disciplinary measures, and procedures for appeals and complaints.

These regulations are complemented by the European Investment Bank Staff Rules, which set out more detailed implementing provisions.

Taken together, these instruments ensure that staff members operate within a transparent, accountable and ethically sound framework.

The EIF has its own Staff Regulations, which are aligned with those of the EIB.

The EIB Group Dignity at Work Policy provides a framework for fostering a respectful and dignified work environment in which all employees receive support and are treated with dignity. It promotes a culture of zero tolerance for all forms of harassment, psychological or sexual, and sets clear expectations for personal conduct and mutual respect. The policy was updated in 2025. The revised policy simplifies the dignity at work process, reducing unnecessary steps to ensure faster and more effective resolution. For allegations of harassment, a hybrid approach combines an internal investigation with an independent legal assessment to guarantee rigour, fairness and objectivity. The policy emphasises transparency, accountability and continuous improvement, ensuring that every employee can contribute to a healthy, supportive and inclusive workplace.

The Health, Well-Being and Safety Policy of the EIB Group offers a framework for safeguarding the physical and mental health of EIB Group employees. It sets out clear standards for occupational safety, risk assessment and preventive health measures, while promoting initiatives that enhance employee well-being and resilience. The policy emphasises proactive measures (such as an ergonomic workplace design, stress management programmes and continuous safety training) to ensure that the working environment remains secure and supportive.

The EIB Group's Overseas Security and Health Policy provides comprehensive guidelines to protect employees operating in international or high-risk environments. It addresses issues unique to overseas assignments by outlining protocols for risk evaluation, emergency response and crisis management. The policy includes preventive health measures, local security requirements and clear procedures for evacuation and support.

The Code of good administrative behaviour for the staff of the European Investment Bank in its relations with the public sets out the principles governing staff interactions with the public. Applicable to employees of both the Bank and the EIF, it promotes transparency, responsiveness and respect in

dealing with inquiries and requests for information, and underpins fairness, integrity and accountability in administrative dealings.

The Integrity Policy and Compliance Charter is a cornerstone of ethical governance in the EIB Group, and applies to the Bank and the EIF. It clearly defines the ethical principles and responsibilities applying to all employees, outlining measures designed to prevent conflicts of interest and ensure rigorous compliance with both internal and international standards. The charter sets out procedures for monitoring, assessing and reporting on compliance risks, reinforcing a culture of transparency and accountability.

The EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct establishes a comprehensive ethical framework for all employees of the Bank and the EIF, as well as consultants and service providers under relevant contracts. It promotes the core values of integrity, respect, cooperation, commitment and equal opportunities, ensuring a professional, inclusive and respectful working environment. The code sets out clear standards for professional behaviour, internally and in external relations, and is aligned with the EIB Staff Regulations. It provides clear guidance on key areas such as conflicts of interest, confidentiality, non-discrimination, respectful conduct and the prohibition of retaliation. Through these principles, the code supports a culture of accountability, transparency and ethical responsibility across the organisation.

11.1.2. Diversity, equity and inclusion

In line with the European Union's motto, "United in diversity," the EIB Group attaches great importance to diversity, equal access to opportunities and inclusion as integral parts of its organisational values and mission. Through strategic initiatives, inclusive practices and staff engagement, the EIB Group is committed to cultivating a collaborative and respectful workplace where staff feel they belong, can be themselves, thrive and have equal access to resources for developing their skills and taking charge of their careers.

The EIB Group's diversity, equity and inclusion approach is built around six core commitments, five priority actions, gender balance in management and a governance framework to support implementation and monitor progress. The five priority actions focus on fostering an inclusive culture, eliminating ethnicity-based discrimination, advancing gender equity, supporting LGBTIQ+ inclusion and improving accessibility for people with disabilities and neurodivergent individuals, including through a reasonable accommodation framework. Diversity, equity and inclusion principles are integrated into human resources processes and practices across the employee life cycle.

The Group supports these priorities through employee resource groups devoted to gender, disability and neurodiversity, LGBTIQ+ inclusion and ethnicity. Each group is sponsored by one or two EIB vice-presidents. Together with a network of more than 150 staff members who volunteer as DEI champions, these groups help drive the diversity agenda in the workplace, raise awareness and share best practices. The governance framework also includes the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council and COPEC, the Joint Committee on Equal Opportunities.

In 2025, a wide range of initiatives and events took place to promote inclusion and equal opportunities. These included Women's History Month and International Women's Day in March, European Diversity Month in May, EIB Group Pride Week in July, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in November and Disability Inclusion Week in December. The EIB Group also actively engaged with peer organisations, experts and consultants to exchange best practices and further develop its diversity and inclusion agenda.

Gender

Gender balance at the EIB Group continued to improve in 2025. The Group achieved its target of at least 40% women managers ahead of schedule, with women representing over 41% of managers. Progress is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis. Significant efforts have also been made to ensure that diversity, equity and inclusion are considered in human resources processes and practices across the employee lifecycle. For figures on gender balance at the Bank, please refer to Chapter 11.4, "EIB Group workforce metrics."

Disability

The EIB Group continued to strengthen disability and neurodiversity inclusion in 2025, including through its reasonable accommodation framework and initiatives to improve accessibility for people with disabilities and neurodivergent individuals. The enAble employee resource group provides a platform for staff members with disabilities and neurodivergent colleagues, their carers and allies, while awareness initiatives and manager training support a more inclusive and accessible workplace.

LGBTIQ+ inclusion

The EIB Group respects, protects and promotes equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer employees. Through staff engagement, awareness initiatives, manager training, events and policy updates, the Group continued to strengthen LGBTIQ+ inclusion in 2025. The EIB Group was once again the largest employer to take part in the Luxembourg Pride Run, with around 500 colleagues showing their support for the LGBTIQ+ community.

Ethnicity

The EIB Group is dedicated to fostering an environment free from ethnicity-based discrimination, reflecting Europe's diversity in its teams and locations. Promoting minority ethnic inclusion remains a key diversity, equity and inclusion priority, and in 2025 the Group continued to build a culture that values diverse perspectives.

The EIB Group also actively engages with peer organisations, experts and consultants to exchange best practices and drive forward its diversity and inclusion agenda.

11.1.2.1. Commitments

The EIB Group has defined six core commitments to embed diversity and inclusion into its institutional identity, reflecting EU values of equality, non-discrimination and human dignity.

11.1.2.2. Priority actions

Five priority actions guide the diversity, equity and inclusion approach: fostering an inclusive culture, eliminating ethnicity-based discrimination, advancing gender equity, supporting LGBTIQ+ inclusion and improving accessibility for people with disabilities and neurodivergent individuals, among others, through a reasonable accommodation framework. Diversity, equity and inclusion principles are integrated into all human resources processes.

In 2025, no request for administrative review with regard to unequal treatment or gender discrimination was upheld and, therefore, no corrective actions had to be taken.

11.1.2.3. Gender balance

The EIB Group set a measurable target to reach at least 40% women managers by the end of 2026. The EIB Group successfully achieved this milestone in 2025, ahead of its target date. Progress is monitored, and reported on a quarterly basis. For figures on gender balance at the Bank, please refer to Chapter 11.4, "EIB Group workforce metrics."

11.1.2.4. Governance

Transparency is ensured through the quarterly reporting of the "women managers" indicator in the operational plan and risk appetite framework, and annual diversity, equity and inclusion reporting.

The commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is also incorporated in the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct, which denounces discrimination on various grounds. This commitment is stated clearly in Article 4.4 of the code of conduct, which states: "Staff members shall not engage in any forms of discrimination based on nationality, gender, race, colour, ethnic group or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, association with a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, sexual orientation, family situation, pregnancy, maternity, paternity or any other form of diversity." In addition, Articles 4.1 and 5.1 of the code of conduct requires staff members to behave in line with the principles of courtesy, equal treatment and non-discrimination in relations with their colleagues and with the public.

These non-discrimination principles cover all aspects of employment, including recruitment, job assignment, promotion, remuneration, learning and benefits. The EIB Group prohibits all forms of harassment and discrimination. Staff members may report potential discrimination either by submitting a request for administrative review when they believe a decision of the Bank or the EIF is discriminatory, or by reporting a potential breach of the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct when the behaviour of another staff member is concerned. While these processes are available to all staff members, it should be noted that in 2025, no cases of discrimination or human rights abuses were found to be substantiated as regards to staff members.

Diversity, equity and inclusion performance goals are set for all managers. Progress is ensured through the EIB Group's monitoring framework of data governance and the DEI Council. In addition, all new staff members receive training on unconscious bias, and managers learn about various aspects of inclusive leadership, such as microaggression, harassment and psychological safety.

11.1.3. Health and safety policies

11.1.3.1. Policy framework

The EIB Group Health, Well-Being and Safety Policy sets out the measures in place to safeguard the physical and psychological health of staff members. The policy is complemented by the EIB Group Overseas Security and Health Policy, which covers business travel, family support services and medical clearance requirements for staff working on projects outside the European Union.

11.1.3.2. Governance and responsibilities

Health and safety are overseen by the EIB Group's Human Resources, Facilities Management and Corporate Security units, which coordinate risk assessments, emergency preparedness and compliance with EU workplace safety directives.

11.1.3.3. Workplace accident prevention

The EIB Group has implemented a workplace accident prevention policy as mandated by the Health, Well-Being and Safety Policy, which forms part of the Group's broader safety framework. Preventive measures include regular risk assessments, preventive maintenance, safety signage and structured reporting of incidents and near misses.

Accidents and injuries occur very rarely at the EIB Group, due to the nature of working in a bank. Work-related injuries, including the commute and injuries at home while teleworking, are covered by the Group's insurance policies.

11.1.3.4. Health and well-being programmes

The EIB Group provides its staff members with access to occupational health services, psychological support and thematic campaigns to raise awareness and engagement. Preventive occupational health measures include vaccination initiatives, mental health awareness campaigns and ergonomic assessments to promote safe and healthy working conditions. The Bank also provides reasonable accommodations for staff with disabilities or chronic health conditions, ensuring an inclusive and supportive work environment.

11.1.3.5. Security measures

The Overseas Security and Safety Policy ensures physical and operational security through access control, surveillance and emergency response protocols. The policy includes travel risk assessments, crisis response planning and medical evacuation procedures.

11.1.3.6. Training and awareness

Training on health, safety and security is offered to all staff members. Additional training is available for managers and staff in high-risk roles and for employees travelling. Managers are specifically trained on harassment, psychological safety and neurodiversity in the workplace. Awareness campaigns promote a culture of safety, respect and shared responsibility.

11.1.3.7. Monitoring and improvement

Workplace safety performance is monitored through internal reporting systems and periodic audits. Lessons learned from incidents are used to improve policies and procedures. The EIB Group is committed to continuous improvement and transparency in its occupational health and safety practices.

11.1.3.8. Outcomes

The EIB Group maintains a strong record of workplace safety, supported by a comprehensive policy framework and a culture of prevention and care, which contribute to a resilient, secure and supportive working environment for all employees.

11.2. PROCESSES FOR ENGAGING WITH EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES

11.2.1. EIB and EIF College of Staff Representatives

The Bank has established a College of Staff Representatives, whose members are elected by Bank's staff members for a three-year mandate.

The College of Staff Representatives is informed and consulted on decisions affecting staff, including matters related to remuneration, appraisal processes and conditions of employment.

- The Bank and the staff representatives have set up joint committees on various topics, such as pensions, health insurance and health and safety.
- The College of Staff Representatives contributes to policy relating to the Bank's workforce by submitting proposals and by providing opinions on proposals put forward by the administration concerning staff.
- The College of Staff Representatives is regularly informed about meetings of the Management Committee and the Board of Directors. They may attend Management Committee discussions on matters affecting the general interests of all or part of staff and are entitled to attend, as observers, EIB Board of Directors deliberations on proposals concerning staff interests.

Regular engagement is ensured through monthly meetings between the Human Resources Directorate and the College of Staff Representatives. In addition, the president of the Bank typically meets with the College of Staff Representatives twice a year. The Bank is required to inform and consult the college of any changes in the work environment or staff-related policies within a reasonable timeframe, thereby enabling it to assess the proposed measures and provide its opinion.

The operational responsibility for maintaining regular and constructive engagement with the Staff Representatives lies with the Director General of Human Resources.

The EIF also has a College of Staff Representatives, with representatives elected by EIF staff members for a two-year mandate.

The EIF College of Staff Representatives is kept informed and consulted on various topics, such as remuneration, performance appraisal and employment conditions. While the EIF staff representatives share the same responsibilities as the Bank's staff representatives, they do not have joint committees.

The EIF's People Office Directorate holds monthly meetings with the representatives. Additionally, the EIF chief executive meets with the college on a quarterly basis. The EIF informs the college in advance of any planned changes to the work environment or policies. All relevant information is shared in a timely manner to enable the college to review the information and provide informed feedback.

The operational responsibility for ensuring regular engagement with staff representatives lies with the EIF People Office Directorate.

11.2.2. Other mechanisms to communicate with employees

Periodical staff surveys assess the effectiveness of the EIB Group's engagement with its workforce. Following a survey conducted in 2022, a variety of steps were taken to address staff concerns, such as a focused speak-up survey and 14 subsequent initiatives (including the creation of an Ombudsperson function, 360° reviews and others). Other actions taken to address staff concerns are the confirmation

of a flexible work framework, which allows staff to telework up to 40% of their time, 20 days per year of which can be from another country.

The EIB Group designed a new comprehensive staff survey conducted in May 2025 with an external provider to ensure replies remained confidential and provided insight. The survey contained 65 questions that cut across engagement and enablement topics, and ensured comparability with the 2022 survey. 78% of all staff members responded to the survey, making it a reliable tool for hearing staff members' comments about the EIB Group. Overall results have been communicated to all staff, including the key areas of progress like diversity, equity and inclusion, ethics and areas where employees identified a need for further improvement, such as better development opportunities, work processes and organisational trust as compared to 2022. The EIB Group and directorates are now introducing Group-wide and directorate specific follow-up measures to constructively address staff feedback.

In addition, regular customer satisfaction surveys regarding IT, the Group's digital transformation, information management, etc., and other surveys were conducted in 2025 or are in preparation across the Group for 2026.

Additionally, the Group has several mechanisms in place to hear the voice of minority groups among its own workforce (such as Human Resources Business Partners, employee resource groups, social coordinator, surveys, DEI champions, the DEI Council and others).

The EIB Group communicates with employees through various channels, such as intranet articles, dedicated Teams channels and a human resources portal. Each week, the president shares video updates with employees on the latest developments at the Bank via the EIB intranet. In addition, quarterly EIB Group town halls are held on the EIB's premises and can be streamed live for employees who are unable to attend in person.

11.2.3. Channels for workers to raise concerns

The EIB Group provides a range of informal and formal channels through which staff members can raise concerns, seek advice and obtain support. At an early stage, staff members are encouraged to make use of informal avenues. Staff members may contact their Human Resources Business Partners and HR Services, who provide guidance on career development, internal mobility and difficult professional situations. Staff members of the EIB and the EIF may also seek confidential and neutral assistance from the EIB Group Ombudsperson, who facilitates the informal resolution of concerns, promotes dialogue and helps prevent escalation. Other informal support may be available, such as mediation services or trusted internal advisers, depending on the nature of the concern.

In addition, the Bank offers a number of formal dispute resolution mechanisms:

- Through the administrative review mechanism, staff members may challenge decisions that adversely affect them.
- The performance and promotion administrative review mechanism allows staff members to contest the outcome of their appraisal or promotion process.
- Under the Dignity at Work Policy, staff members may lodge a complaint if they consider that they have been subjected to psychological and/or sexual harassment.

All relevant procedures and templates are accessible on the EIB intranet. While there is no mandatory format for raising a concern, dedicated templates are available to support staff members in structuring their submissions.

If a staff member is not satisfied with the outcome of the Bank's internal processes, they may lodge an appeal before the Court of Justice of the European Union.

All complaints mechanisms are underpinned by strong safeguards against retaliation. The EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy (detailed in Chapter 12, "Driving responsible business conduct") provides additional channels for staff members to report retaliation or perceived risks of retaliation. Article 4.7 of the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct states that "any act of retaliation is prohibited."

The EIB Group tracks issues raised through its various dispute resolution mechanisms.

The EIF applies equivalent dispute resolution mechanisms.

11.3. ACTIONS WITH A POSITIVE IMPACT

11.3.1. Equitable treatment in recruitment and career development

The EIB Group has several procedures in place to develop talent and ensure that qualifications, skills and experience form the basis for decision-making around recruitment, mobility, talent development and promotion:

- The annual talent review enables management teams to apply consistent criteria to assess staff members' potential and readiness for the next-level roles. It supports decisions on promotions, nominations for talent development programmes, eligibility for job mobility and targeted development in current roles.
- In 2024, EIB Group Human Resources staff created a new Horizontal Opportunities (HOP) process that facilitates horizontal job mobility. HOP has contributed to increased and faster mobility across directorates.
- When positions become vacant, managers begin a selection process conducted by a selection panel with the participation of a Human Resources representative.
- Assessment centres are systematically included in selection procedures for managerial positions, with external assessors providing expertise and ensuring impartiality in the assessment of managerial competencies.
- To support fair and objective decision-making, unconscious bias training is required for all selection panel members.

The Human Resources Directorate uses dashboards to maintain up-to-date records on recruitment and training and promotion, and to make employees' progress and opportunities transparent to them.

The president leads on matters relating to equity in the workplace, and efforts in this area are pursued across the Group. All managers therefore have diversity, equity and inclusion objectives, and receive training on unconscious bias, inclusive leadership and allyship, psychosocial safety, microaggressions, harassment awareness and prevention and neurodiversity in the workplace.

11.3.2. Inclusion of people with disabilities

The EIB Group is committed to ensuring that its teams, digital environment and buildings are accessible to all employees and visitors, including neurodivergent individuals or people with disabilities. The Group strives to continuously raise its accessibility standards and complies with the relevant regulations, based on the EIB Group diversity, equity and inclusion approach, which is aligned with EU values and

human rights principles. The Group ensures non-discrimination and equitable opportunities throughout all stages of employment.

The EIB Group has strengthened its commitment to disability inclusion by introducing a reasonable accommodations procedure, allowing staff to request specific workplace adjustments as needed.

In addition, a new Disability and Social Services Office was established to provide dedicated support to staff living with a disability as they navigate their careers with tailored guidance.

Monitoring and outcomes

- Accessibility audits: Regular reviews of office environments ensure compliance with accessibility standards.
- Employee feedback: Inclusion metrics and feedback mechanisms help assess the effectiveness of disability inclusion efforts.
- External accountability: Participation in initiatives like the Valuable 500 and public diversity, equity and inclusion reporting improve transparency and progress tracking.
- A reasonable accommodations framework (such as changes to a job or a work environment to enable a person with a disability to apply, perform and advance in their job) is in place.

11.3.3. Speak-up and Dignity at Work Action Plan

In July 2024, the Group introduced its Speak-up and Dignity at Work Action Plan, setting out 14 concrete actions to further strengthen transparency, accountability and well-being in the workplace. Most of these actions were implemented in 2025, and many have since been embedded in the Group's governance and will continue to apply going forward.

As part of the action plan, the EIB Group updated the relevant policies and procedures in 2025 relating to harassment and other forms of misconduct. These changes aimed to harmonise approaches across the EIB Group and consolidate the expertise and focus of investigations. A specialised team has been established to handle internal misconduct cases. At the same time, the policy continues to provide for the independent assessment of complaints. Together these measures allow for a process that ensures rigour, fairness and objectivity.

Another key measure was the creation of an independent Office of the Ombudsperson, which commenced operations on 1 October 2025. The Office of the Ombudsperson provides a safe and confidential space where staff can raise concerns and seek guidance. It also offers mediation services to help resolve workplace conflicts, as well as training and guidance to management, thereby fostering a culture of speaking up.

In parallel, a series of training and communication initiatives was started in 2025 to further strengthen the speak-up culture across the EIB Group. These efforts were complemented by dedicated training programmes focused on psychological safety and the delivery of constructive feedback.

11.3.4. Empowering staff through continuous learning and skills development

The EIB Group places strong emphasis on continuous learning as a cornerstone of staff development, business results and organisational resilience. Its comprehensive learning and development offering is open to all staff members and is designed to support career growth, enhance employability and respond to the Group's evolving business and strategic needs. Learning is guided by an annual

assessment of organisational priorities and individual development goals, ensuring that programmes remain relevant and forward-looking.

Learning is delivered through a mix of voluntary and compulsory courses, covering a wide range of skill areas. These include:

- managerial and leadership skills, such as leading with purpose and impact, conducting effective development discussions, and mental health awareness for managers;
- interpersonal skills, including constructive feedback techniques and impactful presentation skills;
- banking and finance skills, such as banking fundamentals, and credit and operational risk management;
- digital skills, including data visualisation, agile methodology and short-format digital workouts;
- technical skills, such as climate policy, fraud and corruption awareness, and project management;
- language skills.

In addition to professional competencies, the EIB Group prioritises employee well-being and safety. Courses and workshops are offered to ensure staff can perform their duties safely and without risk to health. These include training on:

- conflict management, communication styles (including microaggressions);
- building resilience;
- mental health education.

To support long-term career development, the Group supplements its learning offering with targeted resources and tracks individual progress through the SuccessFactors platform. This ensures alignment with the Group's employee development strategy and helps monitor the impact of learning initiatives across the organisation.

11.3.4.1. Skill building and managerial development

At the EIB Group, each employee has a development plan with learning and development objectives, as well as related activities agreed between the staff member and their direct manager.

To help managers develop, the EIB Group offers a suite of learning programmes, coaching and personal development activities that form a wider leadership and management skills portfolio. There are instructor-led sessions (virtual or in-person), self-learning programmes based on digital platforms, and others. They are designed to ensure that managerial and leadership competencies and skills meet future organisational goals and are aligned with the Group strategy. A leadership culture programme was also introduced in 2020, and continues to be implemented. The EIB Group leadership skills deemed critical for each managerial role have been defined in workshops with the management teams of the different directorates.

11.3.4.2. Regular performance reviews and career development discussions

At the beginning of each year, managers meet with employees to discuss performance expectations including objectives and competencies required for the role. These elements are recorded in each employee's performance document, and updated throughout the year as needed. At year end, managers propose ratings for objectives and competencies as well as an overall performing profile.

During the year, managers and employees also discuss development needs and opportunities, set development objectives and agree on learning and development activities to achieve the development

goals. These can be recorded in the employee's development plan. Employees and managers hold regular development discussions.

Staff can also seek advice from the Career Guidance Centre. It has provided individual advice and workshops since 2023, and has held an annual career week since 2024 to inspire employees to take charge of their careers.

11.3.5. Health and safety

11.3.5.1. EIB Health and Safety Committee and support network

The Bank implements its health and safety policies through a joint Health and Safety Committee composed of members designated by the administration and the College of Staff Representatives. This committee advises the Management Committee on the Bank's risk-related policies, including those applicable across the EIB Group, focusing on a healthy and safe work environment for all employees and any others involved.

In addition, the Bank operates an occupational health service that conducts regular thematic awareness-raising and engagement campaigns to promote employee health, and provides workplace counselling, among others.

11.3.5.2. Risk management

The EIB Group is required to protect its employees and others from harm. This includes identifying anything that could cause injury or illness in the workplace and determining the likelihood of someone being harmed by it and how serious the harm inflicted could be. Within the EIB Group, the Corporate Security and Safety Division and the Human Resources Directorate are responsible for ongoing risk monitoring and reporting. In addition, the Health and Safety Committee regularly monitors identified potential risks and reports on accidents, diseases and hazards.

Assessing and regularly monitoring risk is just one part of the process to manage risk at the EIB Group. The Group aims to eliminate hazards or, where this is not possible, to control the risk. To maintain the psychological safety of employees, Human Resources monitors perceived stress levels at individual levels, as well as across teams. In addition, the EIB Group regularly carries out an organisation-wide psychosocial risk assessment to identify the main sources of employee stress and take corrective measures. Since early 2024, the medical service has collected data on psychological stress through an ongoing survey. This has enabled some immediate and structural measures to be implemented to reduce stress and improve the working environment, for example, by supporting the right to disconnect outside working hours and by implementing a specific meeting-free time window to help employees focus on individual work.

11.3.5.3. Health services

The EIB Group offers the following health services to its employees:

- An internal occupational health assessment.
- An external preventive full medical check-up. Staff members and their spouses or legal partners are eligible for a full medical examination (possible every one to three years, depending on age).

- Confidential psychological counselling in a safe setting.
- Ergonomic equipment. All staff have access to ergonomics advice for setting up their workstation, as well as adjustable desks. They are also issued specific ergonomic equipment upon request.

These services are complemented by a variety of measures tailored to the nature of work at the Bank, including:

- health and accident insurance;
- preventive health and safety measures through the joint Health and Safety Committee;
- access to a team of occupational health professionals with the EIB Group medical service;
- preventive medicine care, such as flu vaccination campaigns, free annual eye exams and regular screening programmes in hospitals;
- monitoring of stress levels;
- conflict management and mediation services;
- mental health awareness and first aid training;
- travel clearance, including vaccination and information on health risks and issues for business travel, through the EIB Group medical service.

The EIB Group also applies an integration management approach to help staff return to the workplace after long periods of absence due to illness.

11.3.6. Well-being of EIB Group staff

11.3.6.1. Secure employment and flexibility

Most EIB Group staff members (95%) have indefinite work contracts (CDI) that offer job security, while 5% are on fixed-term contracts (CDD) as of 31 December 2025. The EIB Group also offers a range of flexible working arrangements for all employees, including teleworking, part-time work and special leave options. Staff can combine remote work and on-site presence.

11.3.6.2. Adequate wages

The EIB Group offers a competitive remuneration package to attract and retain high-calibre candidates, and to motivate existing staff members to accomplish the Group's business objectives to the highest standards. Remuneration practices are based on international market trends that are closely monitored through regular benchmarking of peer organisations in the international private and public financial market. Based on the salary ranges (in gross terms, as of 31 December 2025), the minimum annual base salary was €44 891, irrespective of gender or background. The minimum annual wage in Luxembourg was €32 436 for unskilled workers over 18 years of age, and €38 928 for skilled workers over 18, as of May 2025. For more information on remuneration and benefits, see the Bank's career page and the EIF's remuneration and benefits page.

11.3.6.3. Social protection

All EIB Group employees are protected against loss of income in the event of:

- illness
- employment injury or disability
- parental leave
- retirement

Compensation packages for staff members of the Bank and the EIF include family, pension and healthcare benefits as well as life and accident insurance, disability and invalidity coverage and paid parental leave. The Bank also offers a partial (early) retirement scheme that allows staff to gradually reduce their working hours at the end of their careers.

The main pension schemes of the Bank and the EIF are funded through contributions from staff members and the institutions, covering all employees. All contributions made are invested in the assets of the Bank and the EIF. As of 31 December 2025, the staff pension plan amounted to €5 064 million (€4 789 million in 2024). These figures do not include liabilities related to the Optional Supplementary Provident Scheme, a defined contribution pension plan, for which the corresponding amount was €1 115 million (€1 004 million in 2024).

The provision for future retirement and health insurance benefits was valued as of 31 December 2025 by an independent actuary using the projected unit credit method based on membership data as of 30 September 2025 and cash flows to 31 December 2025. The actuarial valuation was updated as of 31 December 2025 using the prevailing market rates of 31 December 2025 and other assumptions.

Other benefits are offered based on individual circumstances, such as an expatriation allowance and a housing loan interest subsidy. Staff members have access to sports facilities, schooling, subsidised meals and broader employee welfare programmes.

The EIB Group provides eligible staff with six months of remunerated full-time parental leave per child – or, since mid-2023, up to 12 months of part-time[112] parental leave[113] per child – to care for dependent children under the age of 12. These allowances apply equally to full-time and part-time employees.

11.3.6.4. Remuneration pay gap and total remuneration

The EIB Group is committed to a fair, transparent and equitable approach to compensation, guided by the principle of equal pay for equal work. There are three staff categories – support, executive and management – each of which plays a vital role in delivering on the Group mission.

As part of ongoing efforts to monitor and promote pay equity, the EIB Group conducts an internal assessment of the adjusted gender pay gap (following the EDGE methodology), which shows a statistically insignificant gender pay gap. The workforce metrics table below also lists the unadjusted gender pay gap across staff categories for 2025. This is defined as the difference in average pay between female and male employees, expressed as a percentage of the average pay for men.

The total annual remuneration ratio helps steer the EIB Group's work to create internal pay equity and transparency. In 2025, the ratio of the total annual compensation of the highest-paid individual to the median annual compensation of all employees (excluding the highest-paid individual) was 3.12 to 1.

11.3.6.5. Personal data protection

The EIB Group is bound by Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, as well as by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. Under Article 8(1) of that charter and Article 16(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, everyone has the right to the protection of

112. Part-time parental leave is only available to full-time employees.

113. Number of months of remunerated full-time parental leave refers to the total duration, expressed in months, of fully paid (remunerated) full-time parental leave, per dependent child, that the EIB Group offers to eligible employees, in accordance with internal HR policies and applicable legal frameworks.

personal data concerning them. This right applies not only to permanent EIB Group employees, but also to trainees, consultants and temporary workers.

11.3.7. Support for people with disabilities

The EIB Group is committed to supporting employees with disabilities through a comprehensive range of inclusive initiatives. Its recruitment and orientation processes are designed to be accessible, offering reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to opportunities from the start. In the workplace, the EIB Group provides tailored adjustments (physical and technological) based on individual needs, creating an environment in which everyone can thrive. Regular awareness campaigns and learning sessions equip managers and staff with the knowledge necessary to be inclusive and support disability and neurodiversity. Additionally, the enAble employee resource group offers a vital platform for staff members with disabilities and neurodivergent colleagues, their carers and allies, promoting peer support, advocacy and a sense of community.

11.4. EIB GROUP WORKFORCE METRICS

Table 25: HEADCOUNT & DIVERSITY METRICS[114]

Employee characteristics – headcount	2024	☑ 2025
Employees – total	5 151	5 111
Female employees	2 639	2 611
Male employees	2 512	2 500
Permanent female employees	2 455	2 466
Permanent male employees	2 366	2 374
Temporary female employees	184	145
Temporary male employees	146	126
Full-time female employees	2 475	2 450
Full-time male employees	2 454	2 441
Part-time female employees	164	161
Part-time male employees	58	59
Total employees in top management	75	80
Top management – female	28	29
Top management – male	47	51
Number of employees who left the Bank	188	185
Percentage of employee turnover[115]	3.8%	3.6%
Diversity metrics	**2024**	**☑ 2025**
Percentage of female employees at top management level[116]	37.3%	36.3%
Percentage of male employees at top management level	62.7%	63.8%
Employees under 30 years old	182	151
Employees between 30 and 50 years old	3 649	3 518
Employees over 50 years old	1 320	1 442

114. Only 2025 metrics were subject to limited assurance.
115. The employee turnover rate is calculated as the number of exits divided by the headcount at the beginning of the period.
116. The top management includes the senior cadres at the EIB (level 8 and 9) with managerial responsibilities.

Table 26: SOCIAL, REMUNERATION AND TRAINING METRICS

Collective bargaining coverage and social dialogue	2024	2025
Percentage of total employees covered by collective bargaining agreements	—%	—%
Percentage of employees in a country with significant employment (in the European Economic Area) covered by workers' representatives	100%	100%
Social protection metrics	**2024**	**2025**
Employees covered by social protection against loss of income due to illness, unemployment, employment injury and acquired disability, parental leave and retirement	100%	100%
Training and skills development metrics	**2024**	**2025**
Percentage of employees that participated in talent reviews, by employee category		
Female managers	88.4%	92.1%
Male managers	93.8%	93.1%
Female non-managers	95.3%	97.6%
Male non-managers	94.5%	97.7%
Percentage of employees that participated in regular performance reviews, by employee category		
Female managers	91.7%	92.1%
Male managers	92.7%	92.1%
Female non-managers	92.6%	95.0%
Male non-managers	92.6%	94.9%
Average number of training hours, by gender		
Female managers	40.7	26.7
Male managers	32.0	20.2
Female non-managers	35.0	21.2
Male non-managers	34.5	20.0
Work-life balance metrics	**2024**	**2025**
Total percentage of employees who took parental leave	11.1%	15.0%
Percentage of female employees who took parental leave	12.2%	17.0%
Percentage of male employees who took parental leave	9.9%	13.0%
Remuneration metrics[117]	**2024**	**2025**
Annual total remuneration ratio	3.19	3.12
Gender pay gap – management staff	7.5%	6.8%
Gender pay gap – executive staff	9.3%	9.2%
Gender pay gap – support staff	-0.03%	-0.37%

117. The adjusted gender pay gap based on the EDGE methodology (accounting for factors such as role, experience, skills, tenure and education) was 4.25%.

11.4.7.1. New employee hires and employee turnover in 2025

Table 27: NEWLY HIRED EIB GROUP EMPLOYEES, BY AGE GROUP AND GENDER

Age group	Female		Male		Total	
Under 30 years	18	30.5%	34	39.5%	52	35.9%
30-50 years	39	66.1%	46	53.5%	85	58.6%
Over 50 years	2	3.4%	6	7.0%	8	5.5%
Total	59	100.0%	86	100.0%	145	100.0%

Table 28: EIB GROUP EMPLOYEE DEPARTURES, BY AGE GROUP AND GENDER

Age group	Female		Male		Total	
Under 30 years	13	14.9%	20	20.4%	33	17.8%
30-50 years	40	46.0%	29	29.6%	69	37.3%
Over 50 years	34	39.1%	49	50.0%	83	44.9%
Total	87	100.0%	98	100.0%	185	100.0%





PART VI

GOVERNANCE

12. DRIVING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT 249
12.1. Business conduct 253
12.1.1. Policies on business conduct 253
12.1.2. Actions regarding business conduct 253
12.1.3. Monetary losses as a result of legal proceedings 254
12.2. Fighting corruption and bribery 254
12.2.1. EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy 254
12.2.2. Preventing and detecting corruption and bribery 255
12.3. Anti-money laundering, combaTting the financing of terrorism, tax good governance and market abuse 256
12.3.1. EIB Group policies 256
12.3.2. EIB Group actions 258
12.3.3. Cybersecurity 259
12.3.4. Market abuse 260



12.
DRIVING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT



Key messages

Business conduct refers to the ethical standards, values and principles that govern how an organisation and its employees conduct business, ensure compliance with the law and regulations and uphold the organisation's reputation and integrity. Maintaining high standards of business conduct is essential to building trust, fostering a positive environment and achieving the organisation's objectives.

Business conduct at the EIB Group is based on core values such as integrity, respect, cooperation, commitment and equal opportunities. All employees are expected to act ethically and responsibly, ensuring that their behaviour reflects the Group's values and mission while supporting the broader interests of the European Union. They are also expected to help the EIB Group fight corruption and bribery, prevent money laundering, combat the financing of terrorism and adhere to tax good governance principles.

By creating a work culture shaped by these values, and supported by a strong policy framework, the EIB Group promotes a positive work environment and strengthens public trust. This is essential to maintaining the Bank's credibility and ensuring it can support the European Union's strategic priorities and deliver lasting benefits for its people.

EIB Group commitments

The EIB Group's mission depends on its continued commitment to EU values. Every staff member contributes to building Europe's future – and to do so, they must act in accordance with the highest ethical standards. The EIB Group does not tolerate corruption and bribery and is committed to the highest standard of tax good governance, the prevention of money laundering and the financing of terrorism.



Concrete actions and impact

A strong compliance culture is a cornerstone of the EIB Group's governance framework, which contributes to business integrity and to protecting the organisation's reputation.

The EIB Group compliance function and the investigation function are continuously enhancing their institutional frameworks to prevent, detect and address risks related to tax governance, money laundering, financing of terrorism, fraud and bribery.

Staff awareness plays a key role in such frameworks. EIB Group staff must complete annual training on anti-money laundering, combatting terrorist financing, fraud and corruption. The group also organises events on ethics and integrity, such as the Ethics Week held by the EIB and EIF in October 2025 surrounding the annual Global Ethics Day.

Key policies and standards

The EIB Group has implemented the following policies to govern business conduct:

- EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct
- EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy
- EIB Group Dignity at Work Policy
- EIB Group Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism Policy
- EIB Group Policy towards weakly regulated, non-transparent and non-cooperative jurisdictions and tax good governance
- EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy
- EIB Group Market Abuse Policy

Double materiality outcomes

	Impact materiality		Financial materiality	
Sustainability topics	Positive	Negative	Opportunity	Risk
G1 - Business conduct				√
Corporate culture				
Political influence				
Management of relationships with suppliers				
Entity-specific - greenwashing investment[118]				√
Entity-specific - sanctions violation				√

Material impacts, risks and opportunities

Material impacts, risks and opportunities	(Sub)topic	Type	Location on the value chain	Time horizon
Risk of greenwashing allegations related to investment disclosures, potentially leading to reputational harm, regulatory action or loss of stakeholder trust.[117]	[Entity-specific] Greenwashing investments	Risk	Own operations Downstream	Short-term
Financial risk resulting from the establishment or continuation of business relationships or activities in breach of applicable sanctions, due to deficiencies in IT tools, contractual safeguards or the effective functioning of the sanctions control framework.	[Entity-specific] Sanctions violation	Risk	Own operations Downstream	Short-term

118. The policies and actions to prevent and mitigate the risk of greenwashing allegations are presented in Part III, "General disclosures."

12.1. BUSINESS CONDUCT

12.1.1. Policies on business conduct

12.1.1.1. EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct

The EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct sets out rules on professional ethics and behaviour for everyone working for the Group. This includes consultants and service providers, insofar as their contracts with the Group cover these issues. The code promotes the values of integrity, respect, cooperation, commitment and equal opportunities, to promote a fair and balanced working environment.

The code sets clear rules for ethical conduct and provides guidance on how staff should behave within the EIB Group and with external partners. The scope of the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct is defined in Article 1.2. The Bank and EIF compliance teams are responsible for interpreting and directing the code's implementation.

12.1.1.2. EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy

The EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy sets out the internal rules on whistleblowing concerning misconduct that affects the Group. It defines clear internal and external reporting channels and ensures protection for any whistleblower acting in good faith. This protection also extends to those who assist the whistleblower and/or are associated with them (relatives, partners and spouses working for the EIB Group). The policy ensures that whistleblowers receive appropriate information, support and guidance, and prohibits retaliation of any kind. It provides a framework that makes it safe for anyone to report alleged misconduct. The scope of the policy is defined in Article 4. The Group chief compliance officer is responsible for administering the policy.

12.1.1.3. EIB Group Dignity at Work Policy

For more information on the EIB Group Dignity at Work Policy, see Chapter 11, "Empowering our workforce."

12.1.2. Actions regarding business conduct

The Bank and EIF compliance teams offer the following training courses on business conduct:

- a mandatory, virtual training on the Code of Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy administered by the compliance team, which covers the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct and the EIB Group Whistleblowing Policy (first introduced in 2025, to be repeated by all staff members every three years);
- ad hoc training sessions for specific needs, such as conflicts of interest in 2024/2025;
- other training and awareness-raising initiatives, such as Ethics Week events, conferences on specific topics and Ethics Day activities.

12.1.3. Monetary losses as a result of legal proceedings

The Bank did not recognise any monetary losses in its 2025 accounts as a result of legal proceedings associated with fraud, insider trading, antitrust, anti-competitive behaviour, market manipulation, malpractice or other related financial industry laws or regulations, based on its annual financial statements.

12.2. FIGHTING CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY

12.2.1. EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy

The EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy defines prohibited conduct as corruption, fraud, coercion, collusion, theft at EIB Group premises, obstruction, misuse of EIB Group resources or assets, money laundering and financing of terrorism. In line with this policy, the Group is committed to ensuring that its funds are used for their intended purposes. The Group works to keep its activities and operations free from prohibited conduct and takes timely action to prevent and address any cases that arise.

The Inspectorate General's Investigations Division leads the EIB Group in investigating and preventing fraud and corruption. It operates with full independence.

Any suspicion of prohibited conduct must be reported promptly to the Inspectorate General's Investigations Division. The division assesses each report to determine whether a formal investigation is warranted. When they are needed, investigations are conducted thoroughly and fairly. Those found to have engaged in prohibited conduct are subject to sanctions in line with the Bank's policies and procedures. The division can receive allegations of prohibited conduct and misconduct from any person and through different venues.

The division's Investigations Procedures set clear guidelines for investigating allegations or suspicions of prohibited conduct across EIB Group activities, and breaches of the Bank's Staff Regulations and the Staff Regulations of the European Investment Fund, the EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy, the EIB Group Staff Code of Conduct and the EIB Group Dignity at Work Policy.

The Investigations Division enjoys complete independence to exercise its responsibilities, and the division head has full authority to open, pursue, close and report on any investigation within the division's remit without prior notice to, or the consent of, or interference from, any other person or entity, pursuant to the relevant investigation procedures.

The EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy is available to all EIB Group staff on the Bank and EIF intranet, and on the websites of the Bank and the EIF for clients, counterparties and the general public.

A detailed record of activities can be found on the web page of the Investigations Division: Investigating fraud and misconduct, where the Investigations Activity Report 2025 is expected to be published in September 2026.

12.2.2. Preventing and detecting corruption and bribery

12.2.2.1. Managing, controlling and monitoring risk

EIB Group management identifies risks and ensures controls are in place to address them:

- a clear separation of tasks between business generation and monitoring, front and back offices, front line procedures and independent verification and monitoring;
- the "four eyes" principle, meaning that at least two people must approve key steps and support processes;
- due diligence on counterparties;
- checks and controls during the appraisal of new operations;
- specific standard provisions in financing agreements to prevent and deter prohibited conduct;
- measures related to project procurement following the Guide to procurement for projects financed by the EIB;
- monitoring of active operations by operational services and control functions to ensure that project implementation goes as planned and that any risk is spotted early.

12.2.2.2. Operations assessed for corruption risk

The EIB Group Anti-Fraud Policy contains specific measures to prevent fraud and corruption during project appraisal. The Operations Directorate acts as the first line of defence, using employees' knowledge of counterparties and context to identify and prevent prohibited conduct. Integrity concerns that arise during loan appraisal are reported to the relevant EIB Group compliance teams in a timely manner.

The Inspectorate General's Investigations Division proactively reviews projects for integrity, flagging prohibited conduct that might otherwise go undetected by usual monitoring and reporting.

12.2.2.3. Awareness training

The EIB Group runs training programmes to raise staff awareness of the risks that fraud, corruption and other prohibited conduct pose to projects and activities. They also familiarise employees with the relevant policy framework. The programmes share knowledge, develop employees' ability to identify red flags of fraud and corruption and cultivate a proactive approach to managing these risks. After completing the training programme, employees have a duty to report potential issues in their daily work and to reject any justification of fraud or corruption. The programme includes mandatory, virtual anti-fraud training for new staff and an annual refresher course for all Bank employees.

Focus on functions at risk

The frontline services of the EIB Group are considered the most at risk for corruption and bribery. These services include – but are not limited to – those involved in operational and financial activities, portfolio management and monitoring, and project structuring. All of these functions are 100% covered by the training programmes described above.

12.3. ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING, COMBATTING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM, TAX GOOD GOVERNANCE AND MARKET ABUSE

This chapter outlines the framework in place to manage risks related to money laundering, combatting the financing of terrorism and tax good governance. For more details on these topics and on economic and financial sanctions, market abuse or requirements stemming from the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID), see the EIB Group Compliance Activity Report 2025.

12.3.1. EIB Group policies

12.3.1.1. EIB Group Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism Policy

The EIB Group Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism Policy outlines the EIB Group's approach to preventing money laundering and the financing of terrorism. It covers key definitions, a risk-based compliance framework, due diligence procedures for counterparties, ongoing monitoring, reporting obligations, sanctions compliance, data management, staff training and regular reviews. The policy applies to EIB Group entities and covers professional activities as set out in the relevant procedures. It focuses on preventing the misuse of the EIB Group for money laundering, terrorism financing or other criminal activities.

The Group's chief compliance officer independently oversees compliance risk, and ensures proper identification, assessment and monitoring across the EIB Group, under the oversight of the Group chief risk officer. The Group chief compliance officer has direct access to the Bank's president, Management Committee, Audit Committee, Ethics and Compliance Committee and relevant EIB Board of Directors' working groups. At the EIF, the chief compliance officer reports to the EIF chief risk officer, and has direct access to the chief executive, deputy chief executive and statutory bodies.

12.3.1.2. EIB Group Policy towards weakly regulated, non-transparent and non-cooperative jurisdictions and tax good governance

The EIB Group Policy towards weakly regulated, non-transparent and non-cooperative jurisdictions and tax good governance outlines due diligence standards for operations linked to such jurisdictions, and sets out the EIB Group's approach to tax good governance. It reinforces the EIB Group's expectation that contracting counterparties disclose relevant governance information during due diligence procedures for tax integrity and throughout the business relationship, if needed. The EIB Group strives to engage only with counterparties compliant with applicable laws and best market practices, including those related to taxation and anti-money laundering and combatting the financing of terrorism.

Indicators such as tax avoidance concerns or jurisdictions listed under the relevant EU policies for tax, anti-money laundering or counterterrorism purposes are treated as higher risk. These trigger enhanced due diligence measures. In line with these policies, the EIB Group may choose not to participate in certain projects, or take steps to make sure that any issues highlighted by the relevant EU policies are prevented.

When EIB Group funds are passed on to final beneficiaries through financial intermediaries, their allocation should be in line with the principles in the EIB Group Policy towards weakly regulated, non-transparent and non-cooperative jurisdictions and tax good governance. The EIB Group is committed to preventing misuse of its operations for tax fraud, evasion and avoidance.

The core principles of the policy are:

- prohibition of entering new or renewed operations linked to certain prohibited or restricted jurisdictions;
- enhanced due diligence for operations connected to non-cooperative jurisdictions;
- mandatory reporting of operations connected to non-cooperative jurisdictions to the EIB Board of Directors.

The policy covers all new or renewed EIB Group operations and is available on the EIB Group's website.

The policy covers recent European and international regulatory developments in tax integrity and good governance, such as European Council conclusions on non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Base erosion and profit shifting project and the EU Anti tax avoidance package.

More information on the EIB Group Policy towards weakly regulated, non-transparent and non-cooperative jurisdictions and tax good governance is available on this Frequently Asked Questions page of the EIB website.

12.3.1.3. Sanctions violations

The EIB Group is committed to full compliance with all applicable sanctions, including those adopted by the European Union and the UN Security Council, and, where appropriate, certain measures imposed by other jurisdictions. This compliance is mandatory and applies to all EIB Group operations, activities, governing bodies and staff.

The policy forms part of the Group's internal control framework and is supported by implementing procedures, systems and controls designed to identify, assess, mitigate and escalate sanctions risks across all activities. It contributes to protecting the EIB Group from legal, regulatory and reputational risks associated with sanctions violations.

Sanctions risk is managed through a risk-based approach. The EIB Group considers factors such as geographic exposure, business sector and counterparty risk when assessing sanctions-related risks.

The governance of the policy ensures oversight at the highest level, with the EIB Board of Directors responsible for its approval and overall supervision. The EIB Management Committee and the chief executive of the EIF are responsible for its implementation, while the Group chief compliance officer coordinates the sanctions compliance programme at Group level and reports on its effectiveness.

The core principles of the sanctions policy are:

- strict compliance with all applicable sanctions issued by the European Union, the United Nations and, where relevant, other jurisdictions;
- implementation of a Group-wide, risk-based control framework to identify, assess, mitigate sanctions risks across all operations;
- mandatory due diligence and screening of counterparties, transactions and activities exposed to sanctions risk;
- clear allocation of roles and responsibilities supported by strong governance at the Group level.

The EIB Group promotes a culture of compliance through clear allocation of roles and responsibilities, as well as training, awareness-raising and cooperation with relevant EU and international stakeholders. Any suspected breaches or attempts to circumvent applicable sanctions must be reported in accordance with the EIB Group's policy and procedures.

Through this framework, the EIB Group seeks to ensure that its financing activities support EU policy objectives while respecting international sanctions regimes.

12.3.2. EIB Group actions

12.3.2.1. Fighting money laundering and terrorism financing

The EIB Group carries out due diligence on the counterparties of operations where EIB Group entities provide regulated professional activities. The process takes into account the type of counterparty, the nature of the business relationship, the product or transaction, and the country of operation. Due diligence continues after the deal is signed, to spot potential risks related to money laundering, terrorist financing or integrity concerns. The scope and frequency of this monitoring are adjusted based on the level of risk.

12.3.2.2. Enhanced vigilance and tax integrity due diligence

All EIB Group operations undergo a risk-based assessment as part of the due diligence process. The scope of tax integrity due diligence depends on the counterparties involved in the operation and whether any concerns were flagged. Based on the outcome, the EIB Group may choose not to enter into a business relationship, ask counterparties to resolve outstanding issues or apply other measures to reduce risks.

The Group's tax good governance framework encourages counterparties to comply with EU tax good governance standards. The framework deters the financing of projects that fail to meet those standards.

12.3.2.3. Reporting suspicious activities

Any suspicion of money laundering or terrorist financing is first reported internally for review. If the suspicion remains, the case is reported to the Luxembourg Financial Intelligence Unit. Tipping off a prospective or existing counterparty of such a report breaches professional duties and may lead to an investigation of the person involved.

12.3.2.4. Anti-money laundering control oversight testing

The Bank and EIF compliance teams regularly monitor first-line controls. Where control or data weaknesses are identified, the control framework is strengthened as needed.

12.3.2.5. Prohibition

The EIB Group does not enter into new or renewed operations that involve links to prohibited jurisdictions or to restricted jurisdictions through a non-cooperative jurisdiction, except in limited cases. Exceptions may apply when a project is physically implemented in a country where the EIB Group operates under an EU mandate. These are designed to avoid penalising local populations and to support the EU objectives on development, cooperation and economic, social and territorial cohesion, as set out in Articles 209 and 309 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and its Protocol No 28. The EIB Group performs enhanced due diligence to determine whether any risk of misuse for criminal activities like money laundering, terrorism financing or tax offences must be mitigated.

12.3.2.6. Sanctions compliance programme

Since 2019, the EIB has developed and implemented a comprehensive sanctions compliance programme. Its core pillars include setting policy, assessing risk exposure, ensuring adequate due diligence, implementing oversight and testing controls to ensure compliance with sanctions regulations and providing training to relevant staff.

The programme aims to mitigate the risk of the EIB becoming involved in the circumvention or evasion of sanctions, or in other sanctions breaches, in a manner commensurate with the Bank's business activities. This is achieved through adequate due diligence on counterparties, operations and involved intermediaries, at the time of onboarding a counterparty and after the signing of the finance contract, through ongoing monitoring and the inclusion of robust sanctions clauses in EIB finance contracts.

The due diligence includes sanctions screening against all applicable sanctions lists during the appraisal of an operation, as well as automated ongoing screening after the signing of the operation and periodic due diligence reviews. In addition, where payments are made by the EIB to a counterparty, sanctions filtering is applied to outgoing payments to identify any sanctions target.

The sanctions compliance programme is regularly reviewed and aligned with best banking practices.

12.3.2.7. Training and awareness raising

The EIB Group is committed to providing regular compliance training and organises awareness-raising events. To minimise compliance, conduct and reputational risks, the EIB Group promotes a strong culture of integrity. All EIB Group staff must complete annual virtual courses on anti-money laundering, combatting terrorist financing, and fraud and corruption awareness.

12.3.3. Cybersecurity

12.3.3.1. Cybersecurity attacks or breaches

In 2025, the Bank did not record any material instances of breach by unauthorised third parties. While the number and intensity of cyberattacks against the Bank increased compared to 2024, driven by the current geopolitical situation, these attempts were detected in a timely manner and blocked. This trend demonstrates the effectiveness of the Bank’s security controls and its continued efforts to strengthen cybersecurity.

12.3.3.2. Data security risks

In response to increasingly complex global cybersecurity threats, the Bank has strengthened measures that are proportionate to its business activities and remains on heightened alert. The Bank has put in place a formal cybersecurity risk management framework that protects its critical information technology (IT) infrastructure, in line with EU and Bank policies on privacy and civil liberties. This policy framework is embedded in the governance structure, ensuring that senior management receives regular reports on developments and key metrics. The policy framework is updated regularly to reflect best practice and the Bank’s risk appetite.

Ongoing technical and non-technical initiatives, cyber resilience assessments, risk assessments of new IT solutions, the mainstream use of simulations, training and compliance ensure the continuous

development of policy measures and adherence to them. The management of cybersecurity risks is largely addressed by available in-house expertise, complemented by external support or guidance where needed.

Throughout 2025, internal information and communication technology (ICT) controls were thoroughly applied, which was confirmed by an annual self-assessment on the design effectiveness of general internal ICT controls.

12.3.4. Market abuse

The EIB Group Market Abuse Policy

The EIB Group Market Abuse Policy sets out the general principles and obligations that ensure compliance with relevant market abuse requirements and prohibitions. Among other matters, it sets out prohibitions and duties relating to the handling of inside information, insider dealing, personal transactions, the unlawful disclosure of inside information and market manipulation.

The Group's compliance teams support implementation of the policy through training, awareness-raising and capacity-building activities. These include ad hoc training sessions tailored to emerging risks and needs, as well as online training available to all staff members.

Market conduct control oversight testing

The EIB Group compliance staff regularly monitor first-line of defence activities and controls. Where control or data weaknesses are identified, the compliance teams make recommendations to remediate the issue.





PART VII

ANNEX

A.1. GLOBAL REPORTING INITIATIVE REFERENCES TO ITEMS IN THIS REPORT

Topic	Ref.	Title	Reported under
GRI 2 - General Disclosures	2-1	Organisational details	Executive summary
	2-2	Entities included in the organisation's sustainability reporting	Basis for preparation
	2-3	Reporting period, frequency and contact point	Basis for preparation
	2-5	External assurance	Basis for preparation
	2-6	Activities, value chain and other business relationships	1.2, EMAS report
	2-7	Employees	11.4
	2-9	Governance structure and composition	1.1, 1.2
	2-10	Nomination and selection of the highest governance body	1.1.3
	2-11	Chair of the highest governance body	1.1
	2-12	Role of the highest governance body in overseeing the management of impacts	1.1
	2-13	Delegation of responsibility for managing impacts	1.1.1
	2-14	Role of the highest governance body in sustainability reporting	1.1.5
	2-15	Conflicts of interest	12.1
	2-16	Communication of critical concerns	1.6.4
	2-17	Collective knowledge of the highest governance body	1.1.3.3
	2-18	Evaluation of the performance of the highest governance body	1.1.3
	2-19	Remuneration policies	1.1.3
	2-20	Process to determine remuneration	1.1.3
	2-21	Annual total compensation ratio	11.4
	2-22	Statement on sustainable development strategy	1.2
	2-23	Policy commitments	Key policies and standards in chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12
	2-24	Embedding policy commitments	1.1.5.1, 1.1.5.2, 10.3.1
	2-25	Processes to remediate negative impacts	9.5
	2-26	Mechanisms for seeking advice and raising concerns	1.6.4, 12.2.2
	2-27	Compliance with laws and regulations	Key policies and standards in chapter 12, 12.1.1, Investigations Activity Report
	2-28	Membership associations	1.6.3.5
	2-29	Approach to stakeholder engagement	1.6
	2-30	Collective bargaining agreements	11.2.1, 11.4
GRI 3 - Material topics	3-1	Process to determine material topics	1.2
	3-2	List of material topics	1.2
	3-3	Management of material topics	1.2, 2., 3., EMAS report

Topic	Ref.	Title	Reported under
GRI 201 - Economic performance 2016	201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	1.4.2
	201-2	Financial implications and other risks and opportunities due to climate change	1.4.2
	201-3	Defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans	11.3.7.3
	201-4	Financial assistance received from government	1.4.1
GRI 202 - Market presence 2016	202-1	Ratios of standard entry level wage by gender compared to local minimum wage	11.3.7.2
	202-2	Proportion of senior management hired from the local community	11.1
GRI 203 - Indirect economic impacts 2016	203-1	Infrastructure investments and services supported	1.4.2
	203-2	Significant indirect economic impacts	1.3, 8.1.7
GRI 204 - Procurement practices 2016	204-1	Proportion of spending on local suppliers	EMAS report
GRI 205 - Anti-corruption 2016	205-1	Operations assessed for risks related to corruption	12.2.2
	205-2	Communication and training about anti-corruption policies and procedures	12.2.2
	205-3	Confirmed incidents of corruption and actions taken	Investigations Activity Report
GRI 302 - Energy 2016	302-1	Energy consumption within the organisation	EMAS report
	302-2	Energy consumption outside of the organisation	EMAS report
	302-3	Energy intensity	EMAS report
	302-4	Reduction of energy consumption	EMAS report
GRI 303 - Water and effluents 2016	303-1	Interactions with water as a shared resource	EMAS report
	303-2	Management of water discharge-related impacts	EMAS report
	303-3	Water withdrawal	EMAS report
	303-4	Water discharge	EMAS report
	303-5	Water consumption	EMAS report
GRI 304 - Biodiversity 2016	304-2	Significant impacts of activities, products and services on biodiversity	5.2.3, 6.2.2
	304-3	Habitats protected or restored	6
	304-4	IUCN Red List species and national conservation list species with habitats in areas affected by operations	EMAS report
GRI 305 - Emissions 2016	305-1	Direct (Scope 1) greenhouse gas emissions	EMAS report
	305-2	Energy indirect (Scope 2) greenhouse gas emissions	EMAS report
	305-3	Other indirect (Scope 3) greenhouse gas emissions	EMAS report
	305-4	Greenhouse gas emissions intensity	EMAS report
	305-5	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	EMAS report
GRI 306 - Waste 2020	306-1	Waste generation and significant waste-related impacts	EMAS report
	306-2	Management of significant waste-related impacts	EMAS report
	306-3	Waste generated	EMAS report
	306-4	Waste diverted from disposal	EMAS report
	306-5	Waste directed to disposal	EMAS report

Topic	Ref.	Title	Reported under
GRI 308 - Supplier environmental assessment 2016	308-1	New suppliers that were screened using environmental criteria	EMAS report
	308-2	Negative environmental impacts in the supply chain and actions taken	EMAS report
GRI 401 - Employment 2016	401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover	11.5
	401-2	Benefits provided to full-time employees that are not provided to temporary or part-time employees	10.3.6, 11.3.7.3
	401-3	Parental leave	11.3.7.3, 11.4
GRI 403 - Occupational health and safety 2018	403-1	Occupational health and safety management system	11.1.3, 11.3.6
	403-2	Hazard identification, risk assessment, and incident investigation	11.3.6.2
	403-3	Occupational health services	11.3.6.2
	403-4	Worker participation, consultation, and communication on occupational health and safety	11.3.6.2, 11.1.3
	403-5	Worker training on occupational health and safety	11.3.6.3
	403-6	Promotion of worker health	11.3.6.1
	403-7	Prevention and mitigation of occupational health and safety impacts directly linked by business relationships	11.3.6.3
	403-8	Workers covered by an occupational health and safety management system	11.3.6
	403-9	Work-related injuries	11.3.3
GRI 404 - Training and education 2016	404-1	Average hours of training per year per employee	11.4
	404-2	Programmes for upgrading employee skills and transition assistance programmes	11.3.5.1
	404-3	Percentage of employees receiving regular performance and career development reviews	11.4, 11.3.5.2
GRI 414 - Supplier social assessment 2016	414-1	New suppliers that were screened using social criteria	EMAS report
	414-2	Negative social impacts in the supply chain and actions taken	EMAS report
GRI 405 - Diversity and equal opportunity 2016	405-1	Diversity of governance bodies and employees	1.1.3.1, 11.4
	405-2	Ratio of basic salary and remuneration of women to men	11.3.7.4, 11.4
GRI 406 - Non-discrimination 2016	406-1	Incidents of discrimination and corrective actions taken	11.1.2.2, 11.3.2
GRI 407 - Freedom of association and collective bargaining 2016	407-1	Operations and suppliers in which the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining may be at risk	EMAS report
GRI 408 - Child labour 2016	408-1	Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of child labour	10.2.2
GRI 409 - Forced or compulsory labour 2016	409-1	Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of forced or compulsory labour	10.3
GRI 411 - Rights of indigenous peoples 2016	411-1	Incidents of violations involving rights of indigenous peoples	9.2.5
GRI 413 - Local communities 2016	413-1	Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments and development programmes	9.4.1
	413-2	Operations with significant actual and potential negative impacts on local communities	9.5.1, 9.5.2

A.2. SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD (SASB) REFERENCES TO ITEMS IN THIS REPORT

Topic	Title	Reported under
SASB activity metrics	Investment banking and brokerage	Figures in Executive Summary
SASB accounting metric	Employee diversity and inclusion	11.4
	Incorporation of environmental, social and governance factors in investment banking and brokerage activities	1.4.4.2, 1.4.4.3
	Business ethics	12.1.1.2, 12.1.3
	Systemic risk management	1.4.5.2, GRMD report, Key messages of chapter 4
	Data security	12.3.3.1, 12.3.3.2
	Financial inclusion and capacity building	1.4.2.1
	Community relations	1.6.2, 1.6.3
	Climate action	1.3, 3.3.3
	Greenhouse gas emissions	3.5, EMAS report, 3.4

A.3. TCFD REFERENCES TO ITEMS IN THIS REPORT

TCFD pillar	TCFD recommended disclosure	Reported under
1 - Governance	Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities	1.1
	Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities	1.1
2 - Strategy	Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium and long term	1.3, 3.3.3
	Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses, strategy and financial planning	1.4.5, 3.3
	Describe the resilience of the organisation's strategy, taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2° C or lower scenario	3.3.3
3 - Risk management	Describe the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks	1.4.5
	Describe the organisation's processes for managing climate-related risks	1.4.5, 3.3.3
	Describe how processes for identifying, assessing and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organisation's overall risk management	3.3.3
	Disclose the metrics used by the organisation to assess climate-related risks and opportunities in line with its strategy and risk management process	3.3.3.3
4 - Metrics and Targets	Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2 and, if appropriate, Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions, and the related risks	3.4, 3.5
	Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage climate-related risks and opportunities against targets	

ACRONYMS

- ADAPT: Climate Adaptation Investment Advisory Platform
- CAB: Climate Awareness Bond
- CO_2e: Carbon dioxide equivalent
- COPIP: Clean Oceans Project Identification and Preparation
- EDGE: Economic Dividends for Gender Equality
- EIB: European Investment Bank, also referred to as the "Bank"
- EIF: European Investment Fund, also referred to as the "Fund"
- EMAS: Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
- ESG: Environmental, social and governance
- ESIA: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
- GHG: Greenhouse gas
- GRI: Global Reporting Initiative
- IFI: International financial institution
- ILO: International Labour Organization
- KfW: Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
- MDB: Multilateral development bank
- NDICI: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument
- OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- PATH: Paris Alignment for Counterparties
- PFAS: Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
- REACH: Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
- SAB: Sustainable Awareness Bond
- SASB: Sustainability Accounting Standards Board
- SDG: Sustainable Development Goals
- SMEs: Small and medium-sized enterprises
- TCFD: Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
- WWF: World Wide Fund for Nature

GLOSSARY

Affected communities: People or groups living or working in the same area that have been or may be affected by a project supported by the EIB Group. Affected communities can range from those living near EIB Group projects (local communities) to those living far away. Affected communities include actually and potentially affected indigenous peoples.

Client: Covers all organisations that the EIB Group establishes a commercial relationship with, including counterparties, banks, issuers and subsidiaries.

Counterparty: Most commonly, legal entities with whom the EIB Group has a direct or indirect business relationship.

Due diligence: The purpose of the environmental, climate and social due diligence of proposed projects is to support the decision of whether to approve financing. If financing is approved, the due diligence process also increases the efficacy of how impact and risks are managed and monitored throughout the project cycle.

Intermediary: Intermediaries lend EIB Group funds on to final beneficiaries (including framework loans intermediated through a financial institution), lend funds to final beneficiaries by using an EIB Group guarantee, or use EIB Group funds to invest in a portfolio of investee companies. Intermediaries include, but are not limited to, commercial banks, national/regional promotional banks, leasing companies and other financial institutions, funds and microfinance institutions.

Project: A set of defined works, goods, services and/or business activities for which EIB financing is sought, either directly or through an intermediated financing structure, for a specific sub-project/ underlying investment, as approved by the EIB's governing bodies.

Promoter: The EIB counterpart implementing a project, as defined in the finance contract.

Rights-holders: From a human rights perspective, all individuals and population groups that can make valid fundamental rights claims to EIB-financed project. Rights-holders are persons who are adversely affected by the project, actually or potentially. The term includes project-affected persons, local community members, workers, etc.

Stakeholder: Persons and/or communities directly or indirectly affected by an EIB-financed project (including their legitimate representatives), or those with an interest in the project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively; and members of the project workforce.

Stakeholder engagement: An inclusive and iterative process that involves, in varying degrees, identification and analysis of stakeholders, engagement planning, information disclosure, meaningful consultation, and a mechanism ensuring access to grievance and remedy.

KPMG Audit S.à r.l.
39, Avenue John F. Kennedy
L-1855 Luxembourg

Tel.: +352 22 51 51 1
Fax: +352 22 51 71
E-mail: info@kpmg.lu
Internet: www.kpmg.lu

To the management of the
EIB Group
98-100, Boulevard Konrad Adenauer
L-2950 Luxembourg

Independent limited assurance report

We were engaged by the management of the European Investment Bank Group (the European Investment Bank "EIB" and the European Investment Fund "EIF" together referred to as the "Group") to report in the form of an independent limited assurance conclusion that, based on the work performed and evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑ that are disclosed in the EIB Group Sustainability Report (the "Report"), are not prepared in all material respects, in accordance with the EIBG internal framework ("Criteria") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities of the EIB Group management

The management of the EIB Group is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the EIB Group Sustainability Report and the information and assertions contained within it, in accordance with the Criteria applicable in 2025 at the EIB Group; for determining the EIB Group's objectives in respect of sustainable development performance and reporting, including the identification of stakeholders and material issues; and for establishing and maintaining appropriate performance management and internal control systems from which the reported performance information is derived.

This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation of the Report.

The management of the EIB Group is responsible for preventing and detecting fraud and for identifying and ensuring that the EIB Group complies with laws and regulations applicable to its activities.

The management of the EIB Group is responsible for ensuring that staff involved in the preparation and presentation of the Report are properly trained, information systems are properly updated and that any changes in reporting encompass all significant business units.

Our responsibilities

Our responsibility is to examine the Report and to report thereon in the form of an independent limited assurance conclusion based on the evidence obtained. We conducted our engagement in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000, Assurance Engagements other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information, issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Boards as adopted for Luxembourg by the Institut des Réviseurs d'Entreprises (IRE).

That standard requires that we plan and perform our procedures to obtain limited assurance about whether the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑ that are disclosed in the EIB Group Sustainability Report, prepared in accordance with the Criteria, for the year ended 31 December 2025 and are free from material misstatements, as the basis for our limited assurance conclusion.

©2026 KPMG Audit S.à r.l., a Luxembourg entity and a member firm of the KPMG global organization of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Limited, a private English company limited by guarantee. All rights reserved. R.C.S Luxembourg B 149133

Our firm applies the International Standard on Quality Management 1, "Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements" ("ISQM 1"), as adopted for Luxembourg by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (CSSF) and accordingly, maintains a comprehensive system of quality control, including the design, implementation and operation of a system of quality management of audits or reviews of financial statements, or other assurance and related services engagements.

We have complied with the independence and other ethical requirements of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code) as adopted for Luxembourg by the CSSF, which is founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality, and professional behaviour.

Summary of work performed

A limited assurance engagement on the Report consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for the preparation of information presented in the Report, and applying analytical and other evidence gathering procedures, as appropriate, with relation to the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑. These procedures included:

— inquiries of management to gain an understanding of the Group's processes for determining the material issues for the Group's stakeholder groups;

— interviews with relevant staff at corporate and business unit level responsible for providing the information in the Report;

— a media analysis and an internet search for references to the Group during the reporting period;

— inquiries about the design and implementation of the systems and methods used to collect and process the information reported, including the aggregation of data into information as presented in the Report;

— comparing the indicators and statements in the Report marked in italics and with a tick ☑ to corresponding information in the relevant underlying sources, when applicable;

— verifying that the indicators and statements in the Report marked in italics and with a tick ☑ were correctly derived from the Group's 2025 audited financial statements, when applicable.

The procedures selected depend on our understanding of the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑ within the Report and other engagement circumstances, and our consideration of areas where material misstatements are likely to arise.

Our engagement also included: assessing the appropriateness of the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑ within the Report and the suitability of the criteria used by the EIB Group in preparing the statements and indicators marked in italics and with a tick ☑ within the Report in the circumstances of the engagement.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

Inherent limitations

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that errors or irregularities may occur and may not be detected. Our limited assurance engagement is not designed to detect all weaknesses and errors in the Report as the evidence has been obtained on a sample basis. Accordingly, we do not express an audit or a reasonable assurance conclusion on the Report as a whole or on the indicators and statements in the Report marked in italics and with a tick ☑.

Further, the internal control structure within which the control procedures which are the subject of our engagement are designed to operate, has not been subject to any limited assurance procedures and no opinion is expressed as to its effectiveness.

Any projection of the suitability of design and implementation of controls and their meeting the requirements of the Report to future periods is subject to the risk that the procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The limited assurance opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Conclusion

Our conclusion has been formed on the basis of, and is subject to, the matters outlined in this report.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Based on the procedures performed and evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the indicators and statements in the Report marked in italics and with a tick ☑ are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the internal reporting criteria applicable in 2025 at the EIB Group.

Our conclusion on the indicators and statements marked in italics and with a tick ☑ as reported in the EIB Group Sustainability Report 2025 does not extend to any other information that accompanies the Report.

Luxembourg, 30 July 2026

KPMG Audit S.à r.l,
Cabinet de révision agréé



M. Weber

SUSTAINABILITY

REPORT 2025

European Investment Bank | Group

pdf: ISBN 978-92-861-6230-5
© European Investment Bank, 07/2026 EN

2025-0157