

The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) can complement other EU and national funding sources and ensure the completion of important projects in the transport sector.

The transport sector faces significant challenges in attracting sufficient funding for pipeline building, planning and structuring. The EFSI could help in all of these areas. Considering the timeframe of the EFSI (3 years), attention should be given to the implementation schedule of transport projects. The focus should be on **mature projects**, for instance public-private- partnership/concession projects for which the permitting phase is completed, and projects that can be started swiftly, for example the greening and modernisation of fleets, rolling stock and buses, and port infrastructures.

A number of **workshops** will be organised in the first half of 2016 together with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) Corridor Coordinators to raise awareness about opportunities offered by the Investment Plan for Europe and possibilities to expand funding and financing of corridor projects. For example, a seminar on cross-border projects takes place 27-29 January 2016 and the first investors' conference for transport will take place in June 2016. Additional workshops in areas such as Ports/Motorway of the Sea, smart mobility in cities and the European Rail Traffic Management System are also foreseen.

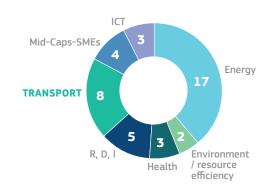
The EFSI can help to finalise transport infrastructure projects. For other projects in the transport sector, the objective is to **optimise the use of available resources** inside the EU budget: EFSI, Structural and Investment Funds and the **Connecting Europe facility (CEF)**.

• **Complementarity between CEF and EFSI** can be ensured by making use of pilot financial instruments developed under the CEF for upscaling with the EFSI. The effectiveness of the EFSI could benefit from the combination of financial instruments, EIB loans and grants ('blending approach'), already successfully tested within the CEF.

The European Structural & Investment Funds are a
key source for EU co-financing for transport projects,
with an estimated envelope of EUR 70 billion for the
2014- 2020 period. The EFSI legal basis allows Member
States to use these funds to contribute to the financing of
projects eligible for EFSI. They can feed into Investment
Platforms in areas such as urban transport and sustainable
mobility or support the projects directly.

Technical assistance is essential to make the right choices about the use of financial instruments. The **European Investment Advisory Hub** will play a key role in coordinating advisory services available at EU level. It will also provide additional assistance, building on existing facilities such as the European public-private partnership Expertise Centre (EPEC), the Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions (JASPERS) and the European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA). **Higher visibility** of transport projects could be ensured via the **European Investment Project Portal**.

Sectoral coverage (some projects cover several sectors)



Out of the 42 projects approved by the EIB so far, 8 projects are in the transport sector.

List of projects in the transport sector



Lock upgrade (under assessment¹)



 Maximising the potential of inland waterways to provide additional capacity, decrease vessel waiting times and ensure smooth, reliable and safe traffic of larger inland vessels



Transport upgrade in Italy (under assessment)



· Widening of a motorway to ease congestion



Transport upgrade in Slovakia (under assessment)



· Design, construction and financing of part of a motorway



Transport infrastructure in France (under assess-

Construction of a motorway to ease city-centre traffic



Transport facilities in Italy (under assessment)



· Acquisition of new stock for rail services to connect major cities



Transport infrastructure in Spain (under assessment)



· Construction and improvement of road and rail access to ports in Spain



Green shipping in Spain (under assessment)



Construction of two new dual-fuel vessels for a Spanish shipping company, replacing two older, less fuel-efficient vessels

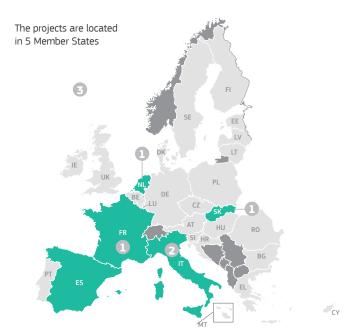


Infrastructure risk-sharing loan in Spain (under assessment)



· Risk sharing loan to finance transport, energy and social infrastructure projects in Spain





¹ Project may withdraw request for EFSI support due to sufficient level of investment by private actors