



**Next
Gen
EU**

CROATIA'S RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN

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KEY FIGURES

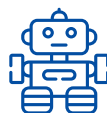
EUR 5.8 billion
in grants
10 % of GDP¹

EUR 4.2 billion
in loans

37% value of
payments requested
corresponding to
28% of milestones/targets



Climate Target
39%



Digital Target
20%



Social Spending
25%

WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CROATIAN PLAN?

AMBITIOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE

Massive injection of support to the Croatian economy, with 78 reforms and 157 investments responding to key issues across the economic and social spheres.

GREEN

With almost 40% of the total amount dedicated to green objectives, it represents a major boost to Croatia's fight against climate change.

INCLUSIVE

Supports access to education, health and social services.

¹ Based on GDP in current prices for 2021.

HOW DOES THE CROATIAN PLAN HELP CITIZENS?

It benefits people by focusing on access to quality **education** and **healthcare**, improving **working conditions** and enhancing **social protection**, supporting the **green post-earthquake recovery**, reducing **waste** and improving the access to **drinking water**.

FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES

Post-earthquake reconstruction and energy efficiency



To help Croatia **recover from the devastating earthquakes** of 2020, the Plan will:

- ▶ Support rebuilding the city of Zagreb and its surroundings as well as Banovina region, complementing EUR 1 billion investment from the EU Solidarity Fund.
- ▶ Make buildings more resilient to possible future earthquakes.
- ▶ Decrease their energy consumption, thus reducing energy bills and making the air cleaner.

Investments into kindergartens and schools



Participation of Croatian children in early childhood education and care is among the lowest in the EU. At the same time, about half of children go to primary school in shifts. The Plan will invest heavily so that:

- ▶ **Nine out of ten children** above the age of three will have a **place in kindergartens**.
- ▶ **All children** will have a chance to **attend primary school in one single shift**. This will enable the switch to full-day teaching and increase the number of teaching hours, improving the quality of primary education.

HOW DOES THE CROATIAN PLAN **HELP BUSINESSES?**

It tackles key challenges for businesses' competitiveness, improving **access to finance**, reducing the **administrative burden**, addressing **skills shortages** and **greening of business practices**.

FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES

Green and digital vouchers



A lack of skilled workforce is a major obstacle to investment in Croatia. The Plan will:

- ▶ Set up a system to **support lifelong learning**, including mapping of needs and reaching out to vulnerable groups.
- ▶ Award **40,000 green and digital vouchers** that will help their users to get a job or change their job. Already more than 11,500 people across the country have undertaken specific training.
- ▶ Make sure that at least 12,000 vouchers go to long-term unemployed, inactive, or young people not in employment, education or training.

Reduction of regulatory burden on businesses



To **simplify burdensome regulatory requirements** that weigh on Croatian businesses, the Plan will:

- ▶ Improve regulatory conditions for businesses in Croatia, for example by making administrative tasks simpler and reducing fees charged to companies. More than 600 targeted measures across the Plan will bring about EUR 700 million of **administrative cost relief** for the economy.
- ▶ Help **digitalise key services** that the government provides to businesses. It will be easier to register and administer a new business, pay fees and implement investments.

HOW DOES THE CROATIAN PLAN **STRENGTHEN OUR UNION?**

It supports electrification and decarbonisation of the **energy sector** in the EU and contributes to the overall **excellence of EU research**.

FLAGSHIP EXAMPLES

Upgrading the electricity network



The Plan includes significant investments in upgrading and digitise the Croatian **electricity network**. This will improve the transmission of electricity produced from renewable energy from the south to the north of Croatia, and potentially to other parts of the EU.

- ▶ The investments include replacing and upgrading the high voltage network, submarine cables connecting islands to the mainland, and electricity transformers and substations.

Introducing performance-based financing of public research



The framework for public research financing was changed to **promote a performance-oriented approach**, helping Croatia become a stronger innovator.

- ▶ This pushes research institutes and universities to set ambitious strategic objectives, for example by collaborating with research institutions from other member states and the business sector.
- ▶ These objectives will be monitored through a newly developed peer review system, ensuring a continuous strive for excellence, transfer of knowledge, and exchanges of researchers at the international level.

For more information: [Croatia's recovery and resilience plan — European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/en/press-operations/infographic-12242024/12242024-infographic-croatia-recovery-and-resilience-plan.pdf)