



The Investment Plan for Europe

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GETTING EUROPE INVESTING AGAIN: THE INVESTMENT PLAN FOR EUROPE



Following the legacy of the worst economic and social crisis in decades and despite global uncertainty, the European Union's recovery continues. This year, the EU is expected to grow by 1.8%. Unemployment has fallen to its lowest level since 2009 and there are 8 million more Europeans with jobs now than in 2013. But this is not the time to be complacent. More investment is needed to boost jobs, in particular for young people, and to support growth. That is why one of the Juncker Commission's 10 priorities has been to boost job creation by strengthening Europe's competitiveness and by stimulating investment. To this end, the Commission launched the Investment Plan for Europe only three weeks after taking office, with the European Investment Bank Group as its strategic partner.

The Investment Plan is already delivering tangible results, thanks to all of its components.

The **European Fund for Strategic Investments** (EFSI), implemented and co-sponsored by the European Investment Bank Group (EIB), is firmly on track to deliver the objective of mobilising the originally agreed EUR 315 billion in additional investments in the real economy by mid-2018. By November 2016, less than 1 ½ years into its operations, it is already expected to raise EUR 154 billion in new investment across 27 Member States. Almost 400,000 small firms and start-ups across Europe are getting fresh finance thanks to the Investment Plan.

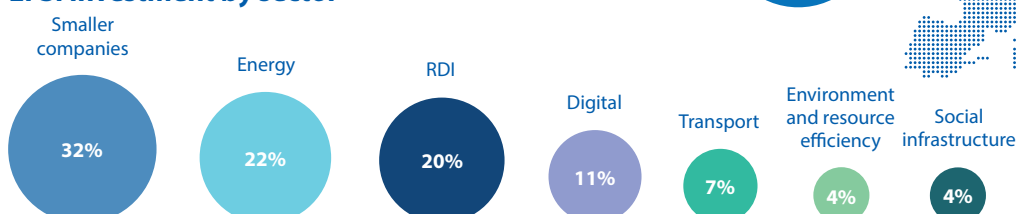


376 900 SMEs will benefit from EIF financing – support that will strengthen Europe's economy and create jobs

385 approved transactions in

27 of 28 EU countries

EFSI investment by sector



Data as of
15/11/2016

The [European Investment Advisory Hub](#) and the [European Investment Project Portal](#) are up and running.

Through its network of partner institutions the **Hub** provides access to advisory and technical assistance programmes and initiatives. Project promoters, public authorities and private companies can receive technical support to help get their projects off the ground, make them investment-ready, gain advice on suitable funding sources, and access a unique range of technical and financial expertise. The Hub has been available since 1 September 2015. Requests for technical assistance can be submitted online at www.eib.org/eiah. The Hub has already dealt with more than 270 requests received from all 28 Member States.

The **Portal** offers EU-based private and public project promoters a convenient way to boost the visibility of their investment projects by simply completing and submitting a project form. The Portal showcases these projects in a user-friendly way in order to attract investors worldwide. It went live on 1 June 2016 and has already published more than 130 investment projects from 25 Member States [as of 22 November 2016]. The total investment proposed from all the projects published amounted to more than EUR 50 billion, about 70% of those projects received from private promoters.

And importantly, the **third pillar of the Investment Plan** focuses on removing barriers to investment. Sustainable investments require a solid and predictable business environment. The EU and its Member States have taken steps to tackle barriers to investment, but more needs to be done. The Commission will continue its efforts to improve the overall investment environment at EU level, including by deepening the Single Market and Member States should step up their efforts to remove obstacles to investment at national, regional and local level.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?



Given the EFSI's success in its first year, the Commission is committed to doubling the EFSI, both in terms of duration and financial capacity. It therefore presented as part of [President Juncker's State of the Union](#) address a legal extension that should provide a total of at least half a trillion euro investments by 2020. In order to enhance the firepower of the EFSI even further and reach the aim of doubling the investment target, the Commission calls on Member States to also contribute as a matter of priority.

The Investment Plan is successful but young. The Commission is drawing on the lessons from the first year and has proposed to implement a number of technical improvements: reinforcing the definition of additionality for projects supported under the EFSI; focusing on sustainable investments to help meet COP21 targets; enhancing geographical balance of the EFSI support by boosting the Advisory Hub's local outreach and making it easier to combine EFSI with other sources of EU funding; and improving even further the transparency of the EFSI project selection.

Following the Commission's proposal on 14 September, and as foreseen in the EFSI Regulation, three evaluations have been published on the Investment Plan:

- [Commission evaluation](#) published on 14 September
- [EIB evaluation](#) published on 6 October
- [Independent, external evaluation by EY](#) published on 14 November

The findings of these evaluations are summed up in the Communication "[Investment Plan evaluations: evidence to support its reinforcement](#)".

The Bratislava Summit of 27 Member States of 16 September 2016 committed to taking a decision on the extension of the EFSI in December in the light of these evaluations. The October European Council called on Member States to agree their negotiating position on the Commission's proposal at the Ecofin meeting on 6 December 2016, taking into account the EY independent external evaluation.

Establishing the EFSI took four and a half months. The Commission calls on co-legislators to match this speedy process in extending and expanding the EFSI to EFSI 2.0.

