

HOW HAS THE JUNCKER PLAN BENEFITED BULGARIA?

EIB financing:

€472 m

Expected to trigger





BULGARIA CURRENTLY RANKS 4

in terms of EFSI-related investment triggered, relative to GDP

Approved projects and SME agreements

As of October 2019 the Juncker Plan has mobilised

in additional investment across the EU

SMEs set to benefit from improved access to finance

Our next goal is to reach

in mobilised investment across the EU by the end of 2020

The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) can be used to finance projects in:



Bio-economy



Environment & resource efficiency



Research, development & innovation











Regional development



Smaller companies









Beyond mobilising significant investments, the Juncker Plan also supports project promoters and helps to develop a pipeline of quality projects in Europe. Two initiatives offer great opportunities to project promoters and investors. The <u>European Investment Advisory Hub</u> provides tailored advisory support to prepare and develop investment projects in the EU. The <u>European Investment Project Portal</u> offers a matchmaking service between quality projects in the EU and potential investors worldwide.

The Juncker Plan is also making Europe's investment environment more business-friendly, working to remove barriers to investments at all levels. More information on challenges and opportunities for investments in Bulgaria is available in this <u>European Semester Country Report</u>.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE JUNCKER PLAN



Digital transformation services: SOFTWARE GROUP

An €18 million loan is supporting Bulgarian tech company Software Group's global expansion plans. Software Group helps financial service providers digitise their business. The company manages its clients' digital transformation process, helping them become more efficient operationally. Software Group is using the financing boost to invest in innovation and increase its workforce.



Grain port terminal: AGRIA GROUP

With help from the EU, the Agria Group is building a new facility near the Port of Varna in the area of Beloslav in Bulgaria. A loan of €14 million is financing the construction of a building which will be used for the storage, handling and export of grain, vegetable oils and sunflower meals. The new facility will have a total annual throughput of 1 million tonnes of grain.



Fashion start-up: KLOSHAR BAGS

Kloshar Bags is a start-up fashion brand in Sofia, Bulgaria. After the company was founded the brand quickly gained interest via social media, and soon they wanted to expand, increasing the need for investment in materials and logistics. They received a loan from a microfinance institution, which is guaranteed by the European Investment Fund and the Juncker Plan. The loan allowed Kloshar Bags to launch their own online shop and expand the team, and they now export their bags to clients across the world, from the United States to South Korea.