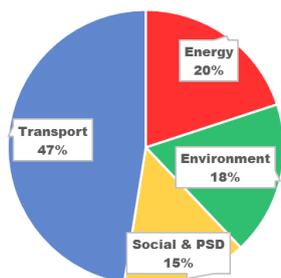




Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans Investment Framework

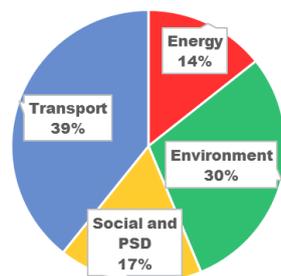
Total investments:

- €3 billion



WBIF grants:

- €110 million



EU contribution:

- €1.38 billion (€88 million in grants and €1.3 billion in loans signed)

What is the Western Balkans Investment Framework?

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) is a financing facility launched in December 2009 by the European Commission, together with the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB), Bilateral Donors, and Western Balkans countries with the purpose to deliver funding for strategic investment projects in beneficiary countries. Eligible sectors include infrastructure development within the environment, energy, transport and social sectors as well as private sector development.

KfW and the World Bank subsequently joined the Framework. In July 2017, the KfW became a partner organisation.

The Western Balkans Investment Framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The WBIF has so far supported investments worth more than €3 billion across eligible sectors, through technical assistance for project preparation as well as direct contribution to works and supplies. Grant support from the EU and the European Western Balkans Joint Fund (Bilateral Donors and participating International Financing Institutions) totals more than €110 million whereas the value of signed loans has exceeded €1.3 billion. Out of the €1.4 billion already secured to date, the EU assistance accounts for more than €1.38 billion: €88 million in grants and €1.3 billion in loans signed.

The investments comprise key infrastructure projects in a variety of sectors, such as:

- Rail and road transport;
- Electricity distribution;
- Hydropower generation;
- Flood protection;
- Water and wastewater systems;
- Health, penitentiary, sports, and cultural facilities; and
- Social housing.



Construction works on the Mediterranean Corridor (CVC) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project has benefited from EU grant support in excess of €27 million, including a €25.09 million investment grant under the Connectivity Agenda in 2015.

Current and / or planned impact of WBIF/EU support (selection):

- 100 km of roads and 84 km railway rehabilitated to safe standards
- Additional electricity generation capacity of 133.5 MW
- 3 million inhabitants serviced by modern water and wastewater systems as well as flood protection measures
- 1.4 million people to benefit from state of the art healthcare treatment and research facilities
- More than 11,000 vulnerable and displaced people settled in social housing facilities



Wastewater treatment plant in Bijeljina. The EU has provided grants in excess of €9 million to cover project preparation and investment works

The EU has thus been instrumental in effecting key improvements in the everyday lives of the citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina by:

- Ensuring continuous water and electricity supplies;
- Providing for wastewater collection and treatment;
- Improving flood mitigation and prevention measures;
- Creating key road and rail transport links with neighbouring countries; as well as
- Ensuring better health and judiciary facilities.

In addition, Bosnia and Herzegovina has benefited from multi-country initiatives funded by the WBIF, such as the Regional Energy Efficiency Programme for the Western Balkans (REEP and REEP Plus), the Western Balkan Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF) and the Regional Housing Programme.



Laying the foundation stone of the Brcko bypass (September 2015). Works are ongoing. The EU has contributed a €0.5 million project implementation support grant.