



# **Economic and Investment Plan** for the Western Balkans

The Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans (EIP) is the long-term recovery plan of the region. It accelerates the twin green and digital transition, and fosters regional cooperation and convergence with the EU. The EIP identifies 10 investment flagships to support sustainable transport, clean energy, environment and climate, digital future, human capital and private sector.

In the next six years the European Commission will mobilise close to €30 billion, one third of the current GDP of the Western Balkans. €9 billion will come in the form of EU grants from the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) and this is expected to leverage more than €20 billion additional investments through the Western Balkans Guarantee Facility.

The EIP is the main vehicle to implement the Global Gateway in the Western Balkans.

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) is the main financial tool to implement the EIP's investment flagships. The EIP is also implemented via IPA bilateral funding to support national high priority projects.

The WBIF was established in 2009 as a joint financial platform of the European Commission, international financial institutions, EU Member States and Norway, and hence fully in line with the Team Europe approach. WBIF aims at enhancing cooperation in public and private sector investment for the socio-economic development of the region, accelerating the European perspective for the Western Balkans.

**#TeamEurope** 

Achieved results 2009 – 2022			Expected results 2023 – 2030	
	93 km of motorways built		77 km of motorways built	
	93 km of railway lines rehabilitated		586 km of railway lines rehabilitated	
¥	60 km of electricity transmission lines upgraded	E	353 MW renewable energy generation capacity installed	
<u>"</u>	Improved water and sanitation services for 585,000 people	117 200	Improved water and sanitation services for 2.1 million people	
wBIF	11m grant <b>B_5bn</b> ated investment	estin	<b>2bn</b> nated financing for SMEs DIF, EFSE, GGF, REEP)	
regior	29m nal guarantee coverage oport infrastructure projects	regio	<b>08m</b> onal guarantee coverage pport access to finance for SME	
IPA b	<b>2bn</b> ilateral funding es since inception	All figu	res since inception	
		'WBIF ple and	projects benefit the life of pec	

### March 2023

me Flagship 1

### Implementation of the Economic and **Investment Plan for the** Western Balkans

Flagship 4 **Renewable energy** 

Flagship 5

The Peace Highway will be substantially advanced. The Rail Corridor X will be fully modernised.

### Elagship 2

**Connecting East to West** 

**Connecting North to South** The railway route connecting Belgrade with Pristina will be prepared for rehabilitation.

Wind and hydro power plant investments will be substantially advanced.

## **Transition from coal**

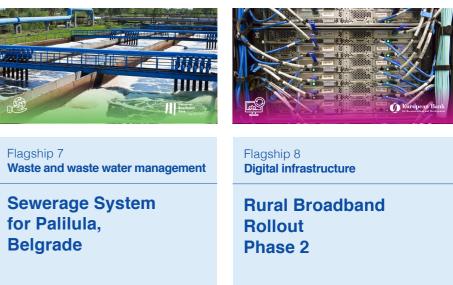
completed. The Serbia - North Macedonia Gas Interconnection will be prepared.

Flagship 7 Waste and waste water management

be undertaken, and integrated waste management will be established.

### **WBIF** project examples





Flagship 4 **Renewable energy** 

Kostolac

Wind Farm

€31m WBIF EU grant

€145.1m

estimated investment

WBIF EU grant €83.9m

€36.8m

estimated investment

Expected completion: 2027 Expected completion: 2024

### €1 billion Energy Support Package

The package addresses immediate, short- and medium-term needs in the Western Balkans to accelerate decarbonisation, and improve the energy security of the region.

The European Commission will provide up to €500m in immediate budget support to mitigate the impact of high energy prices for small and medium-sized enterprises, keep energy prices affordable for vulnerable households and support policy measures to accelerate the energy transition.

in budget support to Serbia

MEs

to Serbia





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### Flagship 8 **Digital infrastructure**

Flagship 9

The roll-out of national broadband infrastructure will continue - with the completion of first projects by 2024.

Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor will be

Waste water treatment investments will



assistance for rural development.

€34.2m WBIF EU grant

€107.6m estimated investment

Expected completion: 2025

An additional €500m is channelled through the WBIF for the priority infrastructure projects, the Regional Energy Efficiency Programme and guarantees to crowd-in private investments in clean energy.

