

Montenegro

Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor: Grid Section in Montenegro



Clean Energy
Flagship 5: Transition from coal

The European Commission supports the Western Balkans partners in decreasing their dependence on fossil fuels, accelerating decarbonisation and market integration, and improving the region's energy security.

The Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor is a flagship investment of the **Economic and Investment Plan** and the Connectivity Agenda. The EU, in partnership with financial institutions and beneficiary economies through the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), contributes to the establishment of a regional transmission corridor connecting the electricity systems of Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to Croatia, Hungary, Romania and Italy through 400 kV overhead lines and submarine cable.

The grid section in Montenegro is a vital part of the corridor. The investments in Montenegro comprise the construction of a new 400 kV transmission line from Lastva to Pljevlja and then to the border with Serbia, including the construction of a new substation in Lastva, the grid connection from Lastva substation to the existing 400 kV Podgorica – Trebinje line, the upgrade of the 400/220/110 kV substation in Pljevlja, the replacement of high-voltage equipment and protective relays systems in high-voltage substations, and integration of SCADA local systems into the National Dispatch Centre.

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| €129.4m estimated total investment | €27.4m EU grants approved |
| €25m KfW loan | €60m EBRD loan |
| €17m National contribution | |



Expected results and benefits

- 235 km of 400 kV overhead lines installed
- 27 km of 110 kV overhead lines installed
- New substations in Lastva and Brezna, upgraded substation in Pljevlja
- Transmission capacity between Montenegro and Serbia increased to 3.5 TWh/year
- Reduced transmission losses and less expensive energy supply to residents and businesses
- Montenegrin power transmission system integrated into the wider European energy market
- Contribution to the creation of a regional electricity market
- Balanced power markets and efficient management of reserve and emergency capacities in the region

Global Gateway

The Global Gateway is delivered through a **Team Europe approach**, which brings together the EU and EU Member States with their financial and development institutions.

Energy connectivity in support of low-carbon economies

The Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor is a flagship project of the **EU's Global Gateway strategy**, which connects countries and regions worldwide by promoting public and private investment in a global network of transportation and supply chains, green energy, modern telecommunications, education and research.

In the field of climate and energy, the Global Gateway supports investments that foster a clean energy transition, encourage green technology exchanges, and strengthen energy security. These investments are complemented by soft measures that enhance the policy, regulatory and business environment, develop skills, encourage innovation, and facilitate technology transfer.

Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor: Implementation progress in Montenegro



- 1 New 400 kV substation in Lastva**
Status: completed
- 2 Lastva – Čevo 400 kV overhead line**
Length: 35 km
Status: completed
- 3 Čevo – Pljevlja 400 kV overhead line**
Length: 185 km
Status: under construction, completion in 2024
- 4 Pljevlja – border with Serbia 400 kV overhead line**
Length: 15 km
Status: construction in 2025-2027
- 5 Upgraded 400 kV substation in Pljevlja**
Status: construction in 2025-2027
- 6 Integration of 110/35 kV Brezna substation and associated transmission line into the public transmission grid**
Status: completed
- 7 Replacement of high-voltage equipment in 12 high-voltage substations**
Status: completed
- 8 Replacement of protective relays systems in 15 high-voltage substations**
Status: completed

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.