



Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF)

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Welcome to the WBIF

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) supports socio-economic development and EU accession across the Western Balkans through the provision of finance and technical assistance for strategic investments, particularly in infrastructure, energy efficiency and private sector development. It is a joint initiative of the EU, International Financial Institutions, bilateral donors and the governments of the Western Balkans.

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The Western Balkans Investment Framework in Brief

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) is a joint blending facility of the European Commission, participating Financial Institutions (FIs), bilateral donors and Western Balkans countries 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.

The Framework was 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) and several bilateral donors. KfW and the World Bank subsequently joined. The WBIF now accounts for more than 13 billion investments in strategic developments across sectors and throughout the Western Balkans.



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The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) supports



[WBIF Steering Committee](#)

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How does WBIF function

The WBIF focuses on key sectors of the Western Balkan economies including energy, environment, transport, social issues and private sector development. **Calls for proposals** are organised on a regular basis, usually twice a year (with deadlines in February and September). Projects must be nominated or endorsed by the **National IPA Coordinator** of the respective country and projects with regional impact take precedence when deciding among applications.

Applications are assessed by the **Project Financiers' Group** and grants approved by the **Steering Committee**. Approved projects are then implemented by the **Infrastructure Project Facility teams** or the IFIs themselves.

Bilateral Donors



Austria



Denmark



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WBIF Secretariat

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The WBIF Secretariat is based in DG NEAR and ensures the smooth functioning of the WBIF. It prepares, supports and implements the decisions of the Project Financiers' Group and the Steering Committee of the WBIF.

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WBIF Secretariat at EC DG Enlargement

The WBIF Secretariat is based in DG NEAR and ensures the smooth functioning of the WBIF. It prepares, supports and implements the decisions of the Project Financiers' Group and the Steering Committee of the WBIF.

The Secretariat ensures that the Terms of Reference of the Joint Grant Facility (JGF) are implemented fully. It is funded by the EC under the IPA programme and ensures better and more cost-efficient implementation of the on-going activities. The Secretariat's four main objectives are:

Coordination

The Secretariat aims to improve coordination among the donors, the IFIs and the beneficiaries in order to identify and implement priority investments that are critical for the socio-economic development of the region and for the EU accession process.

Administrative support



Thank You!