

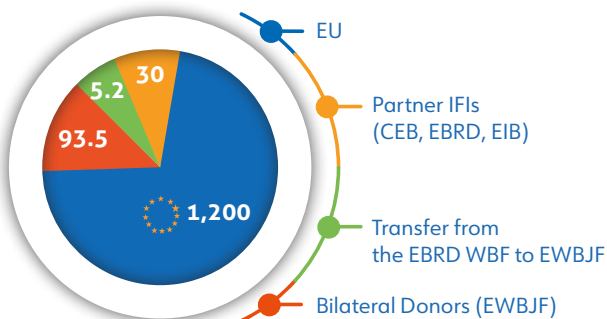


WBIF Bilateral Donors

Bilateral donors are a vital cornerstone of the WBIF. They contribute financial resources for technical assistance and investment grants, advise on operations and actively participate in the WBIF's governance through a rotating co-chairing system for the Steering Committee. **The bilateral donors' contributions reached €98.7 million by the end of 2019**, including €93.5 million in direct contributions to the WBIF European Western Balkans Joint Fund (EWBJF) and €5.2 million transferred from the EBRD Western Balkan Fund (WBF) at the inception of the WBIF. Following pledges of over €10 million in 2017 and 2018, **the bilateral donors pledged an unprecedented total amount of €13.9 million in 2019**.

These increased contributions from bilateral donors reaffirm their interest in funding projects in all WBIF sectors, with a focus on the environment and social sectors to complement the European Commission's focus on the energy and transport sectors under the Connectivity Agenda. Thus, they allocated €31 million in investment grants for €152.2 million investments in the environment sector in 2017-2019.

WBIF Donors (€m)



WBIF Steering Committee Co-Chair 2018

"WBIF has become a state-of-the-art mechanism blending financing and technical assistance."

Sylvain Geranton,
Ministry of Economy and Finance

WBIF Steering Committee Co-Chair 2019

"WBIF: Offering substantial support for the Western Balkans by partners from Europe and beyond."

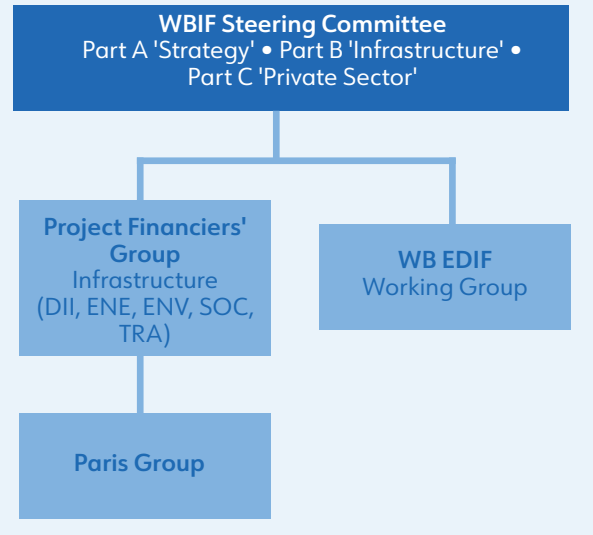
Thomas Motak, Federal Foreign Office
Sabrina Brabetz, Federal Ministry of Finance

WBIF Steering Committee Co-Chair 2020

"Austria has supported WBIF as a highly valuable platform of partnership since its inception. Let's continue building the European future together!"

Elisabeth Gruber,
Federal Ministry of Finance

WBIF Governance



Bilateral donor pledges in 2019

Country	Pledge (€m)	Country	Pledge (€m)
Austria	2.00	Poland	1.51
Germany	2.00	Norway	2.01
Italy	3.00	Sweden	2.84
Luxembourg	0.50	Total	13.86

Bilateral donor contributions to EWBJF (€m)

NO	22.3	
SE	20.4	
AT	15.9	
DE	15.0	
IT	6.3	
UK	5.3	
EBRD WBF*	5.2	
CZ	2.0	
PL	1.5	
LU	1.5	
FR	1.0	
SI	1.0	
FI	0.5	
GR	0.5	
HU	0.3	

*EBRD WBF: Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

Examples of investment projects co-financed by bilateral donors

Wastewater Treatment Plant for Podgorica, Montenegro



Wastewater treatment plant for 188,400 people



47,700 households benefiting from efficient sanitation services



Clean surface and groundwater in the area and downstream



100 jobs created during construction and 55 more for operation of the new facility



Environment

Estimated project value: €50.1 million

Bilateral donor grant: €9.0 million



KFW



Social

Estimated project value: €62.6 million

Bilateral donor grant: €3.0 million



Project results



60 schools rehabilitated



70 physical education facilities constructed

WBIF grant



16 schools rehabilitated and equipped



11,000 children and 700 teachers benefiting from modern education facilities

Construction of Physical Education Facilities and Rehabilitation of Primary and Secondary Schools in North Macedonia



Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sewerage Network Extension and Rehabilitation for Gjilan, Kosovo*



Wastewater treatment plant for 110,000 people



110,000 people benefiting from efficient sanitation services



Clean surface and groundwater in the area and downstream



150 jobs created during construction and 28 more for operation of the new facility



Environment

Estimated project value: €21.9 million

Bilateral donor grant: €2.5 million



*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.

A joint partnership of:



In cooperation with:



Bilateral donors:



Beneficiaries:



About WBIF

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) is a financing facility launched in December 2009 by the European Commission, 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 beneficiaries with the purpose to deliver funding for strategic investment projects. The KfW and the World Bank Group subsequently joined the platform. In December 2018, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) became a participating organisation in the WBIF.

The WBIF blends grants, loans and beneficiary contributions for infrastructure investments in the energy, environment, social, transport and digital sectors as well as for private sector development.

The WBIF contributes to the European perspective of the Western Balkans by supporting strategic investment projects that improve competitiveness and growth and are complemented by policy measures that foster regional cooperation and connectivity.