

European Investment Bank (EIB)

Policy approach

The European Investment Bank is the long-term financing institution of the European Union. The task of the Bank is to contribute towards the integration, balanced development and economic and social cohesion of the EU Member States. The EIB raises substantial volumes of funds on the capital markets, which it lends on favourable terms to projects furthering EU policy objectives. The EIB continuously adapts its activities to developments in EU policies. The operational plan 2012-2014 responds to an environment in which Europe has the difficult task of addressing the impact of the economic crisis while accelerating its transition to a smarter, greener and sustainable economy.

The EIB has been active in the Western Balkans since 1977 and today it is one of the largest international financiers in the region. In December 2009, the EIB launched, together with the European Commission, the Council of Europe Development Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) as a joint grant facility and a joint lending facility for priority investments in the region. The objective is to simplify access to credit by pooling and coordinating different sources of finance and technical assistance.

The Bank has lent over EUR 1.6 billion to support projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2000. Out of this, total EUR 570 million has been used for credit lines to develop SMEs and midcaps. These are a core component of the EIB's lending priorities.

A further EUR 582 million has been used to develop the country's transport infrastructure, both regional projects and Trans European Transport Networks, which are another priority for the EIB. The bank has also contributed EUR 163 million to rebuild and improve the reliability of B-H's energy transmission networks.

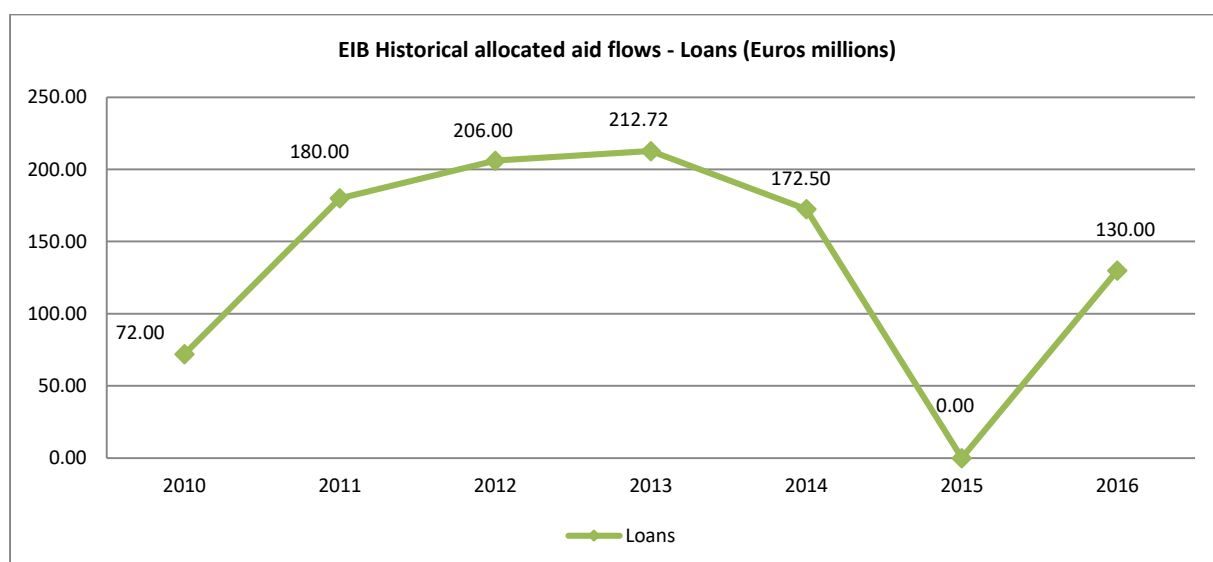
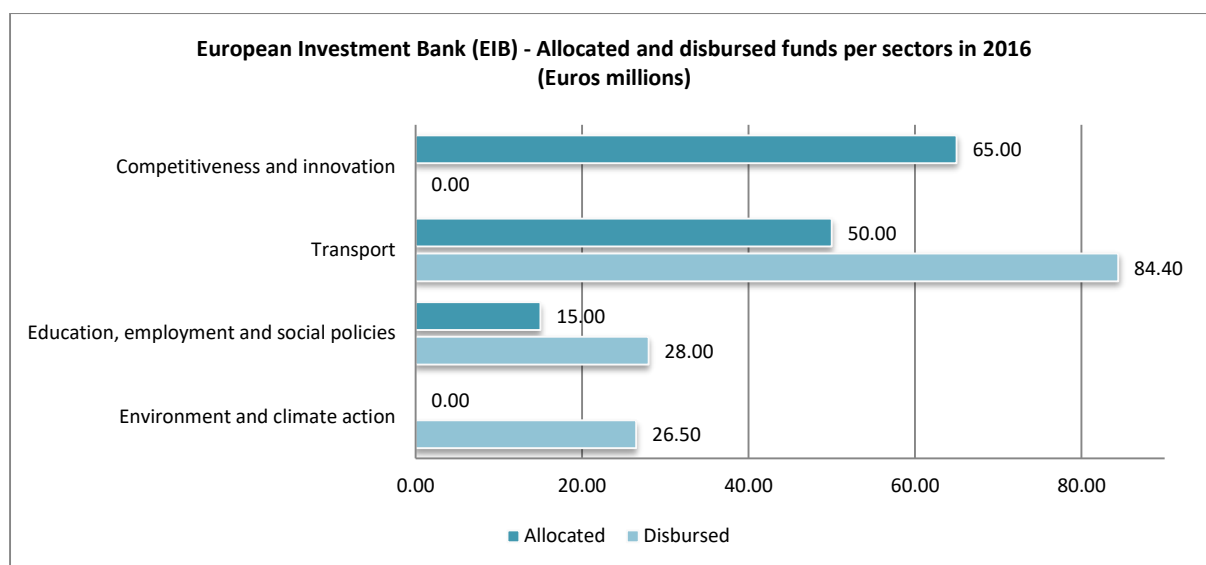
This was an on-going project in the last decade. (source: <http://www.eib.org/projects/regions/enlargement/the-western-balkans/bosnia-herzegovina/index.htm>)

Key activities in 2016¹

The European Investment Bank (EIB) allocated **€ 130.00 million and disbursed € 138.90 million in 2016 in the form of loan** to the following sectors: Competitiveness and innovation, Transport, Education, employment and social policies and Environment and climate action.

¹ The source for data on EIB donor profile and allocations for 2016 is

<http://www.eib.org/projects/loan/list/index.htm?from=2016®ion=3§or=&to=2016&country=BA>, while the source for disbursements in 2016 are the MFIT data.



Donor coordination efforts

The EIB co-finance major projects in the region with other IFIs, particularly the EBRD, the World Bank and the Council of Europe Development Bank, as well as other bilateral donors. The EIB also continues its close cooperation with the EC and the European Agency for Reconstruction in order to prepare and co-finance projects with EU budgetary contribution provided by the new EU Instrumental for Pre-Accession Assistance.

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