

Sustainable transport



March 2024

The Western Balkans economies have set connectivity to the Trans-European Transport Network, implementation of EU reforms and technical standards, as well as the promotion of multimodal transport solutions as priorities for their transport sector development. Investments in sustainable transport modes will contribute significantly to national and regional economic growth and competitiveness as well as to mobility of people bringing increased user benefits, regional cooperation, and integration with the EU.

2009 - 2023

WBIF grant

€2.6bn

Estimated investment

€15.6bn

Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans 2021-2027

- Flagship 1 - Connecting East to West
- Flagship 2 - Connecting North to South
- Flagship 3 - Connecting the coastal regions



Trans-European Transport Network

The Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) policy aims to build an EU-wide multimodal transport network of railways, waterways, shipping routes and roads. The policy is a key instrument for the development of coherent, connected and high-quality transport infrastructure.

EIP flagship investments 2020-2023

21 flagships endorsed

€1.8bn WBIF EU grant

€5.2bn estimated investment

Expected results of flagship investments



169 km of motorways built



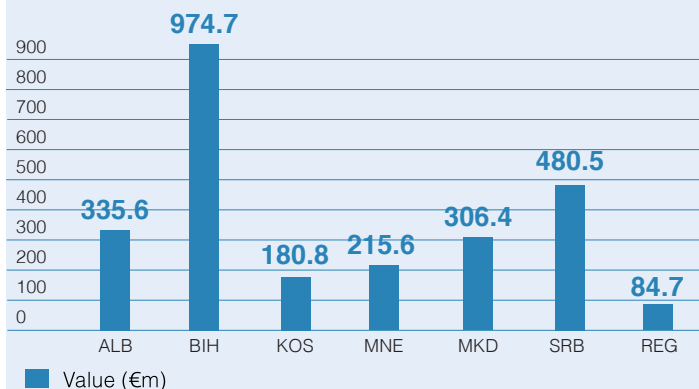
426 km of railway lines rehabilitated



45 km of waterways upgraded

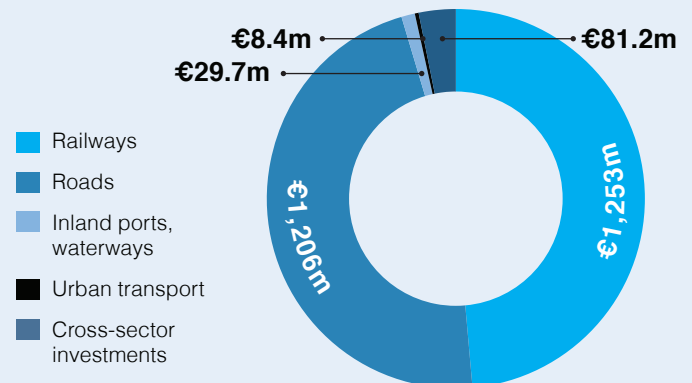
WBIF grants approved by beneficiary

2009-2023

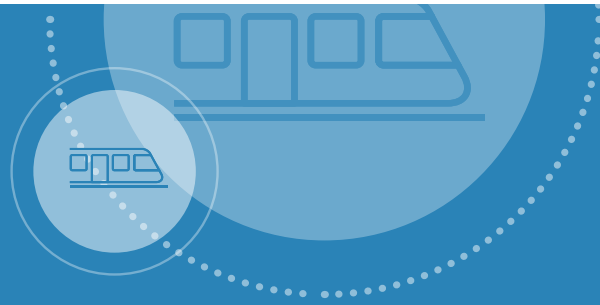


WBIF grants approved by subsector

2009-2023

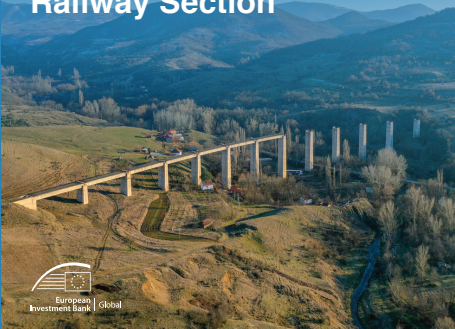


Flagship investments examples



Flagship 1 Connecting East to West

Albania Corridor VIII: Durrës – Rrogozhinë Railway Section



This investment project will reconstruct 33.5 km of railway line, including electrification, signalling and telecommunication systems, from Durrës to Rrogozhinë. It is part of a broader plan to revitalise the railway sector in Albania and develop coherent, efficient, multimodal and high-quality infrastructure interconnected with the regional and the Trans-European Transport Network. Aligned with EU standards, this project will enable faster journeys, reduce operation and maintenance costs, improve safety, and facilitate the shift of freight and passenger transport from road to rail, fostering regional connectivity.

WBIF EU grant **€65m**

EIB loan (est.) **€55.4m**

Beneficiary contribution **€0.1m**

Estimated investment **€120.5m**

Expected completion **2028**

Flagship 1 Connecting East to West

Serbia Rhine-Danube Corridor: Removal of Sunken WWII German Vessels from the Danube, Prahovo Sector



The Danube is navigable throughout Serbia (588 km). However, the fairway narrows significantly at the Djerdap gorge, downstream from the Port of Prahovo, due to the presence of shipwrecks sunk at the end of World War II. Through this investment, 21 shipwrecks will be removed from the Danube, eliminating the current 5 km-long traffic bottleneck. This will facilitate the shift from road to waterway transport, support economic growth, enhance connectivity both in the region and with the EU, and strengthen regional cooperation.

WBIF EU grant **16.4m**

EIB loan **€13.3m**

Estimated investment **€29.7m**

Expected completion **2029**

Flagship 2 Connecting North to South

Bosnia and Herzegovina Road Corridor Vc: Mostar North – Mostar South Motorway Section



Road Corridor Vc consists of a major north-south transit road between the countries of the region linking the Western Balkans to the pan-European Mediterranean transport corridor. The longest section of the road corridor lies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This investment concerns the construction of a 14.2 km section of motorway, starting before the Mostar North interchange and ending after the Mostar South interchange. With five tunnels and ten viaducts, the resulting bypass will reduce travel times and increase road safety.

WBIF EU grant **€155.9m**

EBRD loan **€110m**

Commercial bank (est.) **€110.1m**

Beneficiary contribution **€7m**

Estimated investment **€383m**

Expected completion **2027**