

A woman with long, straight black hair is looking slightly to her right. She is wearing a black zip-up jacket. The background is filled with various fabrics and garments, including white, yellow, and pink items, suggesting a clothing store or a textile market.

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

**AROUND
THE WORLD**



**90 000 SMALLHOLDERS AND ENTREPRENEURS
TO BENEFIT FROM THE EIB-BACKED EXPANSION
OF MALI'S LEADING MICROFINANCE INSTITUTION**

IMPROVING LIVES EVERYWHERE

- For the first time in many years, there has been no growth in developing countries. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the inequalities in our world. Half the global population lacks access to essential health services. 300 million jobs have been lost. The number of people in extreme poverty could reach more than 1 billion by 2030.
- We are entering the critical decade to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and seriously tackle climate change. More than €2 trillion of additional annual investment is needed in developing countries. The world needs a climate and development bank like the European Investment Bank (EIB) more than ever before.
- Over the last 10 years, EIB financing outside the European Union has totalled €78 billion, including €26.6 billion to Africa.
- Climate change is causing an unprecedented loss of biodiversity and is significantly threatening our ecosystems. The EIB is stepping up its lending and advisory services in forestry, biodiversity, natural capital and ecosystem restoration.
- For more than 50 years, the EIB has been the European Union's international development bank. We place private sector development – the engine for economic growth – at the forefront of our work in developing countries.
- We work closely with the public and private sectors, as well as many partner financial institutions, to multiply the impact of every investment and deliver EU priorities on the ground.
- We aim for more jobs and opportunities, a clean planet and a better quality of life for everyone.

BY THE NUMBERS

- The EIB is one of the largest multilateral development banks, with annual signed deals of more than €10 billion in 2020 provided outside the European Union, equal to about 13% of our activity.
- 71% of our financing in sub-Saharan Africa supported least developed countries or fragile states. This is up from 53% in 2019.
- From 2016 to 2020, 36% of our lending in developing countries was for climate action.
- We will provide more than €6.5 billion to countries outside the European Union to fight the coronavirus pandemic as part of Team Europe.



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PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19: The Bank's €400 million support for COVAX is ensuring fair access to vaccines. The EIB has been working around the world to accelerate vaccine development, strengthen public health and keep businesses alive. More than €27 billion of COVID-related financing was approved in recent months. A key example of success is BioNTech, which is now supplying vaccines around the world.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Transport, electricity, telecommunications. The EIB has financed mobile coverage by Orange in Guinea. The company uses innovative masts powered by solar panels to boost the mobile network, serving more rural areas and improving coverage in urban areas.

As part of our Economic Resilience Initiative, we are improving the Gaza desalination project in Palestine to provide safe water to more than 2 million people.

PRIVATE SECTOR AND BANKING: In Mali, the Bank is helping small rural farms and low-income entrepreneurs get loans. The EIB is working with Kafo Jiginew, a leading microfinance institution in Mali, to offer loans to nearly 15 000 people. To promote sustainable urbanisation, the EIB lent €35 million to improve the water supply in Antananarivo, Madagascar. The project will benefit more than 2 million people. Another urban example is the City Climate Finance Gap Fund to help cities build better climate projects. The fund's target capitalisation is at least €100 million and it aims to unlock at least €4 billion for climate projects and innovation.

CAPITAL GROWTH: The Bank is working with the African Export-Import Bank Afreximbank to channel €300 million of financing in 2020 into the resilience and recovery of the countries most vulnerable to COVID-19. This will help businesses across the continent keep employees and maintain imports.

GENDER EQUALITY: The SheInvest initiative is promoting gender-responsive financing and support for female entrepreneurship across Africa. The EIB reached its target at the end of 2020 to mobilise €1 billion in Africa to empower women and girls.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY: The EIB is supporting stormwater management and flood protection in Cotonou, Benin. A €50 million loan will upgrade stormwater drainage to catch plastic waste and improve coastal areas. It will reduce flooding in urban areas and help 187 000 people. It will also significantly reduce plastic and other pollution. This project is part of the Clean Oceans Initiative that the EIB set up with other partners to fight plastic waste, with the goal of investing €2 billion by 2023.

The EIB's Sustainability Awareness Bonds support sustainable finance around the world and build on our pioneering green bonds. The sustainability bonds will improve water, sanitation, flood protection, health, education, biodiversity and ecosystems.