



# Economic and Investment Plan for the **Western Balkans**

#WesternBalkans #EUandYOU #EIP #GlobalGateway #TeamEurope

OCTOBER 2023

**SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

**CLEAN ENERGY**

**ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE**

**DIGITAL FUTURE**

**PRIVATE SECTOR**

**HUMAN CAPITAL**

With the ambition to mobilise up to

**€30 billion**

in public and private investments in cooperation with international financial institutions.



The Economic and Investment Plan identifies 10 investment flagships and aims to spur the long-term recovery, accelerate the green and digital transition, and foster regional cooperation.



Moving from plan to action: The EU has so far approved funding of €4.29 billion in grants, expected to mobilise €15.9 billion in overall investments. This includes funding of 54 flagship investments\* under the Western Balkans Investment Framework with bilateral contributions from EU Member States and Norway, and favourable loans from international financing institutions.



Investments will only be sustainable if Western Balkan partners accelerate reforms, including in the area of rule of law and fight against corruption.

\* [WBIF booklet on 54 endorsed flagship investments.](#)

## SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

The EU improves core transport corridors in the region, to make them faster and comply with EU standards. Better transport facilitates trade and drive sustainable economic growth. Connectivity reforms and simplified border crossing procedures are key.

FLAGSHIP 1 – Connecting East to West

FLAGSHIP 2 – Connecting North to South

FLAGSHIP 3 – Connecting the coastal regions



## CLEAN ENERGY

The EU support in the field of energy has been reinforced, in line with its ambition to reach climate neutrality by 2050. Decarbonisation and transition to clean energy are key. Priority is given to energy interconnections and the use of renewable energy sources.

FLAGSHIP 4 – Renewable energy

FLAGSHIP 5 – Transition from coal

FLAGSHIP 6 – Renovation wave



## ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE

The Green Agenda for the region covers green transition, decarbonisation, depollution of air, water and soil, circular economy and promotes biodiversity, urban mobility and green transport solutions.

FLAGSHIP 7 – Waste and Waste water management



## DIGITAL FUTURE

The deployment of an ultra-fast broadband, with a view to ensuring universal access, lowering the cost of roaming, developing digital skills and enhancing cybersecurity, are key priorities of the Digital Agenda for the Western Balkans.

FLAGSHIP 8 – Digital infrastructure



## HUMAN CAPITAL

The EU strongly supports the development of human capital, including high quality education and training skills, employment, health and social protection. The EU improves labour market participation, especially of young people and women, vulnerable groups and minorities, in particular Roma.

FLAGSHIP 10 – Youth Guarantee



## PRIVATE SECTOR

The EU has increased financial support to strengthen the competitiveness of micro and SMEs in strategic sectors and foster green growth and circular economy under the new Western Balkans Guarantee Facility.

FLAGSHIP 9 – Investing in the competitiveness of the private sector

# Integrating the Western Balkan Regional Market into the EU Single Market

The EU Single Market ←

