

2009 – 2016
WBIF AT A GLANCE



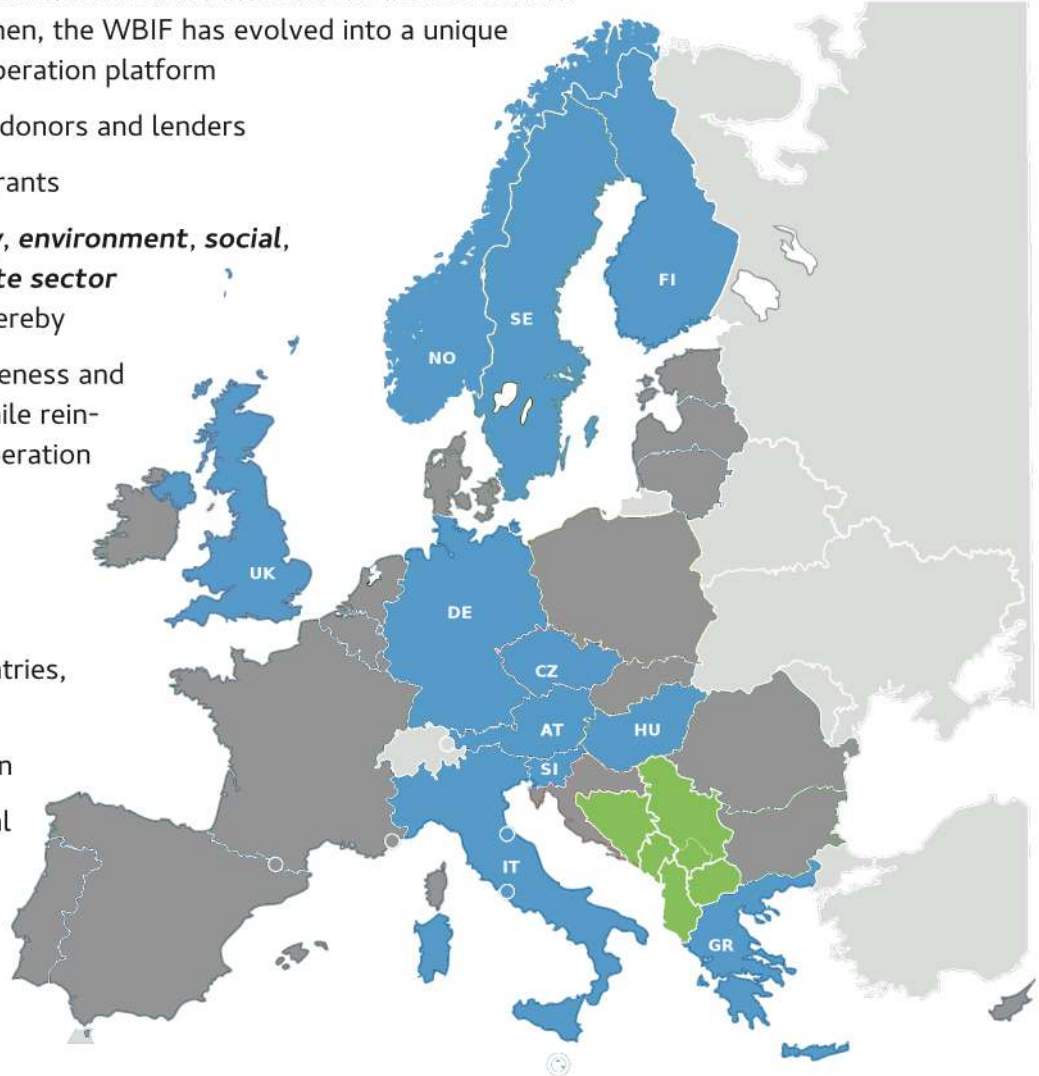
What is the WBIF?

Building on existing EC and IFI initiatives, the WBIF was established in 2009 by the European Commission (EC), partner International Financial Institutions (CEB, EBRD, EIB), later joined by KfW and the World Bank Group, and several donor countries, with the aim to facilitate the preparation and implementation of essential infrastructure investments in the Western Balkan countries. Since then, the WBIF has evolved into a unique and most successful cooperation platform

- (a) uniting beneficiaries, donors and lenders
- (b) blending loans and grants
- (c) in the sectors **energy, environment, social, transport, and private sector development** and thereby
- (d) improving competitiveness and fostering growth, while reinforcing regional cooperation and connectivity.

Key Players

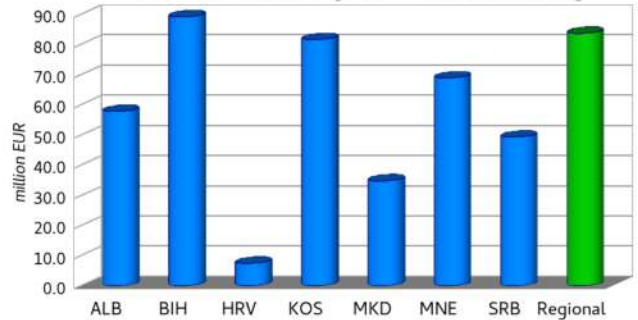
- Western Balkan countries, the Beneficiaries
- European Commission
- International Financial Institutions (IFIs)
- EU Member States, and their bilateral donor institutions



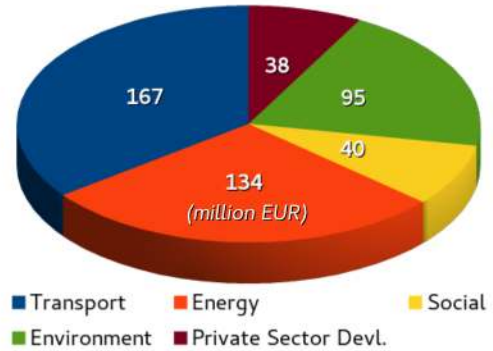
Beneficiary Countries



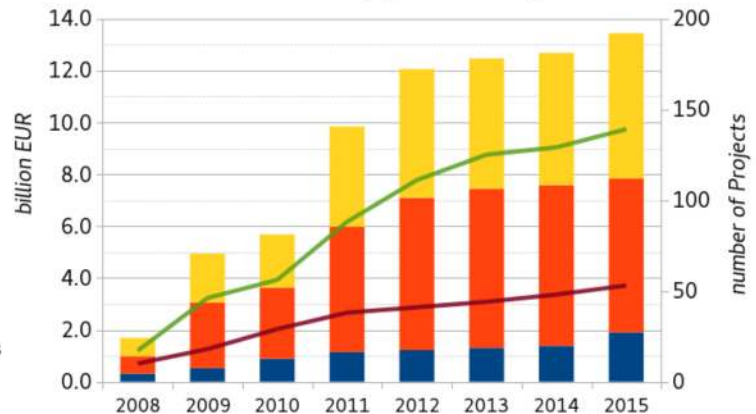
Grant value per Beneficiary



Grant value per sector



Investments supported by WBIF



- Total estimated investment
- Total estimated loans
- Total value of signed loans
- Number of WBIF projects
- Number of projects with signed loans

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

How does the WBIF work?

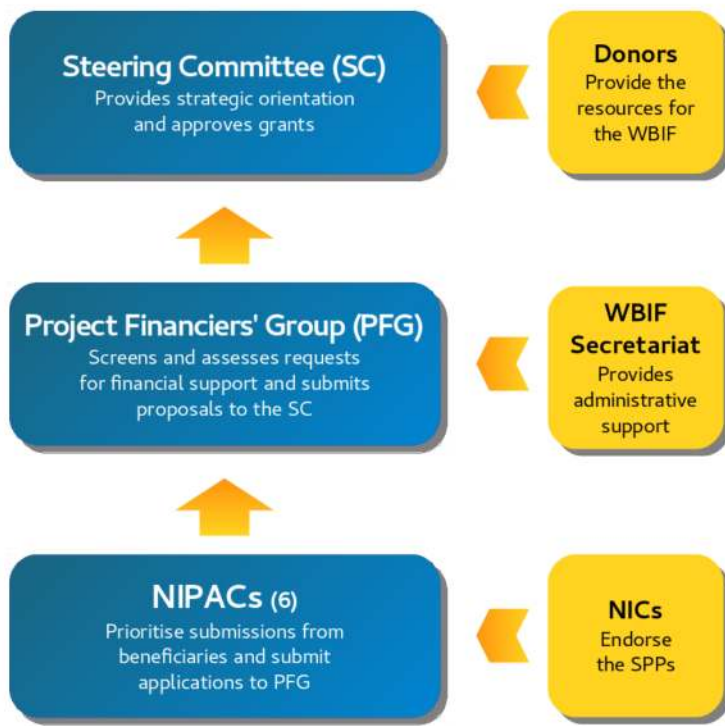
Projects are identified by the Beneficiaries' National Investment Committees (NICs) and their Single Project Pipeline (SPP), in close cooperation with National Instrument for Pre-Accession Coordinators (NIPAC), International Financial Institutions, bilateral donor institutions, regional organisations (SEETO, ECS, etc.), and other local stakeholders.

The grant support available under WBIF includes traditional "Technical Assistance" aiming to prepare projects and "Investment Grant Co-financing" for mature projects.

The NIPAC submits a grant request, endorsed by the relevant IFI to the WBIF Secretariat. Grant requests are then screened to verify eligibility and consistency with EU pre-accession policies and assessed against their long-term sustainability, technical and financial quality.

The eligible Grant requests are formally evaluated by the Project Financiers' Group (PFG) and finally recommended to the WBIF Steering Committee for approval. Approved Grants are implemented under the coordination of the PFG.

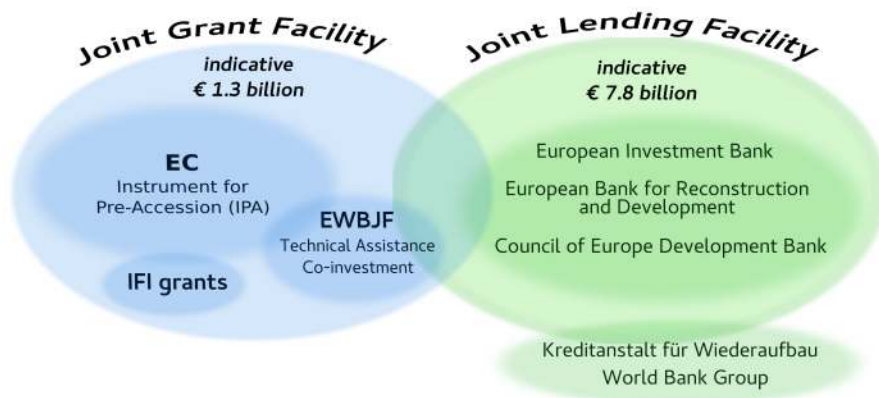
WBIF governance



Source of finance

The WBIF is a blending instrument which combines grant resources and loans. Grants fund technical assistance to prepare investments projects and also co-finance investment costs, helping to bridge financing gaps and thus facilitate the implementation of investment projects. WBIF works on the principle of leverage: each grant should bring additional investments. As a blending platform, the WBIF provides two main facilities:

the *Joint Grant Facility* and the *Joint Lending Facility*.



Contributions to the WBIF originate from the EC Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA), contributions from CEB, EBRD, and EIB (partner IFIs), later joined by KfW and the World Bank Group, and bilateral contributions from donors through the European Western Balkans Joint Fund (EWBJF).

Loans are provided by multi- and bi-lateral institutions.



Western Balkans Investment Framework **WBIF**

A JOINT PARTNERSHIP OF:



IN COOPERATION WITH:

KFW



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