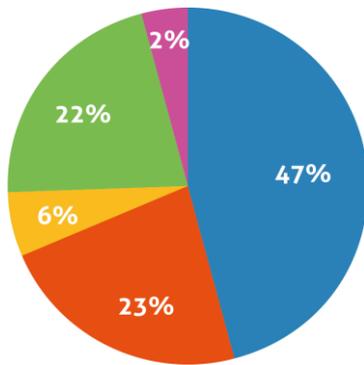




Albania and the Western Balkans Investment Framework

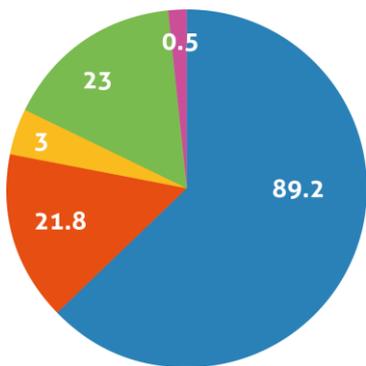
Estimated project value:

- €2.0 billion



WBIF grants:

- €137.5 million



- Transport
- Energy
- Environment
- Social
- Digital Infrastructure

Signed loans:

- €430 million

What is the Western Balkans Investment Framework?

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) is a financing facility launched in December 2009 by the European Commission, together with the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the European Investment Bank (EIB), Bilateral Donors, and Western Balkans countries with the purpose to deliver funding for strategic investment projects in beneficiary countries. Eligible sectors include infrastructure development within the energy, environment, social, transport, private sector development and, since December 2017, digital infrastructure.

The KfW, the World Bank Group and Agence Française de Développement (AFD) subsequently joined the Framework. In December 2018, the AFD became a participating organisation in the WBIF.

The Western Balkans Investment Framework in Albania

The WBIF has supported **30 projects** with an estimated value of **€2 billion** in Albania. The country has benefited from **40 grants** for technical assistance and investment works with an overall value of **€137.5 million**, out of which **€124.8 million from the EU and €12.7 million from other donors**. The WBIF financial institutions have extended a further **€430 million in loans signed** on 14 projects.

The investments comprise key infrastructure projects in a variety of sectors, such as:

- Rail, road and maritime transport;
- Electricity and gas transmission;
- Hydropower generation;
- Water and wastewater systems;
- Flood protection;
- Solid waste management;
- Schools and healthcare facilities;
- Broadband infrastructure.



Albania – North Macedonia Power Interconnection (I): Grid Section in Albania – construction of 130 km of 400 kV transmission line and associated substations. This project has benefited from more than €15.7 million in EU grant support through the WBIF, including a €14.3 million investment grant under the Connectivity Agenda in 2015.

Achieved results (selection):

- 800 km of new roads;
- Water/wastewater systems for more than 260,000 people;
- Better schools for more than 18,400 pupils.

Expected results (selection):

- 145 km of new highspeed roads;
- 194 km of railway lines rehabilitated;
- 170 km of electricity transmission lines upgraded and secure power supply;
- Increase in capacity and safe and efficient transport by sea in the Port of Durrës;
- Water/wastewater systems for more than 100,000 people and improved solid waste services for more than 180,000 people;
- More than 45,000 people protected from floods;
- Healthcare research and treatment facilities for 2.8 million people.

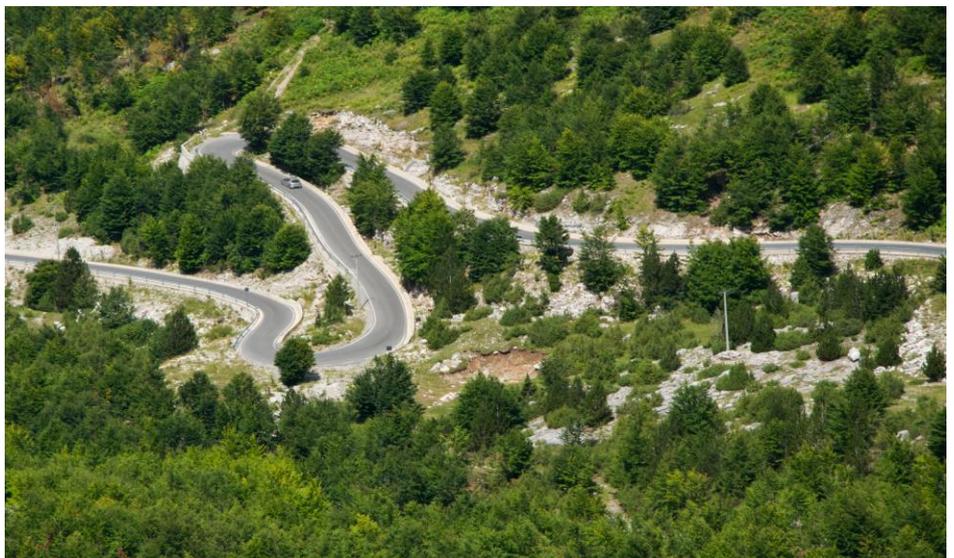


Tirana University Hospital Centre Reform Programme Phase 2. The WBIF has provided a €0.6 million EU grant for the preparation of the feasibility study, environmental impact assessment and energy supply study for the renovation of the hospital.

The WBIF has thus been instrumental in effecting key improvements in the everyday lives of the citizens in Albania by:

- creating key road, rail and maritime transport links with neighbouring countries;
- ensuring continuous and competitive energy supply for the people and businesses in the country;
- securing access to efficient water and wastewater services;
- improving flood protection and mitigation measures;
- upgrading healthcare facilities and schools.

In addition, Albania has benefited from regional projects and multi-country initiatives funded by the WBIF, such as the [Regional Energy Efficiency Programmes for the Western Balkans](#) (REEP and REEP Plus) and the [Western Balkan Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility](#) (WB EDIF).



The WBIF has allocated a €9 million EU grant and a €4 million grant from bilateral donors and partner IFIs to support the rehabilitation of 800 km of regional and local roads throughout the country. The EU has contributed a further €34.5 million in grant from National IPA for construction works. The works are now complete.