Co-funded by the European Union

Western Balkans Investment Framework WBIF
BUILDING THE EUROPEAN FUTURE TOGETHER
Global Gateway

2015-2026

November 2026

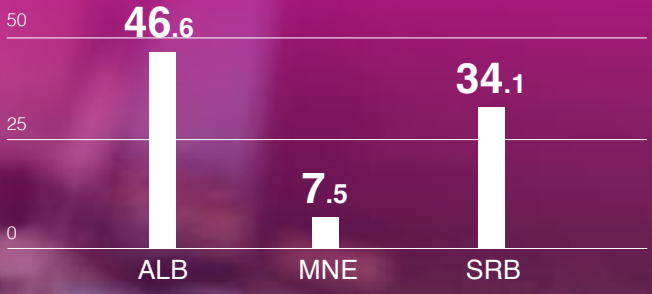
# Digital future

Through the WBIF, the EU supports the Western Balkans' digital transformation. Investments expand fast, secure broadband to remote and lower-income communities, widen access to digital services and develop secure, energy-efficient data centres, cloud infrastructure and high-performance computing, while strengthening links with other connectivity sectors.

**€88 m**
WBIF contribution to investments

**€313 m**
Total investments value

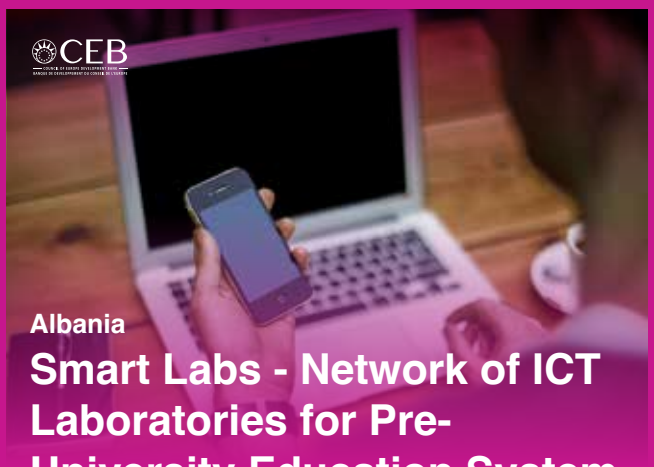
## WBIF contribution
per beneficiary (€m)




## Results | Ongoing projects

| | Optical fibre cables (km) | Households | People | Settlements/ villages | Schools with ICT labs | Students and teachers benefiting |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Works completed | / | / | / | / | / | / |
| Under construction | 4,800 | 128,000 | 368,000 | 815 | / | / |
| In preparation | 12,042 | 92,499 | 285,513 | 1,327 | 615 | 199,432 |

# Highlighted projects




Albania

## Smart Labs - Network of ICT Laboratories for Pre-University Education System

| | |
|---|---|
| WBIF contribution | €10.5 m |
| **Total investment value** | **€41.2 m** |
| Expected completion | 2028 |

This project establishes smart ICT labs in 600 schools across the country, significantly increasing access to computer facilities for pre-university students and strengthening their programming skills. More than 198,000 students will benefit annually from these modern learning environments, enhancing digital literacy and future career prospects.




Montenegro

## Broadband Infrastructure Development

| | |
|---|---|
| WBIF contribution | €7.5 m |
| **Total investment value** | **€23.8 m** |
| Expected completion | 2032 |

This project brings high-speed broadband to rural and suburban communities in Montenegro that are currently unconnected or poorly served. By narrowing the digital divide, it improves access to modern digital services and fosters inclusive growth and new opportunities nationwide.




Serbia

## Rural Broadband Rollout Phase 2

| | |
|---|---|
| WBIF contribution | €34.1 m |
| **Total investment value** | **€135.6 m** |
| Expected completion | 2028 |

This project extends Serbia's fibre network to rural areas that currently lack broadband access. By improving connectivity and providing training, it creates new economic opportunities and builds digital skills in the country's less developed regions, helping to reduce regional disparities.




Albania

## Broadband Infrastructure Investment

| | |
|---|---|
| WBIF contribution | €36.1 m |
| **Total investment value** | **€111.8 m** |
| Expected completion | 2033 |

This project lays 7,000 km of fibre-optic cable across eight Albanian regions, bringing broadband internet to more than 74,000 households and 858 public institutions. Broadband coverage in rural areas will rise to over 60%, fostering economic growth and bringing Albania closer to European digital targets.