



# **EU-WESTERN BALKANS BOOSTING CONNECTIVIT**

July 2019



Well connected transport, energy and digital networks, both within the region and with the neighbouring EU Member States, are crucial for sustainable economic growth in the Western Balkans and beyond. Improved coonections facilitate regional trade, drive investments and improve everyday life of people in the region.

#### **CONNECTIVITY AGENDA**

In 2015 the European Union launched the Connectivity Agenda to continue reinforcing the economic development of the Western Balkans by improving key transport and energy connections.



That will leverage additional:

And create:





2019 CONNECTIVITY **PACKAGE** 

€195 MILLION TOTAL EU GRANTS



€180 million in EU grants for connectivity projects

## €15 million

Technical assistance and investments to increase road safety and improve border-crossings

## **EXPECTED RESULTS OF 2019 PROJECTS**



Modernisation of a **joint railway border station**, installation of signalling and telecommunications **equipment** on more than 100 km of railway lines benefiting 2 million people living along the routes



Building or upgrading over **30 km of motorways** (including bridges, viaducts, tunnels and underpasses)



Construction of over 100 km electricity transmission line and reconstruction of connected substations



Construction of **68 km of interconnection gas** pipeline

#### Benefits for the citizens



Reduced travel times (e.g 1 hour less between Sarajevo and Zagreb; 1 hour less Pristina and Skopje; 1.5 hours less between Skopje and Niš for freight and 0.5 hour for passengers)



Increased transport safety



Secured and competitive energy supply, improved energy efficiency



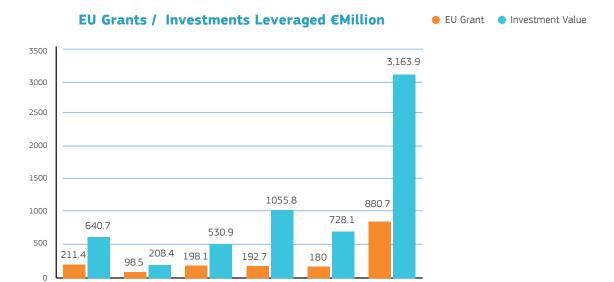
Reduced air pollution, especially in larger and industrially developed cities



Increased trade flows within the Western Balkans and with the EU

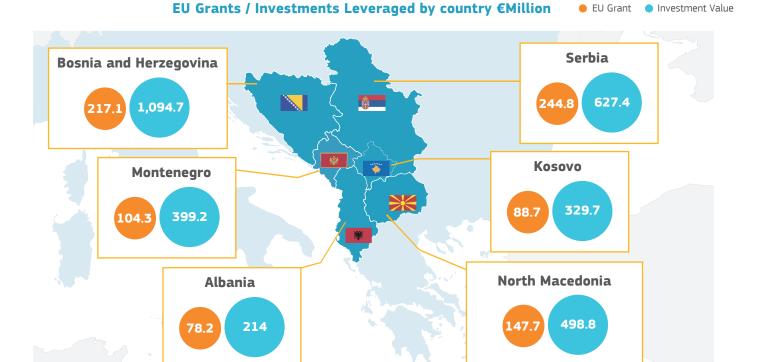


Job creation



2019

TOTAL 2015-2019



2015

2016

2017

2018

