



**G**ood transport solutions bring people closer together and make our everyday life easier. They allow us to get home quicker after work, take the kids to school, visit family and friends, explore what is around us and even receive gifts ordered at the last minute on time. Transport is a critical economic factor that enables companies to trade and boosts competitiveness and prosperity by providing the goods and services that are the foundation of economic life.

Sustainable transport is not only vital to the continued success of mobility, trade and development, but is also centre-stage in any response to the climate crisis. The European Union is expected to be one of the leaders in the fight against climate change and in achieving the Paris Agreement targets. Timely finance for the implementation of climate action is both key to and a challenge for reaching these goals.

Transport generates vast amounts of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and exhaust gases, contributing to climate change and air pollution. While emissions from sectors like construction, electricity production and agriculture are now lower than they were in 1990, transport emissions increased by 33% in the same period ([link](#)). Transport is therefore becoming a key obstacle to decarbonisation in Europe.

Private investors are hesitant to invest in green mobility solutions. Most urban transport systems do not cover their operating and maintenance costs, let alone capital expenses. Upgrading to more environmentally friendly vehicles or building a mass transit system — metro, light rail, bus rapid transit, etc. — requires major investment. Engaging the private sector and optimising the use of scarce public resources to implement sustainable transport projects is crucial to maximising finance for green transport.

To assist this vital transformation process, the EIB Group, as the EU climate bank, is contributing to the necessary acceleration towards sustainable, green transport.



Länsimetro, Finland.

# Sustainable transport

## OVERVIEW

2021

### FACTS AND FIGURES

Since the beginning of its operations in 1958, the EIB has provided long-term finance to support the development of many of the transport networks that have helped the European economy and our societies to thrive and grow closer together.

Today, the EIB Group is playing a significant role in the transformation of mobility and transport: it works to make transport greener, safer and accessible to everyone. To support a green and competitive economy, we aim to accelerate the take-up of sustainable transport solutions by scaling up and attracting private investment and ensuring balanced regional development. In addition to our financing, we also provide technical assistance and advisory support.

New mobility business models and technologies play a crucial role in enabling the transformation of transport towards zero-emission standards. That is why the Bank's focus has broadened in recent years beyond larger infrastructure projects to support for smaller innovative projects. The EIB Group promotes research and development in the area of cutting-edge technologies such as alternative fuels, e-mobility including batteries, fuel cells and charging stations, autonomous driving and artificial intelligence. At the same time, we help Europe's entrepreneurs bring their ideas to market and compete on the global stage.

The share of investments related to climate change mitigation in transport has steadily increased in recent years. In 2020, it was over €8.1 billion. Between 2016 and 2020, the EIB signed finance contracts with a value of €56.5 billion in support of transport, of which €36.7 billion was for climate action. This represents two-thirds of our total transport lending.

**In 2020, the EIB signed new deals totalling €10.3 billion for 68 new transport projects** within the European Union. Alongside investments in more traditional transport infrastructure to develop the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T), we provided financing for metro and tram lines, alternative fuels projects and electric charging networks.

The Bank has invested heavily in sustainable transport both within and beyond the European Union.

#### **Between 2013 and 2019, EIB backing contributed to:**

- the construction or upgrading of over **2 290 km of bus lanes and tram/metro lines;**
- the purchase or renovation of more than **25 303 vehicles or rolling stock units.**



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES

Discover our transport projects through our [stories](#) and read about our [approach](#) and [priorities](#) as well as our wide range of [products](#) to finance transport projects.

### The Cleaner Transport Facility (CTF)

The Cleaner Transport Facility was launched by the EIB and the European Commission in December 2016. The CTF is neither a fund nor a specific financing facility, but rather an initiative to support the deployment of new, cleaner technology in the transport sector by making use of the tools that the EIB and the Commission can offer. The objective of the CTF is to accelerate the deployment of cleaner transport vehicles and help meet their associated infrastructure needs, such as charging and refuelling facilities, with a view to fostering socioeconomic benefits including reduced health costs due to cleaner air and lower noise levels. It builds upon the Commission's strategy for low-emission mobility.

[More information online](#)

### Electric shuttles and taxis, France

Navya is developing and producing autonomous electric shuttles and taxis.

An EIB investment of €30 million under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) will support Navya's spending on research and development, technology development and the scaling-up of production. The EIB investments in Navya will contribute to the creation of a more efficient, safer and sustainable transport system.

[More information online](#)

### Ultra-fast charging stations

The EIB supported Greenway EV's charging network with a €17 million loan, which was needed to increase the number of charging stations in Central and Eastern Europe in order to provide more charging opportunities for the growing number of electric vehicle drivers.

[More information online](#)

### Almotive, Hungary

According to the US Department of Energy, automated vehicles could reduce energy consumption in the transport sector by as much as 90%. With that in mind, the EIB and the Hungarian car technology company Almotive have signed a €20 million loan for investment in research and development in the area of artificial intelligence software for self-driving vehicles.

[More information online](#)

### Bus fleet, Warsaw, Poland

A €95 million EIB loan supported the purchase of approximately 130 low-floor, electric, zero-emission articulated buses and up to 270 low-emission compressed natural gas buses, and the construction of a centrally located bus depot with 280 bus parking spaces, facilities for electric buses and rapid charging stations.

[More information online](#)

### Maritime transport

The EIB has invested hundreds of millions of euros to promote green shipping by supporting companies and technologies that make ships more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. With a €100 million loan from the EIB, the ferry operator Finnlines installed scrubbers on existing ships (retrofit) to filter out sulphur and other harmful particles from exhaust emissions.

[More information online](#)



## RESOURCES

### BLOGS

- **The road goes digital**
- **Energy efficiency: Trams gain traction in Denmark**
- **Green ships on the blue**
- **Croatia builds world's fastest electric car**
- **Las Palmas saves the climate one MetroGuagua at a time**
- **Closer than you think: The future of transport**
- **The path to road safety in Ukraine and its neighbours**
- **Tuk-tuks and metros**
- **Take the Quito Metro to Sustainable Urban Development**

### VIDEOS

- **The EIB invests in mobility**
- **Around the world on a metro with the EIB (including Quito, Athens, Rabat, Lucknow and Rotterdam)**
- **Metz: Priority to public transport**
- **Reshaping Lisbon**
- **Girl Power on the Bangalore Metro**
- **Bangalore metro: ♀ The way ahead for women**
- **Lucknow Metro: The future is now**

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