

EIB healthcare investments in the Western Balkans

Overview



THE EIB IN THE WESTERN BALKANS - KEY FIGURES



INVESTED BETWEEN 2008 AND 2019

- **€365m** invested in healthcare
- Improved healthcare for over **5 million citizens**
- **20 hospitals, 5 clinical centres** refurbished and equipped
- **over 1 000 new hospital beds**
- **€1.7bn** EIB support package for the Western Balkans for **social and economic recovery from COVID-19**, part of a **€3.3bn** support package for the region delivered by the European Commission



MODERN, RESILIENT AND EFFICIENT HEALTHCARE

The European Investment Bank supports the Western Balkans in developing sustainable and high-quality healthcare services. It has invested €365 million in regional healthcare projects since 2008.

The EIB supports the region with affordable, long-term loans, often blended with other EU financial instruments and grants to maximise their impact. The Bank also offers technical advisory assistance, helping clients across the region develop and implement bankable projects in the healthcare sector.

The EIB remains committed to the Western Balkans in COVID-19 times. Modernising and improving the public healthcare sector in the Western Balkans; transforming it into an integrated and resilient system, with improved infrastructure and quality of care, and an optimal financing model; and financing healthcare projects promoting equity of access - these are all important priorities for the EIB.

HEALTHCARE PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Serbia: €200 million invested in modernising, redeveloping and extending Serbia's tertiary hospital services provided by the Clinical Centres of Belgrade, Nis, Novi Sad and Kragujevac. The Clinical Centre Nis, reconstructed under this loan, expanded its capacity to approximately 45 000 m² and added a further 600 hospital beds. More than 2.5 million citizens in Serbia have access to modern healthcare services within this facility, which became a major medical centre in the region and an essential institution for Serbia in the efforts to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.



Serbia: €50 million invested in the rehabilitation of 20 regional hospitals in Serbia, two clinical centres and two institutes, including the Institute of Virology, Vaccine and Sera Torlak, where the EIB supported the modernisation of vaccine production with €3.6 million. Today Torlak is one of the leading institutions in the fight against COVID-19 in Serbia. This investment enabled infrastructure reconstruction and replacement of both medical and non-medical equipment, including kitchen and laundry facilities, generators and ambulances.

Bosnia and Herzegovina: €115 million invested in the reconstruction of the Clinical Centre in Banja Luka. Surgical, intensive, emergency and ambulatory departments were refurbished and equipped. The project also strengthened the education capacities of the university clinic, providing better learning conditions for health-care professionals and students alike. Finally, this EIB investment also enabled the construction of a new 16 000 m² hospital in Bijeljina.

Technical assistance: The EIB helped promoters in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo¹ with their grant applications for the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) and supported their implementation. This technical assistance is key to health systems, as it helps to strengthen and improve their capacity.

PROJECT PIPELINE

Several projects in the healthcare sector are in the pipeline or at the appraisal stage. These could include additional expenditures for total financing of €424.5 million in Bosnia Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo and Montenegro.

“Despite the immense challenges created by the COVID-19 crisis within the EU itself, the European Union has shown its unwavering support for its partner countries and its commitment to international cooperation and coordination. The huge needs in the region can only be addressed by a team effort. The EIB looks forward to contributing to the Western Balkans Investment Framework and the forthcoming Economic and Investment Plan for Recovery.”

Werner Hoyer, President, EIB

1. This designation is without prejudice to the positions expressed by the EU Member States on Kosovo's status and is in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1244/1999 and the International Court of Justice Opinion of 22 July 2010 on Kosovo's declaration of independence.



European Investment Bank

98-100, boulevard Konrad Adenauer

L-2950 Luxembourg

☎ +352 4379-1

www.eib.org – ✉ info@eib.org

🐦 twitter.com/EIB

📘 facebook.com/EuropeanInvestmentBank

📺 youtube.com/EIBtheEUBank

www.eib.org/western-balkans

Miguel Morgado

Director, Lending Operations

Adriatic Sea Department

☎ +352 4379-86446

✉ m.morgado@eib.org

Matteo Rivellini

Head of Division, Lending Operations

Western Balkans, Slovenia and Croatia

☎ +352 4379-88417

✉ m.rivellini@eib.org

Marco Santarelli

Press Contact, Senior Press Officer

☎ +39 064 719 1

✉ m.santarelli@eib.org

Gordana Kovačević

Press Contact

☎ +352 4379-70356

✉ g.kovacevic@ext.eib.org

Dubravka Nègre

Head of EIB Regional Representation for the Western Balkans

Regional Representation for the Western Balkans

Vladimira Popovića 38-40

11070 Beograd

☎ +381 113 121 756

✉ d.negre@eib.org

Sandrine Friscia

EIB Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro

Delegation of the European Union to BiH, Skenderija 3a

71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

☎ +387 33 254 792

✉ s.friscia@eib.org

Alessandro Bragonzi

EIB Representative for Albania, North Macedonia and Kosovo*

Delegation of the European Union to Albania

ABA Business Centre, 17th floor

Rruga Papa Gjon Pali II

Tirana, Albania

☎ +352 4379-83066

✉ a.bragonzi@eib.org

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