# The Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative



Gerassimos Thomas

Director

Finance, coordination with EIB Group, EBRD and IFIs

Directorate General Economic and Financial Affairs

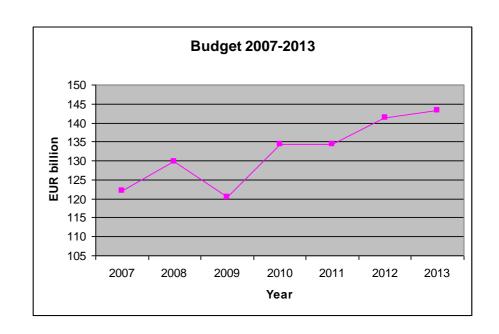
Brussels 11 April 2011



## Multiannual Financial Framework post 2014

#### **EU Budget 2007-2013**

- > total € 976 bn approx. 130bn p.a.
- In total €2.85 bn deployed through financial instruments at EU level and €10.8 bn at structural funds level
- ➤ Financial instruments to support SMEs and Innovation developed for over 10 years [CIP/RSFF]
  - ➤TEN-T, TEN-E and broadband infrastructure support: € 8.5 bn mainly through grants
     except: €500 mil through LGTT & €80 mil through Marguerite





## Multiannual Financial Framework post 2014

- ➤ Focus on Europe's 2020 Strategy: towards a smart, sustainable and inclusive Union
- Commission's Budget Review: "Financial instruments to be extended to become the norm in areas of long-term commercial potential"
- Financial Regulation Review: recognise spending on financial instruments as different from grants and services.
  - Leverage private finance via financial instruments and PPPs
  - Build on EU-EIB cooperation
- Commission's proposal 28 June 2011

Final decision: European Parliament and European Council



### Europe 2020: A new vision for infrastructure

- Avoid segmentation and deal with all EU priority infrastructures through One Instrument for Infrastructure
- Focus on core networks at EU level; support comprehensive networks at national level through via structural funds co-financing.
- Support ICT as an enabling technology

#### ... and a huge challenge

- Total investment needs across all sectors for 2011-2020 in the order of € 1.5-2 trillion (€150-200 bn p.a.)
- Currently Market provides € 60-80 bn p.a. mainly in the form of equity and bank loans
- Since 2000 approximately € 100 bn of infrastructure has been bondfinanced



## Single European Transport: White paper (2011)

- New funding framework for transport infrastructure
  - Improve conditions for PPPs
  - Enhance private sector engagement
  - Shift balance from grants to innovative financial instruments
  - Integrate the use of direct revenue sources
- Completion of core TEN-T network: EUR 550 bn by 2020
- Reinforce links with wider comprehensive network through structural funds



## Energy Infrastructure Priorities – Blueprint (2010)

- ➤ The Energy 2020 goals
  - Complete Internal Market and interconnections
  - Priority sectors and projects: Electricity and gas transmission
- > Financing
  - Financing needs of€ 1 trillion (€ 200 bn for transmission)
  - Financing gaps of ~ € 100 bn for transmission



## Digital Agenda (2010)

- Broadband network infrastructure targets
  - Broadband for all EU citizens by 2013
  - Access for all Europeans to internet of above 30Mbps by 2020
  - Access for more than half of European households above 100Mbps
- ➤ Investment volume EUR 40 bn to EUR 270 bn depending on the above scenarios
- > Pan-European digital service infrastructure



## Sources of financing

### **Public budgets:**

➤ Traditionally the largest share of infrastructure financing; but severely constrained post financial crisis

#### **Banking sector:**

➤ Traditionally 2<sup>nd</sup> most important source of financing; but volume of loans dropped during crisis and banks facing structural challenges in lending policies due to crisis and new regulatory framework

### **Capital markets:**

- ➤ Monoline-wrapped bond market; but has practically ceased to exist
- ➤ But certain institutional investors such as pension funds, insurers looking for long-dated bonds with link to real assets to match liabilities.



## Matching supply and demand?

- Hugh infrastructure investment needed in sustainable transport, energy and ICT
- Bond financing could complement traditional financing sources: grants, equity, loans

Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative estimated targets:

- ➤ Initially enhance € 1-5 bn p.a.
- Rising to € 10-20 bn p.a. by 2020
- Plus catalytic effect from pooling together private sector operators and capital market investors around new structures

