EU BUDGET FOR THE FUTURE
#EUBudget #EUroad2Sibiu #FutureofEurope

THE CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF)

THE CHALLENGE

High-performance infrastructure in the transport, energy and digital sectors is essential to a well-connected and integrated Union, where European citizens and businesses can fully benefit from free movement and the single market. Trans-European networks are also strategic to implement the Energy Union, the Digital Single Market and to the development of sustainable transport modes.

However, without EU support, private operators and national authorities have insufficient incentives to carry out large infrastructure projects with a cross-border impact and to roll-out European-wide interoperable systems and services.

For this purpose, the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) supports projects with high added-value at European scale and helps leverage further investment from other sources, in synergy and complementarity with InvestEU and other Union programmes.

ADVANCING CROSS-BORDER PROJECTS

With a proposed budget of €42.3 billion for seven years (2021-2027), CEF will support infrastructure projects connecting the EU and its regions. It will also aim to better integrate the transport, energy and digital sectors, in order to accelerate the digitalisation and decarbonisation of the EU’s economy.

In particular, 60% of the CEF budget will contribute to climate objectives in line with the EU’s commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Building on the success of the previous programming period (2014-2020), CEF will also continue to bridge the investment gap in Europe and to generate jobs and economic growth.

Lastly, the facility will provide the opportunity to deploy technologies developed through the EU R&I programmes, boosting their market uptake and ensuring the trans-European networks are equipped with advanced technology.
**TRANSPORT**

With a total budget of **€30.6 billion**, CEF will finance strategic transport projects in order to:

- Advance the work on the European transport network, while helping the EU transition towards **connected, sustainable, inclusive, safe and secure mobility**.
- **Decarbonise transport**, e.g. by creating a European network of charging infrastructure for alternative fuels and by prioritising of environmentally friendly transport modes.
- Invest in transport projects offering high-added value in cohesion countries, with a dedicated budget of **€11.3 billion**.
- Adapt sections of the transport network for **civilian-military dual-use** (for instance as regards technical requirements on dimensions and capacity) with a dedicated budget of **€6.5 billion** in the context of the European Defence Initiative.

**ENERGY**

With a budget of **€8.7 billion**, CEF will help **complete the Energy Union** and support Europe’s **clean energy transition** following the **Clean Energy for all Europeans** package, in order to:

- Make the EU’s energy systems better **interconnected** and more resilient to possible supply disruptions, as well as **smarter** and more **digitalised**.
- Foster for the first time Member State cooperation on cross-border renewable energy technology projects - ensuring a **lower cost for renewables integration** and enabling the strategic uptake of **renewables technologies**.
- Back key trans-European energy network **infrastructures**, allowing for further **integration of the internal energy market**, boosting **interoperability** of networks across borders and sectors, and facilitating the overall **decarbonisation** of our economy.

**DIGITAL**

With a budget of **€3 billion**, the digital strand of CEF finances **digital connectivity** infrastructure like:

- Set up very high capacity **broadband networks**, the physical infrastructure necessary to enable the deployment of **digital services** and more generally the digital transformation of society and economy.
- Support key projects aligned with the 2016 Gigabit Society Strategy and essential for the success of the **Digital Single Market**, providing Gigabit connectivity for socio-drivers, such as hospitals, medical centres, schools and research centres or deploying **5G networks** along major transport paths.
- Provide very high quality **wireless connectivity** to local communities, such as municipalities and provide an important contribution to connecting communities and all households throughout the EU with very high capacity networks.