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 connections 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:
- **€1 BILLION** from EU pre-accession funds (2015-2020)
- **€4 billion** in investments
- **45,000 jobs** in the region

And create:
- **€180 million** in EU grants for connectivity projects
- **€15 million** Technical assistance and investments to increase road safety and improve border-crossings

**2019 CONNECTIVITY PACKAGE**

**€195 MILLION**

**TOTAL EU GRANTS**

**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
USING EU GRANTS THROUGH THE WESTERN BALKANS INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK TO BOOST INVESTMENTS 2015-2019

EU Grants / Investments Leveraged €Million

EU Grants / Sector & Year €Million

EU Grants / Investments Leveraged by country €Million