Examples of green investment activities eligible under EIB Group's intermediated finance products

The list below provides **examples** of the type of investment activities that may contribute to the EIB's climate action and environmental sustainability objectives. In the **EIB's intermediated finance products** (multi-beneficiary intermediated loans, risk sharing products and similar) the **financial intermediary** can make a contractual commitment to allocate EIB funds to investments and activities contributing to climate action and environmental sustainability objectives, **under a so-called "green window"**.

The green window criteria and conditions are aligned with the Technical Screening Criteria for substantial contribution to one of the environmental objectives under the **EU Taxonomy for sustainable finance** or the EIB's interpretation and internal guidance on the application thereof, or, where the EU Taxonomy does not cover a sector, on the joint multilateral development bank methodology for tracking climate change mitigation finance.

More detailed criteria and conditions, reporting and verification requirements apply under the green window and are laid out in the contractual agreements between the EIB and the financial intermediaries.

The EIB Group Green Checker (https://greenchecker.eib-group.org/) also provides support in identifying whether an investment or an activity is eligible under the green window (**EIB Green**).

The **EIB Green** criteria are regularly updated to consider the insights gained from the practical application of this approach, the development of new financing instruments, and further developments in the EU Taxonomy.

ENERGY SECTOR

- Renewable energy projects such as solar power, wind energy or bioenergy projects;
- Electric heat pumps;
- Projects promoting the use of waste heat (e.g. waste heat recovery systems);
- Electricity storage facilities (large-scale storage facilities (e.g. pumped storage plants, large-scale battery storage) and small-scale storage facilities (e.g. commercial storage facilities, home storage units and back-charging electric vehicles);
- Thermal storage facilities.

MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Industrial **energy efficiency improvements** related to refurbishment and modernisation of existing production facilities, equipment, appliances, systems or processes in **manufacturing sectors, such as:**
    - replacement of lighting, installation of heat pumps, efficient ventilation, thermal insulation etc;
    - modernisation of production lines, appliances, equipment, systems or processes;
    - electric motor and compressor replacement, installation of electric heat pumps for process heat;
- **Replacement** of equipment or processes based on fossil fuels with electrical equipment or process components in **manufacturing sectors** such as electromagnetic heating technologies, electric boilers, electric furnaces, electric forklifts; or purchase of **new electric equipment** in **sectors** where electrification is relatively rare such as in construction equipment or rough terrain forklift trucks;
- **Manufacture** of **green technologies** including:
    - Manufacture of **technologies related to biodiversity**, such as biopesticides, biocatalysts, plant's biotechnological solutions to replace existing agrochemicals, systems to combat wildlife trade and poaching etc.;
    - Manufacture and installation/assembly of **renewable energy technologies** including for wind energy, solar energy, ocean energy, geothermal energy, ambient energy, hydropower, biogas, biomass, landfill gas, sewage treatment plant gas;
    - Manufacture, repair, maintenance, retrofit, repurpose or upgrade of **low carbon technologies for transport**, such as electric bicycles, electric scooters, electric vehicles and other electric mobile assets used for transport;
    - Manufacture and repair of **electric vehicle charging stations**;
    - Manufacture of **energy efficiency equipment for buildings** such as windows, insulating products, household appliances, light sources, space heating and domestic hot water systems if compliant with minimum technical performance standards/thresholds;
- **Manufacturing** activities supporting a **circular economy** including:
    - Manufacture of **plastic packaging goods designed for reuse or recycling;**
    - Manufacture of **electrical and electronic equipment designed for longevity and reuse, remanufacturing, easy dismantling, and recycling of components and materials**.

BUILDINGS

- Construction of new buildings achieving **energy standards at least 10% better than NZEB requirements**;

- **Renovation of existing buildings** leading to the major renovation standard or achieving primary energy savings of at least 30% in comparison to the baseline performance of the building before the renovation;

- **Individual building renovation measures** complying with national energy standards implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and achieve international or best local construction standards, such as:

    - Thermal insulation of building envelopes;
    - Replacement of existing windows and external doors with new energy efficient ones;
    - Installation and upgrade of heat pumps;
    - Installation of thermal or electric energy storage units;
    - Installation of charging stations for electric vehicles;
    - Replacement of inefficient boilers or stoves with highly efficient gas condensing boilers or boilers fed from renewable energy sources;
    - Installation and upgrade of heat pumps;
    - Rooftop solar photovoltaic systems;

- Professional **services related to energy performance of buildings**, for example:
    - energy consultations, energy simulations, project management, dedicated trainings linked to the improvement of energy performance of buildings;
    - accredited energy audits and building performance assessments;
    - energy management services;
    - energy performance contracts;
    - energy services provided by energy service companies (ESCOs).

- Implementing **nature-based solutions** for the protection, restoration, or sustainable management of biodiversity and achievement of nature co-benefits, for example green roofs or walls.

AGRICULTURE, LAND USE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

- Production of biomass, biogas, bioliquids and biofuels, for biomaterials or bio-energy industry;

- Machinery and practices leading to substantial energy savings by decreasing the average specific energy consumption by at least 10%, such as:
    - Irrigation pump replacement;
    - Renovation or upgrading of fruit and vegetable harvesting or storage;
    - Tractor and harvester replacement;

- Heating system replacement in greenhouses (from fossil fuels to renewable energy-based greenhouse heating systems);

- Investments that contribute to increasing the carbon stock in the soil or avoiding loss of soil carbon through erosion control measures, such as:
  - Purchase of machinery, investments in plantations and infrastructure to support erosion control;
  - Reduced tillage practices;
  - Conversion of arable land into perennial crops;
  - Permanent land use changes from arable to meadow or orchards;
  - Renewal of existing orchard by replacing old with new;

- Production of proteins/other food ingredients with lower carbon footprint, made from more sustainable and/or innovative sources or production systems such as algae or insects;

- Production of biomaterials that substitute more carbon-intensive equivalent materials / products such as:
  - production of asphalt from lignin;
  - production of biomass products (e.g. paper) replacing plastics;
  - other biomass materials (e.g. wood-based products) replacing energy-intensive materials (e.g. concrete, steel);

- Planting of trees and establishment of green areas on previously non-vegetated land in urban areas;

- Investments in new and existing sustainable and/or organically **certified** primary crop or animal production or aquaculture;

- Investments in afforestation, reforestation, forest rehabilitation/restoration and sustainable forest management activities conducted by **certified** operators or in supporting business to convert to a **sustainable certified production**;

- Investment in existing sustainably **certified** fishing activities or in support of conversion to sustainable certified production, such as:
  - Costs incurred as part of the certification process;
  - Equipment to upgrade (or recycle) waste and by-catch;
  - Equipment / gear to enable data acquisition for the production or improvement of sustainable harvest plans;
  - Technology investments improving traceability, reducing bycatch, improving security;

- Investments in projects that ensure **efficient and sustainable water use**, for example:
  - New irrigation systems (furrow, sprinklers, and drip);
  - Improved conveyance systems (lining of canals, covering canals, installing pipes etc.);
  - Implementation of computerized scheduling and moisture measurement;
  - Enhancement of rainwater capture and water reuse (e.g. rainwater harvesting from roofing and paved surfaces and storage);

- Investments aiming at preventing or reducing direct emissions of pollutants to air, water and land through the implementation of processes, actions or technologies, for example:
  - Investments in machinery to facilitate incorporation of artificial / organic fertiliser sources

to perennial crops to reduce volatilization;
- Investments in fertigation systems;
- Investments in machinery to facilitate acidification of liquid livestock manures (slurry) during the application process to minimise ammonia volatilization.

TRANSPORT

- Investments in electric or plug-in passenger vehicles / cars, light-duty vehicles / vans and heavy-duty vehicles / trucks;
- Electric buses and coaches, trains, motorbikes;
- Zero and low-emission water vessels and vessel retrofitting, as related to sea and inland freight and passenger transport;
- Infrastructure enabling low carbon road, public, rail or water transport for example:
  - Electric charging points;
  - Hydrogen fuelling stations;
  - Electricity grid connection upgrades;
  - Electric road systems (ERS);
  - Electrified trackside infrastructure and associated subsystems.

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

- Anaerobic digestion treatment in new or existing wastewater treatment plants (domestic or industrial);
- Extension or rehabilitation of existing anaerobic digestion facilities treating sewerage sludge;
- Centralised or regional sludge facilities where the main process is the anaerobic digestion.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Investments in **anaerobic digestion of bio-waste** and composting of bio-waste;
- Investments supporting the collection and transport of non-hazardous waste in source segregated streams which will be directed to preparing for reuse or recycling facilities, including:
  - waste collection equipment, e.g. bins and containers (including underground systems), waste collection and transport vehicles;
  - supporting technological equipment and ICT applications, e.g. for collection route optimisation, pay-as-you-throw schemes;
  - supporting infrastructure for waste collection, temporary storage, bulking and transfer (e.g. civic amenity centres for waste collection, waste transfer stations); and/or

- supporting infrastructure for collection / transport vehicle fleets (vehicle depots and ancillary facilities including washing and repair, refuelling / reloading);

- Investments in facilities for the sorting and processing of separately collected non-hazardous waste streams into secondary raw materials.

TOURISM

- **Certified eco-system-based tourism activities**, for example:
  - nature-based tourism activities and different ecosystems (e.g. agroecosystem, aquatic ecosystems, coral reef, desert, forest, littoral zone, marine ecosystem, prairie, rainforest, savanna, steppe, taiga, tundra, urban ecosystem and others);
  - community-based ecotourism;
  - birdwatching;
  - viewing or volunteering with wildlife.

SERVICES SUPPORTING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- **Sale of second-hand goods;**

- Repairing, refurbishing or remanufacturing goods for example, books, clothing, appliances, electronics, etc.;

- Development and operation of marketplaces for the trade (sale or exchange) of second-hand products, materials or components for reuse.

INVESTMENTS SUPPORTING ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

- Measures enabling adaptation to **climate hazards** related to **water availability, water stress** or **drought** in **agriculture**, such as:
  - Drought tolerant crops;
  - Adapted, rare, new or improved breeding development;
  - Crop storage, construction, expansion or modernisation of silos and warehouses for food storage, cold storage and cold transport facilities in heat stressed regions;
  - Efficient irrigation technologies using sprinkler, drip or other high efficient drip systems at the on-farm level or pressurized efficient systems at the upstream level, as well as other on-farm irrigation equipment leading to water savings;

- Measures enabling adaptation to **climate hazards** related to **flood** or **extreme rainfall events, landslides, storm surges** or **coastal erosion**, such as:
  - Green rural spaces and green measures that enhance infiltration and slow down run-off;
  - Rural drainage systems providing extended retention time;
  - On-farm establishment, modernization (efficiency) or expansion of a drainage network;
  - On-farm modernization or expansion of water control structures and equipment;

- Measures enabling adaptation to acute **climate hazards** related to **heat waves** or **heat,** such as:
  - temperature regulation for livestock;
  - digital or other applications related to the above;

- planting trees in urban and rural environments providing shade thereby reducing heat stress;

- Measures enabling adaptation to acute climate hazards related to **soil erosion, land degradation** or **desertification,** such as:
  - High precision laser land levelling;
  - Terracing;
  - Soil conversion measures;
  - Reduced-till farming.