GREEN GATEWAY

Advice for financial institutions

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 debt products** (multi-beneficiary intermediated loans 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 **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 Green Eligibility Checker (https://greengateway.eib.org/checker) 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.

Renewable energy generation

- All types of solar power projects.
- All types of wind power projects.
- Electricity generation and heating and cooling facilities from biomass, biogas and biofuels.
- Electric heat pumps.
- Projects promoting heating and cooling production from waste heat.

Energy efficiency

- Rehabilitation and extension of existing or construction of new district heating or cooling networks.
- Construction of new buildings with an energy threshold 10% lower than the threshold set for the national near-zero energy building (NZEB) requirements (with additional requirements for buildings above 5,000 m2).
- Energy efficiency refurbishments in existing buildings, for example:
  - 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.
- Energy efficiency improvements in existing industrial facilities or small and medium-sized enterprises, for example:
  - Replacement of lighting, heat pumps, ventilation systems, electric motors, compressors, forklifts and others.

Other energy projects

- Production of electricity, heat, mechanical energy or cooling using low-carbon hydrogen.
- Batteries or other power-storage mechanisms.
- Electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure or equipment in systems that are on a trajectory to full decarbonisation.

Agriculture and bioeconomy

- Activities and investments that substantially reduce energy consumption in existing operations, for example:
  - Modernisation of existing irrigation networks or systems.
  - Renovation or upgrading of fruit and vegetable harvesting or storage.
  - Upgrade or modernisation of processing equipment.
- Replacement of self-propelled or traction agricultural (farm or forest) machinery with more efficient alternatives (heavy and light duty), including tractors and harvesters.
- Investments resulting in decreased resource input requirements or substantial reduced losses or waste benefits as a result of the new process or technology.
- Investments improving or maintaining existing carbon pools, for example:
  - Changes in cropping patterns on agricultural land from arable to perennial crops.
  - Permanent land use changes from arable to meadow.
  - Renewal of existing orchards by replacing old with new.
- Investments in improved manure treatment, application, and storage systems.
  - Roofing or sealed storage of liquid manure and slurry.
  - Slurry or (solid) manure spreader placement below surface foliage, using trailing hoses or shoes, for example.
  - Manure management with biodigesters.
- Investments in afforestation, reforestation and sustainable forest management activities.
  - Investment in forest equipment (cable carts, hauling and logging technologies) supporting afforestation, reforestation and sustainable forest management activities.
  - Sustainable forest activities need to increase carbon stocks or reduce the impact of forestry activities. Establishment or reconversion of agro-forestry systems.
- Production of bioenergy and bio-based products and materials.
  - Activities demonstrating substantial CO_2 emissions avoided, evidenced by a life cycle assessment.

Transport

- Zero or direct emission land transport activities such as buses, underground and above-ground rail rapid transit, tramways, light rail, metros, rail, urban ferries, non-motorised transport such as bicycles and pedestrian mobility, including bicycle lanes and bike-sharing schemes, and other equipment and IT systems for improved urban public transport and mass transit connectivity.
- Zero direct emission transport infrastructure (such as railways, electric charging points, electricity grid connection upgrades, hydrogen fuelling stations or electric highways, or others).
- Zero or low-emission waterborne transport (infrastructure and equipment) — passenger and freight transport.
- Zero or low-carbon passenger vehicles, light commercial vehicles and vans and heavy-duty commercial and industrial fleets.
- Electric vehicles and hydrogen vehicles, charging stations and related infrastructure.

Solid waste collection, transport and treatment

- Zero or low-emission vehicles, equipment and dedicated infrastructure for separate collection, transfer and transport of source-segregated recyclable materials and bio-waste.
- Bio-waste composting facilities.
- Bio-waste anaerobic digestion facilities.
- Facilities for mechanical sorting, recovery, processing and refinement of recyclable waste and (industrial) by-products.
- Material recovery facilities for non-hazardous waste.
- Landfill gas recovery systems, including gas collection, treatment and energy recovery (CHP) systems.

Water and wastewater

- Rehabilitation or improvement of water supply systems and water treatment plants.
- New or extended energy-efficient water supply systems.
- New or extended wastewater treatment plants and sewerage networks.
- Rehabilitation of wastewater treatment plants and sewerage networks.
- Anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge treatment.

Manufacturing of low-carbon technologies

- Manufacture of renewable energy technologies.
  - Manufacture of products, key components and machinery that are essential for eligible renewable energy technologies.
- Manufacture of biomass, biogas and biofuels.
  - Produced from advanced feedstock.
- Manufacture of low-carbon building technologies.
  - Installation of building management systems.
  - High-efficiency windows and doors.
  - Hot water fittings.
  - Façade and roofing elements with a solar shading or solar control function.
- Manufacture of low-carbon transport technologies.
  - Zero or low-emission passenger cars, vans, buses, trucks, vessels and light commercial vehicles (LCVs).
- Manufacture of other low-carbon technologies and their key components that result in substantial greenhouse gas emission reductions.

Climate change adaptation investments

- Investments increasing climate resilience in agriculture, for example:
  - Drought-tolerant crops or new crop varieties.
  - Aeroponic crop production.
  - Digital or other applications for weather and hydrological monitoring and forecasting.
  - Pressurised irrigation technologies using sprinklers, drip or other highly efficient drip systems.
- Investments increasing the resilience of water resources or water availability, for example:
  - Water storage and harvesting technologies.
  - Water-saving technologies (smart water meters, pressure control technologies).
- Investments that increase resilience of coastal infrastructure, for example:
  - Improved prediction of storm surges and hurricanes, typhoons or cyclones.
  - Early warning systems to reduce flood risks.
- Investments in communication technologies for dissemination of weather and climate-related information.

Other environmental investments

- Investments contributing to biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, for example:
  - Sustainable and/or organic primary crop, animal or aquaculture production.
  - Investments in promoting eco-tourism-based activities developed in modified or degraded ecosystems and natural habitats that are under a conservation or restoration programme or plan.
  - Manufacturing of biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation-related technologies and products, such as biopesticides, biocatalysts, plant-based biotechnological solutions to replace existing agrochemicals, or sustainable and cost-efficient alternatives to tropical hardwood.
- Investments in technologies or products (including manufacturing) contributing to pollution prevention and control resulting in a substantial reduction of pollutants, for example through significantly reducing and phasing out pesticides and artificial fertilisers, improving air quality, and reducing noise and contamination.
- Investments aimed at protecting water and ensuring its efficient and sustainable use, for example:
  - Processes and technologies that allow for a reduction in freshwater use and improved water efficiency.
  - Processes and technologies that allow for the reuse of water through wastewater treatments.
- Circular economy investments, for example:
  - Investments in product-as-a-service, reuse and sharing models that enable circular economy strategies. This can be based, among other things, on leasing, pay-per-use, subscription or deposit return schemes.
  - Activities and investments dedicated to putting back redundant or end-of-life products to their original use or, in the event they have outlived their original purpose, to adaptive reuse via repurposing.
  - Investments in processes that enable the transition towards circular models and strategies in existing industrial manufacturing and production facilities, and agriculture.

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