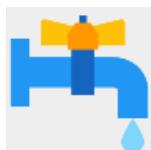


Summaries of the first 12

Guarantee Tools

proposed under the

European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) Guarantee



Guarantee Tools for Investment

A quick introduction

About the External Investment Plan

The External Investment Plan (EIP) is a new EU initiative launched in 2017. It is designed to attract more investment, in particular from businesses and private investors in countries near the EU ('EU Neighbourhood') and in Africa.

The EIP uses public money to lower the risk of investing in key sectors like sustainable energy or lending to small businesses.

By doing so it aims to:

- create jobs
- support entrepreneurs and enable economies to grow
- help tackle some of the reasons why people leave their countries of origin (migration).

The EIP has three parts:

1. Financing - the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD)

This part leverages much more public and private investment in target countries than would otherwise be possible. It comprises:

- a financial guarantee and
- blending instruments.

2. Expertise

This part provides so-called technical assistance - expert help to enable :

- investors and businesses to develop so-called 'bankable' projects,

- governments to improve the rules and regulations around investment and doing business.

3. Dialogue - improving the investment climate

This part of the EIP focuses on improving the business environment and investment climate in partner countries, through regular dialogue with governments, businesses and civil society.



About the EFSD Guarantee

The Guarantee is a key new feature of the EIP, and is designed to mobilise private investment.

Worth €1.5 billion, the Guarantee can:

- attract financing for some of the initial capital ('equity' or 'risk capital') a project needs to get off the ground
- serve as a pledge (guarantee) to pay back part or all of a loan if a borrower incurs losses and defaults on it.

About financial institutions (FIs)

To deliver the Plan, the European Commission is working with publicly-owned institutions that finance and manage development projects in countries outside the EU.



These include:

- national financial institutions in EU countries
- international development banks.

How the EU works with FIs

The EU channels risk capital or offers guarantees through these institutions.

They have proposed investment programmes to pass on the benefits of the Guarantee to end-borrowers and finance projects together with:

- private investors and companies
- local banks in partner countries
- institutional investors.

The investment programmes focus on specific areas, such as loans for small firms, agriculture, or renewable energy.

The Commission charges financial institutions a fee for the guarantee, which will go back into the guarantee fund. The guarantee conditions are very attractive in least-developed and fragile countries.

The first 12 guarantee tools for investments

An EIP Operational Board comprises representatives of EU Member States. On 20 June 2018 it assessed the guarantee tools and gave a positive opinion.

A Strategic Board guides the progress of the EIP. It comprises representatives of:

- the governments of EU countries
- the European Commission
- the EU High Representative
- the European Investment Bank.

On 10 July 2018, the Strategic Board was informed about the first EFSD guarantee tools which have been selected.

As a next step, the Commission will negotiate guarantee agreements with financial institutions.

This document:

- summarises each guarantee tool
- lists the basic criteria you need to meet to be eligible for funding
- gives contact details to find out more.

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European Commission
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<https://ec.europa.eu/external-investment-plan>



EFSD Guarantee
Priority Area

**Financing for
micro-, small and
medium-sized
enterprises
(MSMEs), including
agriculture**

NASIRA Risk-Sharing Facility

Financing for underserved and displaced entrepreneurs



Key info

Lead financial institution:	FMO (The Dutch Development Bank)
EFSI Guarantee:	Up to €75 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €8 m
Total investment expected:	€500-1,000 m
Contact:	TBC



What will it do?

NASIRA will address the high risks, both perceived and real, involved in lending to under-served entrepreneurs in countries neighbouring the EU and in Sub-Saharan Africa, many of whom have been forced to flee their homes. It will give them access to investment loans by offering local financial institutions, such as banks and microfinance institutions, portfolio guarantees containing loans to entrepreneurs.

FMO will also provide technical assistance to financial intermediaries, such as local banks, and to those taking out loans ('end-borrowers').



Who'll benefit? How?

The guarantee tool will benefit a wide cross-section of society that currently has difficulty borrowing money at affordable rates. It will focus on:

- people who have been forced to flee to other parts of their countries (internally displaced people) or leave their countries altogether (refugees)
- those who had fled but have recently returned (returnees)
- women and young people aged 18 to 30.

Entrepreneurs will be able to set up a business more easily, or expand the small firms which they already run.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	All sectors
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Portfolio guarantees Debt
How do I access support?	Indirectly through local banks, microfinance institutions and other non-banking financial institutions, directly via FMO

African Local Currency Bond Guarantee Programme (ALCBGP)

Developing local currency capital markets in Africa



Key info

Lead financial institution:	KfW (Germany)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €100 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €2 m
Total investment expected:	€1 bn
Contact:	Vitalis Ritter Vitalis.Ritter@kfw.de



What will it do?

The ALCB Fund will use the EFSD Guarantee to make investments in local currency bonds issued in African countries primarily by local financial institutions, utility companies, or state-owned enterprises (SoEs). Local banks and other financial institutions, companies or “special purpose vehicles” set up to finance public-private partnerships will facilitate this. Issuing such bonds will in turn help to develop capital markets. Local currency financing is often costly or unavailable in developing countries. This forces entrepreneurs and governments to borrow in hard currency, such as euros or US dollars. The resulting foreign exchange risk can lead to high costs and even bankruptcies, resulting in economic crises and hardship for people.

The EFSD will help to:

- enable investors' lending to the ALCB Fund in local currency
- balance the ALCB Fund's exposure to a certain country (and/or currency)
- mitigate risk by offering local bond investors a first-loss credit enhancement, making credit analysis easier.

The ALCB Fund will also offer technical assistance to bond issuers, central banks, stock exchanges and other local financial authorities.



Who'll benefit? How?

The ALCB Fund will directly benefit people looking to set up or expand small businesses (MSMEs), and individuals and families on lower incomes who currently have little or no access to financial services like bank loans. Thanks to the contribution of the EFSD Guarantee, the Fund will enable bond issuers to provide financial services for, or direct investments in:

- renewable energy and energy efficiency
- agriculture
- waste management and other urban infrastructure
- healthcare and education
- low-income housing
- leasing.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	MSMs active in the sectors listed above
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt
How do I access support?	Directly through the ALCB Fund and KfW

InclusiFI

Financial inclusion driven by diasporas



Key info

Lead financial institutions:	AECID (Spain) COFIDES (Spain) CDP (Italy)
EFSD Guarantee:	To be determined
Technical Assistance:	Up to €11 m
Total investment expected:	To be determined
Contact:	Fernando Jiménez-Ontiveros (AECID) eip@aecid.es Martina Colombo (CDP) teamdevco@cdp.it



What will it do?

The guarantee tool aims to:

- enable up to 13,000 small businesses and households to access new financial products, such as mobile accounts and long-term credit for capital expenditures, saving and protection programmes, or to receive lower-cost remittances
- foster partnerships between financial institutions, and financial technology and telecoms companies to offer financial technology (fintech) solutions
- encourage diaspora organizations in the EU to pool investment to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in their regions of origin
- encourage local financial institutions to offer more access to affordable financial services, including remittances reception and new credits linked to diaspora investments.



Who'll benefit? How?

InclusiFI will:

- enable people in African and EU Neighbourhood states with family and friends overseas (diaspora communities) to receive money from them more easily and affordably
- help to attract investment from diasporas in small businesses in their countries of origin, thanks to a risk-sharing mechanism which the EFSD Guarantee provides
- encourage investment in businesses set up by migrants' families and migrants who have recently returned to their country of origin (returnees)
- incentivise local finance institutions (mainly banks, guarantee funds, microfinance institutions) to offer specific and innovative products to micro and small businesses and entrepreneurs.

The guarantee tool will benefit in particular the poorer sections of society, by narrowing income inequality, creating jobs, and making it easier for women and young people running micro- and small businesses to access finance.

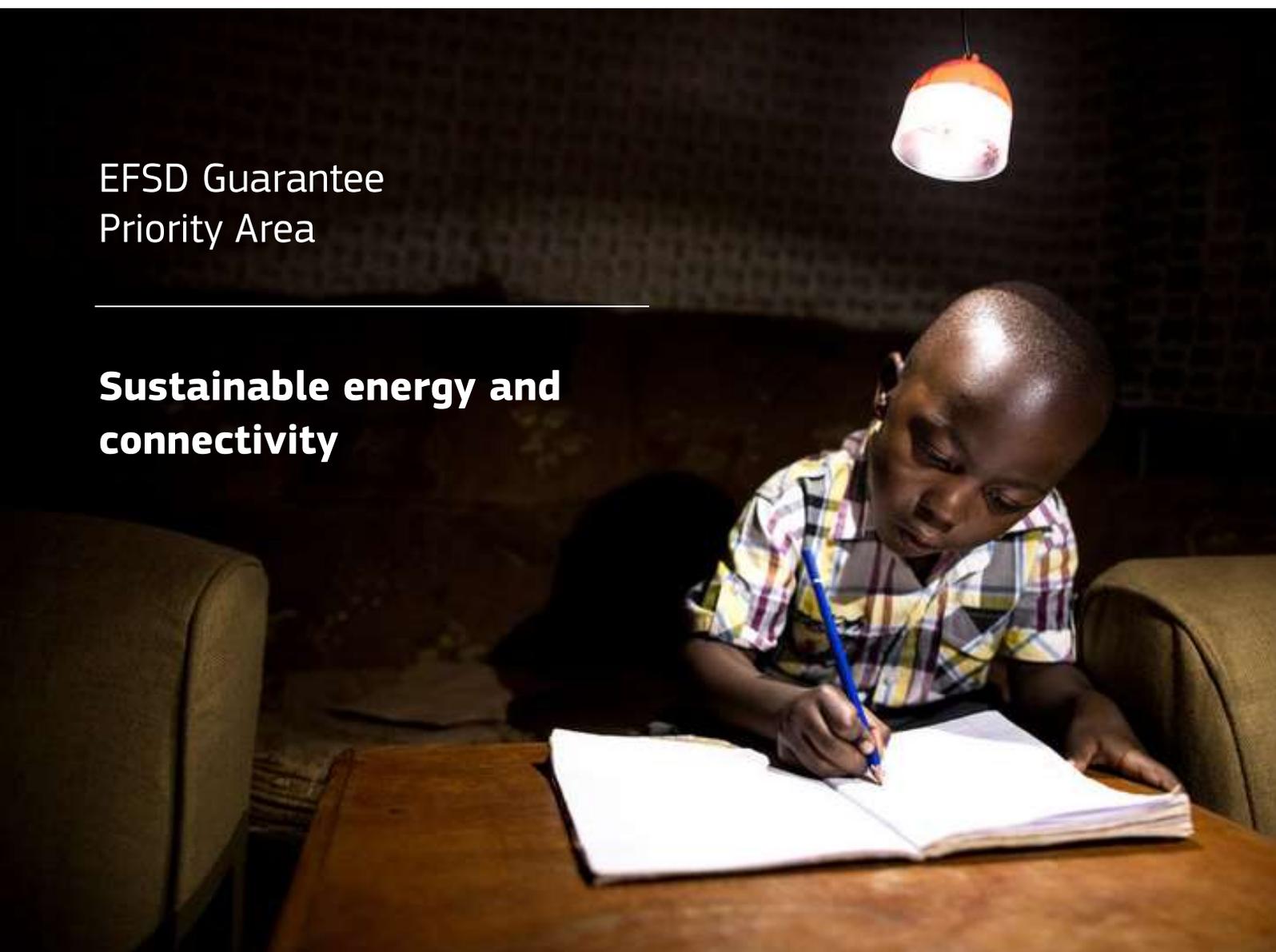


Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises financing
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa, EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt, guarantee, equity, technical assistance
How do I access support?	Indirectly through banks in partner countries or lead FIs, directly via the lead FIs

EFSD Guarantee
Priority Area

**Sustainable energy and
connectivity**



Africa GreenCo

Boosting green electricity generation and financing



Key info

Lead financial institution:	Agence Française du Développement (AFD)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €28 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €0.9 m
Total investments expected:	Over €450 m
Contact:	Benjamin Denis, denisb@afd.fr



What will it do?

AFD supports its local private- and public-sector partners to set up GreenCo, an independently managed power intermediary. GreenCo will buy electricity from renewable electricity generation companies, and sell such electricity to both state-owned and private sector companies that buy electricity ('offtakers') mitigating the risk of payment defaults.

The AFD and EFSD guarantees would be called if the national power utility failed to make payments when due and GreenCo's liquidity instruments were exhausted. This will enable GreenCo to provide capital protection to commercial lenders to renewable electricity generation companies. The innovative risk mitigation mechanism is expected to attract more investment in renewable energy projects.

GreenCo's initial target project size is 5-50MW, in Southern African countries (Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and other SAPP connected countries). EU delegations, AFD and GreenCo representatives have maintained a close policy dialogue with government representatives on energy related policy matters and intend to deepen this dialogue as part of the implementation of the programme.



Who'll benefit? How?

Local communities will enjoy better access to more reliable and cleaner electricity. This will mean they will benefit from better provision of basic services such as healthcare and education that depend on electricity. Increased electricity access will also help create jobs and raise incomes.

Smaller businesses in particular will benefit from improved access to electricity. They will save money, with lower energy bills as they will no longer have to rely on expensive diesel-powered generators.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Renewable energy generation
What region is covered?	Southern African Development Community
What types of instrument are offered?	Guarantee
How do I access support?	Via GreenCo and AFD

DESCO Financing Programme

Bringing 'rent-to-own' solar power kits to thousands of homes



Key info

Lead financial institution:	The African Development Bank (AfDB)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €50 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €6 m
Total investments expected:	To be determined
Contact:	Astrid Manroth, a.manroth@afdb.org



What will it do?

This guarantee tool will help to bring electricity to some of the many areas in Sub-Saharan Africa (in particular Sahel) that lack access to the power grid. It will build on a new business model of pay-as-you-go (PayGo) solar power systems for use at home that has recently emerged in East Africa. The programme will help offset some of the risks that both local banks and international investors perceive in financing in the sector. These include lack of familiarity with the technology, currency risk, and limited information about consumers' credit history.

DESCO will guarantee so called 'rent-to-own' agreements via a receivable financial model. Customers will buy a solar power system through monthly fixed payments over a period of 24-36 months. Monthly payments will be as low as US\$5 per month. Partnerships with telecoms firms will allow suppliers to debit payments directly from clients' monthly phone bills.



Who'll benefit? How?

The guarantee tool will extend access to clean electricity to an estimated 3.5 million people. Poorer people in rural communities will benefit in particular. No longer would they need to use low-quality kerosene lamps which are harmful to their health. Instead they'd be able to afford cleaner, more reliable electricity more easily and run appliances ranging from TVs and refrigerators, to fans, lamps and grain mills. And of course they could recharge their mobile phones.

Having electric lighting will mean children can study for longer, and entrepreneurs could keep their small businesses and shops open for longer. The guarantee tool will also allow more people in rural areas to access financial services such as mobile payments.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Solar energy
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt (receivable financing)
How do I access support?	Indirectly through local banks and directly via the AfDB

Room2Run

Helping to raise up to €2 bn fresh investment for new sustainable energy projects



Key info

Lead financial institution:	The African Development Bank (AfDB)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €50 m
Total investments expected:	€1-2 bn
Contact:	Olivier Eweck, o.eweck@afdb.org



What will it do?

Room2Run will allow the AfDB to finance more sustainable renewable energy projects in Sub-Saharan Africa. This will result in €1-2 billion of new investments overall in such projects. The EFSD Guarantee supports a securitisation structure that enables private investors to invest in AfDB projects by taking credit risk on a defined tranche of the private sector portfolio. This will free up AfDB capital and thus enable the bank to finance new renewable energy projects.

Some of these projects will be located in fragile states, where the AfDB's strategy focuses on funding:

- large-scale, renewables-based solar power producers, which provide electricity to the national grid
- distributed renewables-based programmes, which are not connected to the national grid but supply particular communities or areas.

After careful analysis, several pension funds have concluded that the risks of African private sector investments are lower than is commonly assumed. Through the EFSD-enabled transaction, they will for the first time invest in the highest-risk components of African private sector loans. So the transaction will have an important demonstration effect, as well as bringing in more investment in renewable energy projects, AfDB worked closely with Standard & Poor's, the rating agency, in the preparation of this project.



Who'll benefit? How?

The AfDB estimates that the sustainable energy projects it is tracking over the medium-term will provide electricity for over a million households (by creating over 1 GW of generation capacity) and create 15,000 jobs.

Industries, businesses and local communities will enjoy better access to more affordable, more reliable and cleaner electricity. Thus, the guarantee tool will help increase production/commercial activity, create jobs, contribute towards the improved provision of basic services such as healthcare and education, facilitate the provision of training, and raise incomes.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Sustainable energy – renewables, energy efficiency and clean cooking
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt (loans), equity, guarantees
How do I access support?	Directly through the AfDB

Sustainable Logistics and Interconnectivity Guarantee (SLIG)

Encouraging investment to make the transport industry greener and more sustainable



Key info

Lead financial institution:	The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €50 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €5 m
Total investments expected:	To be determined
Contact:	Renato Giacon, GiaconR@ebrd.com



What will it do?

SLIG focuses on logistics: the process of planning, managing, and carrying out the movement of goods (freight). Transport makes up a big part of these activities. This guarantee tool will provide commercial financing and investments from the EBRD and other co-financiers. The guarantee will encourage companies and investors to invest more in the industry in partner countries than they have to date. It will do so by offering better access to, and more affordable, debt financing, rather than having to rely solely on equity (capital), which can curtail expansion.

Areas of investment will include among others:

- modernising fleets of trucks and maintaining roads
- making ports, ships and warehouses more energy efficient
- upgrading rail networks and trains
- introducing advanced systems for tracking shipments
- making airports greener.



Who'll benefit? How?

UN figures suggest transport accounts for 25% of all energy-related greenhouse gas emissions. So this guarantee tool will help make freight transport greener – enabling companies to use energy more efficiently, emit less greenhouse gas, cut air pollution, make less noise and reduce the number of accidents in the industry.

It will also:

- improve transport links (connectivity) within and between countries
- thereby help regions to integrate and boost trade
- lower transport costs for small businesses, and open up more markets to them
- improve road safety.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Transport and logistics sector
What region is covered?	EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt
How do I access support?	Indirectly through local banks or directly via the EBRD for project financing structures

Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Cities in EU Neighbourhood

For low-carbon industries, green buildings and sustainable urban development



Key info

Lead financial institution:	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
EFSD Guarantee Contribution:	Up to €100 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €7 m
Total portfolio budget:	€750 m
Contact:	Renato Giacon, GiaconR@ebrd.com



What will it do?

This guarantee tool pursues two goals in the EU Neighbourhood:

- supporting companies in the manufacturing, services and buildings sectors to use less energy and natural resources by investing in efficiency technologies
- helping town and city authorities to provide better and more sustainable urban services and infrastructure, with green measures integrated.

The EFSD Guarantee will provide partial guarantees for loans to green projects lowering real risks, and the risks and barriers perceived by financiers, e.g.:

- perceived risks of implementing technologies not widely used
- lack of local suppliers, installers, skilled maintenance workers for such technologies and measures
- low capacity of municipalities and lack of awareness of companies about energy efficiency or opportunities, that can be addressed via dedicated technical assistance (TA).

The Guarantee and TA will mobilise more financing for a wide variety of projects:

- green technology adoption by industrial companies, e.g. helping them to recover and use waste heat in their operations, use waste materials as fuel to replace fossil fuels, produce goods in ways that use less raw materials, etc.
- energy efficiency measures in buildings, such as via better insulation or integrated renewable energy technologies such as solar or heat pumps
- sustainable city investments, e.g. in water supply network rehabilitation, more sustainable solid waste management or better wastewater treatment.



Who'll benefit? How?

People, communities and municipalities will benefit from lower energy bills, better quality and extent of green urban services, cleaner air, better preparedness for flooding or water shortages, better water and wastewater services, etc.

Companies in the industrial, services and building sectors will benefit from investing in high performing technologies to lower operational costs related to energy or other materials, more comfortable buildings, enhanced long-term competitiveness, and a greener company image.

All the supported projects will increase opportunities for sustainable economic growth and job creation. They will also lower greenhouse gas emissions.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Industry, buildings, municipal sector
What region is covered?	EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt
How do I access support?	Via the EBRD as lead implementing FI

Boosting investment in renewable energy

More clean power generation thanks to more certainty for investors



Key info

Lead financial institutions:	The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Association of European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI)	
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €100 m	
Technical Assistance:	Up to €4 m	
Total investments expected:	€2 bn	
Contact:	Maria De Melo MeloM@ebrd.com	Søren Peter Andreasen soren.andreasen@edfi.eu



What will it do?

This guarantee will enable renewable energy investments by addressing barriers to finance of otherwise viable projects and to crowd-in the private sector. As a result, it will unlock the countries' substantial renewable energy potential, promote wider renewable energy development and demonstrate how the private sector can play a role in meeting growing demand for power. This matters because public money is insufficient to cover the large-scale investment needed, and private investment can also help make projects operate more efficiently.

The guarantee tool will help address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, addressing bottlenecks to private investments and leveraging private sector financing and contributing to climate action and environmental protection and management, thus producing climate co-benefits, allocating 100% of the financing to renewable energy investments.

It will catalyse the development of multiple private, renewable energy projects, resulting in significant CO2 emission reductions, and introduce a number of new private investors to the sector and country, supporting its transition to a low carbon economy.



Who'll benefit? How?

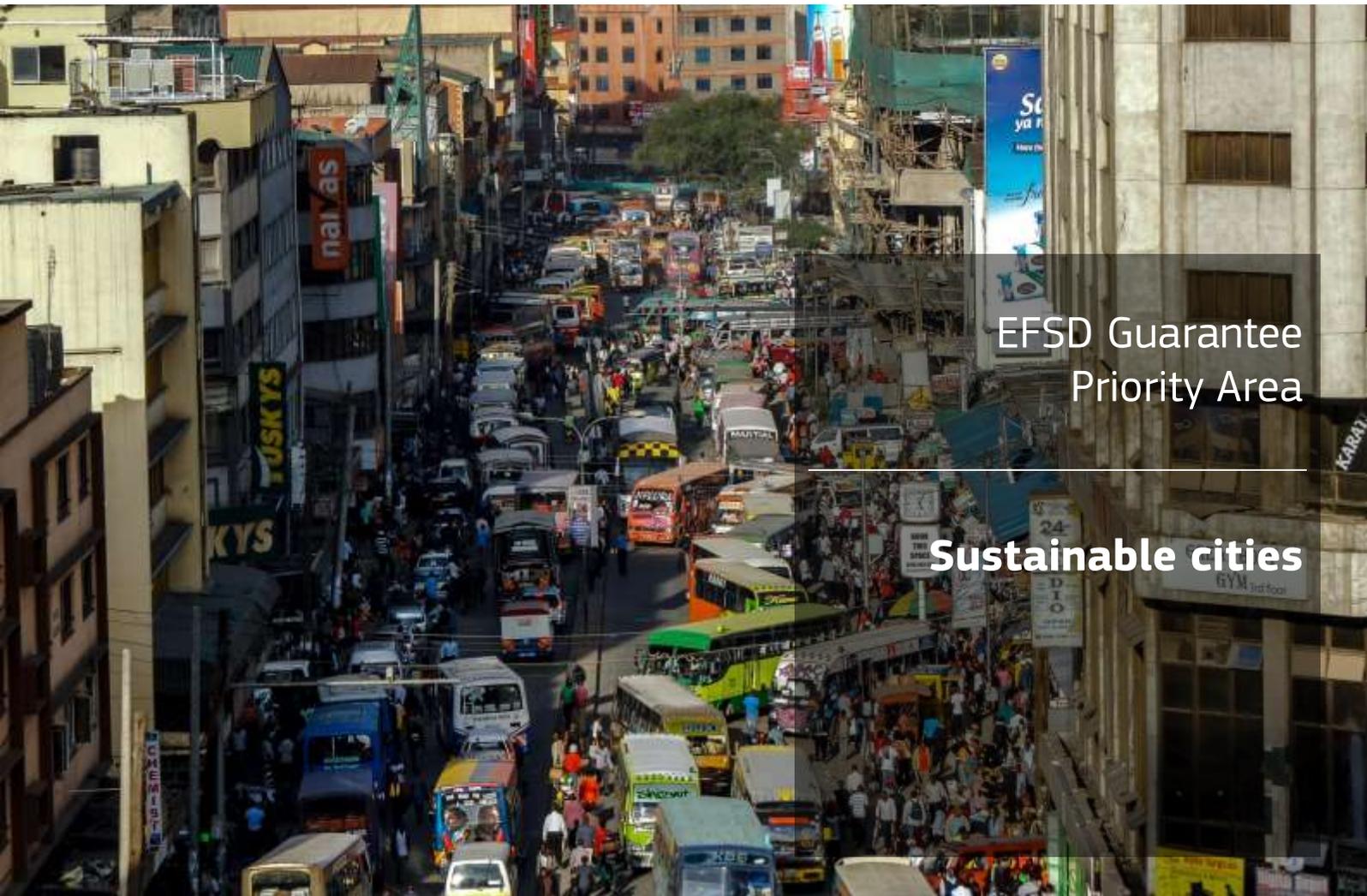
Individuals, communities and businesses will benefit from cleaner, cheaper, more reliable energy and experience fewer power cuts. The guarantee tool will also:

- create jobs and raise people's incomes;
- improve people's health since they'd no longer have to burn biomass to cook;
- help businesses operate more efficiently;
- make it easier to deliver healthcare and education services that rely on electricity;
- cut carbon emissions by an estimated 2-3 million tonnes per year;
- create additional capacity from renewable energy sources between 1.5-2 GW;
- Increase power production from renewable energy sources to 4,500-6000 GWh/year.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Renewable energy
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa EU Neighbourhood South and East
What types of instrument are offered?	Guarantee cover to debt private investors co-financing alongside EBRD/EDFFI
How do I access support?	Via EBRD and EDFI



EFSD Guarantee
Priority Area

Sustainable cities

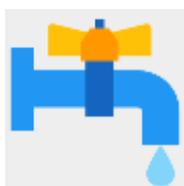
Resilient City Development (RECIDE)

Making investment in urban infrastructure more compelling



Key info

Lead financial institutions:	AECID (Spain)
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €100 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €20 m
Total investments expected:	To be determined
Contact:	Fernando Jiménez-Ontiveros eip@aecid.es



What will it do?

This guarantee tool will help cities develop public-private partnerships and lower the risks for private investors involved in financing urban infrastructure in Africa and the EU's Southern Neighbourhood. It will focus on:

- energy efficiency
- environment – particularly improved flood protection and sewerage
- public transport
- water supply and sanitation and the management of solid waste.

The EFSD Guarantee will reassure:

- lenders that they'll recover at least some of their investment in case of losses
- borrowers for whom the guarantees may lower the required interest rates
- public-private partnership concessionaires will be paid as promised by government authorities.

This will make urban infrastructure projects in African cities more 'bankable', i.e. better able to attract private finance.



Who'll benefit? How?

Communities in cities in several African countries will benefit from this guarantee tool, with improvements in utilities ranging from sewage systems and street paving and lighting to the supply of clean water in some cases.

They'll also benefit from:

- better transport links between where they live and where they work
- more affordable housing
- cleaner living conditions thanks to better rubbish collection and disposal
- Improved protection from flooding and climate change.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Urban infrastructure
What region is covered?	Sub-Saharan Africa, EU Neighbourhood
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt, Public Private Partnerships and Land Value Capture transactions
How do I access support?	Directly through RECIDE, AECID and The World Bank Group

EFSD Guarantee
Priority Area

Digitalisation



European Health Guarantee Platform for Africa

Improving healthcare with high-quality health screening labs



Key info

Lead financial institution:	European Investment Bank (EIB)
EFSD Guarantee Contribution:	Up to €80 m
Technical Assistance:	Up to €12.5 m
Total portfolio budget:	To be determined
Contact:	infodesk@eib.org



What will it do?

This guarantee tool is being developed in close cooperation with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (B&MGF) to strengthen diagnostic services for low-income populations in Sub-Saharan Africa. It will do so by mobilising investment from private providers in international-standard laboratory facilities that will provide timely, cost-effective and accurate diagnostic services for diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV, and malaria.

In low-income countries, governments sign contracts to pay private providers for diagnostic services offered to their citizens. Backed by the EFSD Guarantee, the European Health Guarantee Platform covers the risk that the government might not pay.



Who'll benefit? How?

This guarantee tool will lead to better, cheaper healthcare services for people on low incomes - and could even save lives.

Where testing (diagnostics) laboratories exist in Africa, they often provide only a limited range services of variable quality. With this guarantee tool, poorer people in these regions will have better access to higher quality testing. And more and better testing means better chances of proper treatment.

Reliable testing for diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV, and malaria, and for maternal and child healthcare, allows doctors to detect diseases or other issues early, respond faster, and save patients and governments' money by better targeting treatments. Having laboratory capacity available locally also helps countries respond better to disease outbreaks when they occur.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Health diagnostic services
What region is covered?	Africa
What types of instrument are offered?	Guarantees for payment of services (off-take guarantees)
How do I access support?	Directly through the platform, the EIB and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Digital Transformation Platform and Broadband Investment Programme

Increasing the use of digital technologies, and widening rural access to broadband



Key info

Lead financial institutions:	The European Investment Bank (EIB), The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	
EFSD Guarantee:	Up to €70 m	
Technical Assistance:	Up to €4 m	
Total investments expected:	€350 m	
Contact:	Nathalie Climence n.climence@eib.org	Renato Giacon GiaconR@ebrd.com



What will it do?

This guarantee tool is being developed to invest in the infrastructure needed to provide affordable high-speed broadband in EU Neighbourhood – especially outside the main urban centres and in rural, remote and unserved areas. It targets to offer a guarantee that will lower risks for potential private investors and so make projects more attractive ('bankable') to them.

The EIB and the EBRD and private co-investors are currently considering how to lend directly to companies, public entities, city and regional authorities, and publicly-owned telecommunications companies.

They are also exploring how to enable corporates, public administration and the general public to:

- Make more use of software and other digital services in the way they operate, so they become more efficient and competitive
- Access more information and services online in an efficient manner – from booking a doctor's appointment to registering a new business or paying taxes. The adoption of digital services will be encouraged both by supporting the supply and demand sides



Who'll benefit? How?

When rolled-out successfully, the programme has the potential to:

- bring fast broadband to between 300,000 and 600,000 homes in rural areas
- enable new small companies outside the main urban centres and in rural areas to take off and employ local people
- allow people and businesses to take part more fully in the digital economy – for example, by selling goods and services or banking online
- make it easier to use basic government services, and improve transparency.



Is my business eligible?

What sectors are covered?	Telecom infrastructure and digital services
What region is covered?	EU Neighbourhood South and East
What types of instrument are offered?	Debt
How do I access support?	Directly via the EIB and the EBRD according to specific project financing structures