Our priorities
The EIB is committed to supporting **EU development policies** outside the European Union. Under the Cotonou Agreement, our priorities for **Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific** are set out in line with the EU Agenda for Change.

This is what guides our operations in these regions, and these are our priorities for the coming years. To achieve them, the EIB uses three sources of financing: **the ACP Investment Facility, the Impact Financing Envelope, and our own resources.**
EUR 154m was invested in nine separate private equity funds.

EUR 441m went to signatures in the financial sector.

EUR 219m of this amount is destined to support SMEs via credit lines.

EUR 68m is earmarked for microfinance facilities.
In 2015, we invested **EUR 936m** in 34 different projects in 15 ACP countries and six regional groupings.

**EUR 438m** is going to nine different infrastructure projects.

**EUR 57m** has been invested in corporates.

**EUR 60m** has been allocated from the Impact Financing Envelope.

The Bank invested a further **EUR 150m** in the Republic of South Africa.
... and **expected results**

Credit lines for SMEs and midcaps in ACP countries and South Africa to result in **1901 loans**, with an **average size of EUR 209 890**.

**90 814 jobs** sustained.

Private equity operations will create **10 500 jobs** in investee companies.

**119 736 homes** connected to high speed internet.
Nine separate microfinance operations under three microfinance facilities, split between several countries in the ACP regions, will provide **1 782 000 loans** to end users. **66%** will go to women. They will sustain **1 611 734 jobs.** Average loan EUR **809**.

**343 032 households** will get fresh drinking water.

**296 800 households** and businesses connected to the electricity grid.
Our priorities in the ACP countries are **private sector development and vital infrastructure**. In line with the EU Agenda for Change, we believe that small businesses are the key to **sustainable development in emerging economies**.

The EIB is supportive of the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), and we see particular **synergies in several of them for the ACPs**. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 13 are directly relevant. The Bank supports all of them, of course.
Guided by the SDGs

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

Sustainable Development Goals
Safer bridges in Papua New Guinea

A **EUR 58m** loan to the government of Papua New Guinea will support a comprehensive upgrade of the country’s transport networks.

This particular project concerns the replacement of **27 steel bridges** in rural areas with permanent two lane ones, potentially benefiting **400 000 people** by securing transport networks and adding resilience in the face of climate change and the seismic activity that is prevalent in the region.

It is the Bank’s first operation in Papua New Guinea since 1995.
Essential communications in Angola

Telecommunications infrastructure is vital for economic development, and the EIB has invested **EUR 20m** to support TVCabo in its plan to roll out optical fibre networks in Angola.

These new networks will connect over **83 000 households, businesses** and **institutions** to high speed broadband.

While the private sector will benefit from this, social services will too, as educational, health care and community organisations will also be able to take advantage of high speed connectivity.
Modernising power grids in Côte d’Ivoire

The EIB’s first public sector operation in Côte d’Ivoire in nearly two decades will see us invest **EUR 118m** in a comprehensive, multi-step programme to upgrade electricity distribution networks in the country, to be carried out by CI Energies.

This includes approximately **224 000 new connections** in Bouaké, San Pedro and the capital, Abidjan. New dispatch and control facilities will make the supply more reliable and efficient and replace current ones which are ageing.
Modernising power grids in Côte d'Ivoire
Building the capacity for West Africa’s energy

West Africa has huge potential for green energy, but it is not being harnessed yet, and distribution networks are not yet in place to capitalise on it. The Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Gambie (OMVG) is aiming to solve this.

The EIB has invested **EUR 85m** in the construction of a **925km high voltage transmission** network which will connect the power grids of Gambia, Senegal, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau, the four OMVG member states, and help bring clean energy to millions of people in West Africa.
Improving water services in Ethiopian towns

Ethiopia’s Growth Transformation Plan aims to change the country completely over the coming decades, and an integral part of this ambitious makeover of the country’s economy is the water supply network.

The EIB has invested **EUR 40m** in a programme to ensure supplies of safe and clean drinking water in small and medium-sized Ethiopian towns. The programme includes a technical assistance element, which will help build capacity in local water authorities, and will connect around **120 000 households** to improved water, wastewater and sanitation infrastructure.
Improving water services in Ethiopian towns
The Bank has invested **EUR 40m** in the Caribbean and Pacific Impact Financing Facility (CPIFF), which is the first IFE operation of its kind in these regions.

**Credit supplied through financial intermediaries** will be available to the following groups: MSMEs including self-employed individuals, low-income households, and community-based organisations. The latter include non-profit associations and cooperatives of members with common interests. They could be smallholder farmers, for example, or people of the same gender, or perhaps a group representing one single village.
Climate action: the time is now

As an institution, we are evolving to meet the needs of people across the world, and doing what we can to tackle the issues they face. The EIB has pledged to increase climate action investment outside the EU to 35% of total volumes.

In the ACPs, we are putting together a pipeline of suitable projects to meet this. The EU Member States have called on the Bank to do more in the ACP regions. We are responding by keeping our traditional operations such as credit lines and infrastructure investment, creating new instruments, and actively seeking to work with more partners – partners who can bring expertise to good quality initiatives.