



Annual Press Conference 2006

Briefing Note N° 09

Luxembourg, 9 February 2006

Asia and Latin America (ALA)

European Investment Bank (EIB) lending in Asia and Latin America is governed by mandates handed down by the European Union (EU). Under three consecutive mandates, the Bank has been authorised to lend up to EUR 4 405 million. The first mandate was delivered in 1993 and the current mandate (ALA III) of EUR 2 480 million covers the period 1 February 2000 to 31 January 2007.

The funds are utilised to finance productive investment contributing to economic development in Asian and Latin American partner countries. Projects are selected in line with European Union cooperation policy objectives and must present a mutual interest for the country in which the project is implemented and the EU. There are no amounts allocated per country or sector.

At present, 35 countries are eligible for Bank financing under the ALA III mandate:

Asia:

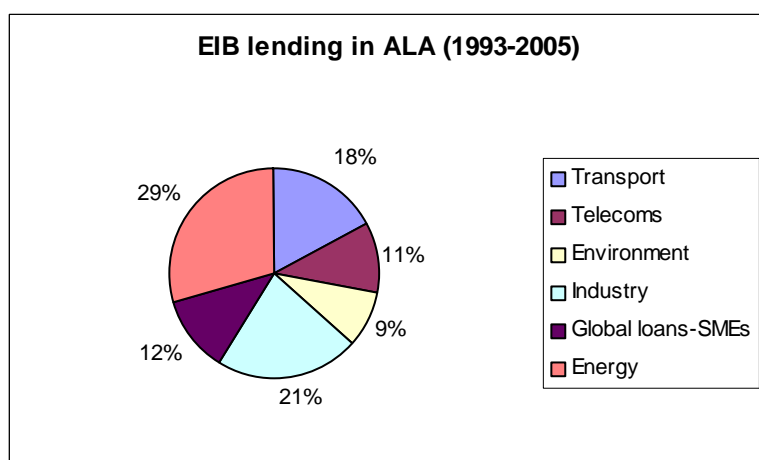
- ASEAN: Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam;
- Bangladesh, China, South Korea, India, Macao, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Yemen.

Latin America:

- Central American Common Market: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua;
- Andean Pact countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela;
- Mercosur: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay;
- Chile, Mexico, Panama.

In 2005, EIB lending for projects located in Asia and Latin America totalled **EUR 756 million**, of which **EUR 622 million** for **4** projects in Asia (China, Indonesia, Laos and Vietnam) and **EUR 134 million** for **3** projects in Latin America (two in Brazil and a regional global loan). In particular, the Bank signed in 2005 its largest loan in Asia to date: **EUR 500 million** for the expansion of Beijing's airport. Priority was also given to post-Tsunami reconstruction projects: the global loan in Indonesia was specifically opened to businesses affected by the Tsunami and two lines of credit for Sri Lanka and the Maldives respectively were approved in 2005.

Since it began its operations in the ALA countries in 1993, the EIB has signed **85** loans totalling **EUR 4 249 million**. Of this amount, **56%** has been allocated to projects in Latin America and **44%** to projects in Asia.



For further information on the EIB, visit its website www.eib.org.

Press Contacts: Press Office, press@eib.org, Tel: +352 43 79 21 57; Fax: +352 43 79 31 89
 General Questions: EIB Infodesk, info@eib.org; Tel: +352 43 79 31 22; Fax: +352 43 79 31 91