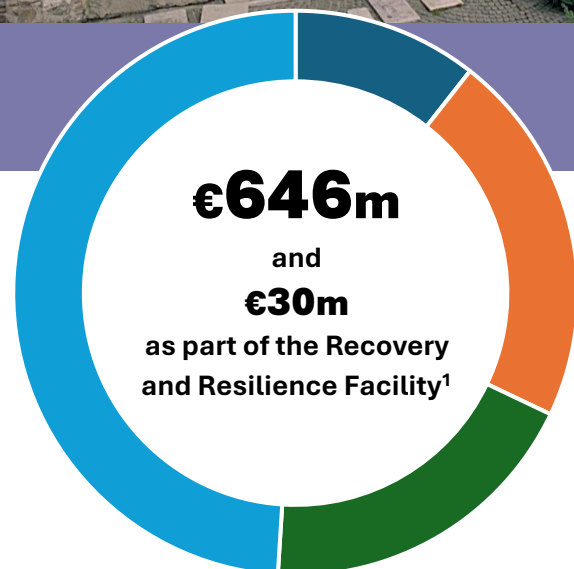
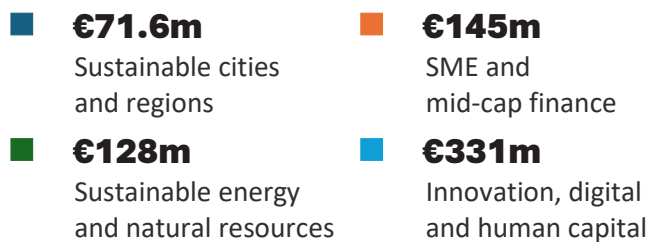




European Investment Bank | Group

# EIB GROUP ACTIVITY IN BULGARIA

## in 2025



### Cross-cutting policy goals:<sup>2</sup>

Green finance <b>33.6% (€227m)</b>	Cohesion <b>86.4% (€584 m)</b>
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- Almost all new financing in Bulgaria focused on projects that strengthen economic and social cohesion.
- An EIB loan enables a 50% increase in copper production in the country.
- EIB Advisory supports Bulgaria's energy transition and improvements in education.

The EIB Group, made up of the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Investment Fund (EIF), supported Bulgaria's economy in 2025 through affordable loans, guarantees and other financial tools that drive growth, strengthen competitiveness and create jobs.

In 2025, the EIB Group financed projects in industrial expansion, research and development and innovation, and supported small and medium-sized enterprises, startups and mid-caps. These investments promote Bulgaria's economic and social cohesion, with part of the funding dedicated to advancing the country's green and digital transition.

The EIB Group also offered advisory services to public companies and state institutions, helping them develop sustainable, bankable projects in sectors such as education, environment, energy, water and transport.

<sup>1</sup> The [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#) is an EU programme created after the COVID-19 pandemic to support a more sustainable and resilient European economy.

<sup>2</sup> Our green and cohesion financing are horizontal indicators and can overlap with each other and other policy goals.



## BOOSTING COPPER PRODUCTION

### First EIB financing under new strategy to secure Europe’s critical raw materials

The EIB has granted a €200 million investment [loan to Aurubis](#), a leading global supplier of non-ferrous metals and one of the world’s largest copper recyclers. Of this amount, €89.4 million will fund the expansion of copper refining at Aurubis’s plant in Pirdop, Bulgaria. This marks the first EIB financing in the sector since the adoption of the new EIB Group strategy to strengthen Europe’s access to critical raw materials earlier in 2025, and it actively supports the implementation of the [Critical Raw Materials Act](#).

Aurubis will use the funds to expand the tankhouse at its Pirdop facility and increase cathode production to meet Europe’s growing demand for copper. This is the largest single investment at the Bulgarian plant since its acquisition in 2008 and will boost output by about 50%, reaching 340 000 tonnes of refined copper annually. Copper is essential for energy transition and for artificial intelligence and data centres; it plays a key role in Europe’s security infrastructure. With expanded capacity, Aurubis is well positioned to meet Europe’s rising copper needs in the years ahead.

## DRIVING BULGARIA’S DECARBONISATION

### EIB Advisory helps green the coal-powered Maritsa East Complex

The EIB is providing [advisory support to Bulgaria’s Ministry of Energy](#) as it implements its plan to decarbonise the Maritsa East Complex – home to Europe’s largest open-pit lignite mine and several coal-fired power plants. EIB Advisory is assisting the ministry in developing priority projects in the complex to foster its energy transition and secure additional EU funding.

Coal-fired electricity generation is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing emissions at the Maritsa East Complex is key to Bulgaria’s clean-energy goals and the European Union’s climate ambitions. Decarbonising the complex is essential for Bulgaria’s sustainable development, economic growth and the well-being of people in the country.

**2025 EIB volume**

Projects signed by the EIB in Bulgaria amounted to

**€580 million<sup>3</sup>**



<sup>3</sup> Some projects in Bulgaria are financed both by the EIB and the EIF. The overlaps are excluded from the EIB Group total shown in the chart on page 1.



## UNLOCKING NEW FINANCING FOR BUSINESSES

### EIB guarantee supports jobs, investment and economic growth

The EIB Group has strengthened its [cooperation with Postbank](#) (part of the Eurobank group), one of Bulgaria's leading commercial banks, by signing a €75 million guarantee to help unlock fresh financing for mid-sized companies. This arrangement will enable Postbank to provide around €150 million in loans on preferential terms, including lower interest rates or collateral requirements. By making new financing more accessible, the agreement aims to stimulate economic growth, create jobs and enhance the competitiveness of Bulgarian businesses.

Postbank will have two years to build the portfolio, with individual loans capped at €30 million. The initiative is designed to support sustainable investment and help companies expand their operations and pursue innovative projects.

## ADVISORY SUPPORT FOR A NEW SCIENTIFIC CAMPUS

### Burgas plans a state-of-the-art research and education hub

The EIB is [supporting the city of Burgas](#) in its plans to develop a cutting-edge scientific campus that will attract Bulgarian and international researchers and students to its four universities. Burgas, Bulgaria's fourth-largest city with more than 200 000 residents, is one of the country's fastest growing metropolitan areas. The new campus will include research and data centres, student housing and sporting facilities – combining opportunities for education and science with high-quality living spaces.

The municipality has completed the campus design and allocated land plots for the project. EIB Advisory will propose and evaluate financing options and help establish an effective management and governance structure. This expertise is provided under the European Commission's InvestEU Advisory mandate.

### 2025 EIF volume

Projects signed by the EIF in Bulgaria amounted to

**€238 million**



## Overall EIB Group achievements in 2025

### Total EIB Group financing

**€100 billion\***

including

**€15.7 billion**  
in EIF funding

and

**€9 billion**

by EIB Global for development finance and international partnerships

\*Total includes €1.8 billion in joint EIB/EIF operations.

### Green financing

**€57 billion**

57% of total EIB Group financing

and

### Social cohesion

**€42.8 billion**

48% of total Group financing within the EU

### TechEU

**€22.4 billion**

### Total investment supported worldwide

**€350 billion**

including €302 billion in the EU

### Security and defence

**€4 billion**

close to 5% of total  
Group financing in the EU

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For more information, see  
[Bulgaria and the EIB](#).



Bulgaria

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