

European Fund for Sustainable Plus (EFSD+)



Directorate-General for International Partnerships
European Commission
April 2026

What is the Global Gateway?

- It is the EU's **comprehensive values-based offer** to our partner countries to reduce the infrastructure deficit through strategic investments in hard infrastructure and the enabling environment.
- It aims to leverage **EUR 300 billion of investments** by 2027 in transformative, large-scale infrastructure projects and to create mutually beneficial partnerships in the **digital, climate and energy, health, transport and education and research sectors**.
- **Team Europe Approach**: everyone in the EU works together incl. EU institutions, Member States, implementing agencies and their diplomatic networks, Development Finance Institutions, Export Credit Agencies, and, very importantly, the **private sector**.
- **360 degrees approach**: Global Gateway complements infrastructure investments with soft measures focused on regulatory frameworks, job creation, technology and skills transfer, access to financing-particularly for SMEs and ensuring high environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards to create a conducive ecosystem.

What is the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+)?

- De-risking financial tool to increase private and public sector investment
- Offers a variety of **risk-sharing instruments** of up to **€40 billion** (€ 27 bn + €13 bn)
- Aims to **mobilise up to €135 billion** of public and private sustainable investments in EU's partner countries
- offered on favourable, highly competitive conditions

EFSD+ instruments include:

1. **Unfunded guarantees** on loans, off-take agreements, equity, capital markets operations, etc.
2. **Blending**: mix of grants and loans

EFSD+ serves to mobilise the sustainable investment to finance the Global Gateway

- **Financing the Global Gateway:** EUR 40 bn in guarantee capacity to de-risk and mobilise investment in EU Partner Countries in the EU Neighbourhood, Africa, Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean. The goal is to mobilise EUR 135 bn in investments.
- **Broad guarantee portfolio:** a dedicated approach to the investment needs of the respective target sector.
- **Key role for Implementing Partners:** Guarantees will be implemented by Development Finance Institutions mostly from EU Member States but also including multilateral partners.
- **Strong focus on additionality:** Innovative financial structures, aiming to mobilise private sector capital and develop local capital markets.

What is a guarantee?

GOAL



Mobilise
private and
public
investment

HOW



Serve as a pledge (guarantee)
to pay back part of a loan or investment
if a borrower or investor incurs losses and
defaults on it

EFSD+ Guarantee – investment windows

Window 1

Implementer: EIB only

Budget: €27 bn

Sovereign & non-commercial sub-sovereign

Beneficiary:

Government and entities fully backed by state unable to finance themselves in the market.

Examples:

- Large infrastructure projects (e.g. metro, hospital, port)

Open Architecture

Implementer: financial partners selected through call for applications

Budget: €13 bn

Commercial sub-sovereign

Beneficiary:

Public entity able to finance themselves in the market.

Examples:

- Loan to public water and sanitation company.
- Upgrading capacity of national utility company

Private sector

Beneficiary:

Private sector companies from SMEs to large companies.

Examples:

- SME credit line
- Solar off-grid project
- Support to cocoa producers
- Digital infrastructure

EFSD+ Guarantees – Implementing Partners

EIB dedicated windows



Open Architecture



Potential involvement of businesses in the investments under the EFSD+ Guarantees

EFSD+ Guarantees

- **Implementing Partners manage the pipeline of investments of the EFSD+ Guarantees** – in close liaison with the European Commission and EU Delegations in Partner Countries
- **European businesses and investors are invited to invest alongside our partner DFIs.**
- **Many opportunities for European businesses and investors exist** – depending on the individual programme.

Project-oriented Guarantees

Business potential

European businesses can participate in the procurement process, e.g., for infrastructure projects.

Investment & Impact Funds

Business potential

European businesses and their ventures in Partner Countries can become investees or co-invest.

Intermediated SME lending

Business potential

European businesses can obtain beneficial access to finance for subsidiaries domiciled in EU Partner Countries.

How to follow up?

1. Screen opportunities under the Global Gateway including the EFSD+ Guarantees
2. Reach out to members of Team Europe (EU institutions, DFIs, EU Delegations, ECAs)
3. Participate in business and investment fora (in EU partner countries)

Overview of EFSD and EFSD+ Guarantees - International Partnerships

Overview of EFSD+ Open Architecture Guarantees



Accelerating Human Development

This €750 million guarantee with the European Investment Bank and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation aims to strengthen health systems and to improve access to health technologies. Private investors have the chance to confidently invest into health projects which promote universal health coverage.



Africa Connected

Finnfund's Africa Connected aims to mobilise investments into digital infrastructure providers and digital platform businesses in Sub-Saharan Africa. Benefits include increased employment, efficiency and productivity, as well as contributions to closing the digital and gender divide.