



WBIF Newsletter October 2025



15/10/2025

# New publications on WBIF's strategic impact and private sector support

The Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) continues to play a pivotal role in supporting sustainable development and regional integration across the Western Balkans. A newly-published WBIF Booklet (2009–2025) and the updated Private Sector Blending Support booklet together offer a comprehensive overview of the WBIF's achievements in support of socio-economic development, regional integration and EU accession.

Read more >>



17/10/2025

#### Ulcinj wastewater treatment plant project breaks ground

A major infrastructure project to improve water and sanitation services in Ulcinj, Montenegro, has officially launched in October 2025. Construction is now underway for a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant and upgrades to the local water supply network.

Read more >>



17/10/2025

#### Aligning visions for the Eco-Industrial Park in Šabac

A three-day workshop was held in Šabac as part of the initiative to develop Eco-Industrial Parks in the Western Balkans. It served as an opportunity to engage key stakeholders from the very beginning in jointly defining the vision for the park's development.

Read more >>



13/10/2025

# Western Balkans beneficiaries receive guidance on revised WBIF application form

A series of dedicated training sessions for Western Balkans beneficiaries explained the new approach for project applicants. Practical exercises showed how the two-phase approach is applied in the application process, designed to streamline and facilitate the application and approval pipeline.

Read more >>



11/09/2025

# **EU-supported investments in energy-efficient schools in Montenegro**

Montenegro officials signed a contract worth €4.8 million to improve the energy efficiency of elementary schools in Berane and Bijelo Polje. Ugrades include new roofs, insulation and heating systems, implemented under the Regional Energy Efficiency programme.

Read more >>



11/09/2025

### EU and partners support energy efficiency projects across Kosovo

Nearly 100 families and multiple businesses in Kosovo are already benefitting from the European Union's Energy Support Package, which helps households and enterprises save energy, reduce bills, and embrace renewable solutions. EU and Kosovo officials visited projects in September 2025.

Read more >>







03/09/2025

#### WBIF finances new solar power plant in Belshi, Albania

A new solar photovoltaic power plant will be built at Belshi to reinforce domestically-produced energy, providing an additional peak capacity of 50 megawatts. It will reduce Albanian reliance on hydropower, which are vulnerable to droughts.

Read more >>



03/09/2025

### Technical assistance for waste management project in North Macedonia

On 15 July 2025 in Skopje, a Western Balkans Investment Framework grant was signed for technical assistance (TA) to prepare the second phase of the Regional Solid Waste Management Project in North Macedonia. The €2 million grant will be used to prepare feasibility studies for the Vardar and Southeast regions according to the highest EU standards.

Read more >>



05/08//2025

# Continued Support for Energy Efficiency & Nearly-Zero Energy Buildings in North Macedonia

On 8 July 2025, additional €5.5 million of EU contribution provided through the WBIF Regional Energy Efficiency Programme (REEP) was approved for the second phase of this renovation project. The funds will cover part of the costs to renovate four state student dormitories: "Nikola Karev" in Ohrid, "Braka Miladinovci" in Shtip, "Orde Chopela" in Prilep, and "Tome Stefanovski-Senik" in Skopje.

Read more >>



14/07/2025

### Podgorica hosts regional workshop on Nearly-Zero Energy Building standards

Podgorica hosted a regional workshop on Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) in June, bringing together policymakers, architects, engineers, and international partners to discuss the future of energy-efficient construction in the Western Balkans.

Read more >>



11/07/2025

### **Growth Plan Summit in Skopje takes stock of reforms, announces new investments**

European Commissioner for Enlargement Marta Kos and leaders from the Western Balkans met in Skopje on 30 June and 1 July 2025 for the Growth Plan Summit. They took stock of the Western Balkan partners' reform progress and reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the EU's comprehensive Growth Plan.

Read more >>



08/07/2025

# Infrastructure and energy efficiency in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In a move to bolster infrastructure and energy efficiency in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the European Union (EU) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) have announced substantial financial support for two pivotal projects in Tuzla Canton and Sarajevo.

Read more >>



17/06/2025

### 'Energy Highway' connecting Serbia and Montenegro: works start on third section

Works began on constructing the third section of the Trans-Balkan Electricity Corridor, from Obrenovac to Bajina Bašta, on 10 June 2025. A two-system 400 kV transmission line, 109 kilometres long, will be built, alongside upgrades to the Obrenovac and Bajina Bašta transmission stations.

Read more >>



12/06/2025

## Bogdanci Wind Park project enters final phase, affirming North Macedonia's energy strategy

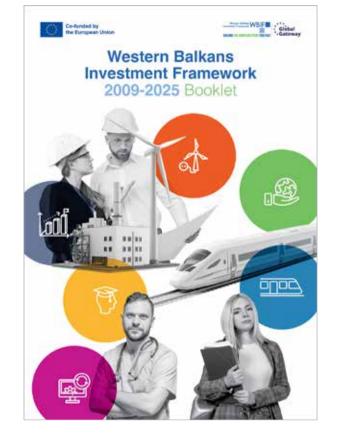
Agreements were signed on 28 May 2025 with Power Plants of North Macedonia (JSC ESM) and Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy (SGRE) to complete the final phase of Bogdanci Wind Park, representing a significant investment in renewable energy infrastructure in North Macedonia.

Read more >>





### **WBIF** publications



WBIF 2009-2025 **Booklet** Download here >>



**WBIF 2024 Annual Report** 

Download here >>



**Unlocking Private Investments** in the Western Balkans

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#### WBIF videos



**EBRD Video: How motorways are built?** Watch here >>



Nearly-zero energy buildings (KfW, June 2025) Watch here >>

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