

European
Commission

INVESTING for a greener future

EU Green Week > 30 May - 3 June 2016



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> European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)

The EFSI is managed by the European Investment Bank (EIB) and co-financed by the EIB and the European Commission. The EFSI aims to mobilising private investment and support strategic investments in key areas such as infrastructure, education, research and innovation, as well as risk finance for SMEs.

> European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

ESIF includes money from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF), and European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

> European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The ERDF is the largest EU financial instrument and supports green cities through co-financing activities. The 2014-2020 period has four key areas of funding: innovation and research, the digital agenda, support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and the low-carbon economy.

> European Social Fund (ESF)

The ESF provides funding for employment, education and skills. This includes funding for anticipating and managing economic and social change, with a number of opportunities for supporting SMEs.

> LIFE

LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental, nature conservation and climate action projects throughout the EU. For the 2014-2020 funding period, LIFE will contribute approximately EUR 3.4 billion to the protection of the environment and climate.

> Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCFF)

The NCFF is a finance instrument financed by the EIB and the European Commission. It provides loans and investments to projects that promote the preservation of natural capital, including adaptation to climate change, in EU Member States.

> Circular economy

The circular economy is an alternative to a traditional 'linear economy' in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible. It optimises the flow of goods and services to get the most out of raw materials and cut waste to an absolute minimum.

> About Green Week

Green Week is the biggest annual occasion to debate and discuss European environment policy. The 2016 edition will focus on the theme 'Investing for a greener future' and will take place from Monday, 30 May to Friday, 3 June. Online debates, twitter chats and live webstreaming from events will take place during the week.