



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

MEMO

Bridging the investment gap in transport

Results of the 2018 Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Transport calls for proposals

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CEF – Connecting Europe Facility

What is CEF?

The Connecting Europe Facility ([CEF](#)) is a key EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level. It supports the development of high performing, sustainable, intelligent and efficiently interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy and digital services. CEF investments fill the missing links in Europe's energy, transport and digital backbone.

The [CEF Transport programme](#) implements European transport infrastructure policy. It supports investments in building or upgrading transport infrastructure in Europe.

The programme focuses on cross-border projects and projects that remove bottlenecks or bridge missing links in various sections of the Core Network and on the Comprehensive Network, as well as on horizontal priorities such as traffic management systems.

CEF Transport also supports innovation in the transport system in order to improve the use of infrastructure, reduce the environmental impact of transport, enhance energy efficiency and increase safety.

Why do we need investment in transport infrastructure?

Transport faces a wide range of challenges across the EU: significant investment is still needed to complete the TEN-T Core Network; financing gaps remain in several areas; many bottlenecks still have to be removed; parts of the infrastructure need upgrading and modernisation; adequate project preparation and development of a project pipeline for a range of Member States is required; urban mobility remains challenging, and regulatory and administrative barriers should be removed. The European Commission's [Investment Plan for Europe](#), a top priority for the Juncker Commission, helps address these issues, paving the way for the competitive and sustainable EU transport system of tomorrow.

The 2018 CEF Transport call

What is the 2018 CEF Transport call?

It is one of the regular CEF calls for proposals which have been published by the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) since 2014 to finance transport infrastructure projects in Europe. The call for proposals made available €450 million of EU support, with a special focus on transport digitalisation, road safety and multimodality.

What are the objectives of 2018 CEF Transport call?

The call supported the policy orientations of the European Commission's third mobility package adopted on 17 May 2018 with a focus on transport digitalisation, road safety and multimodality. It was open for proposals addressing these priorities:

- Rail interoperability
- European Rail Traffic Management system (ERTMS)
- Safe and secure infrastructure
- Innovation and new technologies
- Intelligent Transport services for road (ITS)
- River Information Service (RIS)
- Multimodal logistics platforms

What types of projects can receive funding?

The 2018 CEF Transport call was open for project proposals addressing either works or studies, or a combination of both. Pilot activities can also be part of a project.

Who applied?

142 proposals were received by INEA, for a total of €882 million of requested co-funding by the call deadline of 24 October 2018. The applicants were mostly Member States and public or private undertakings.

How much funding was available under the 2018 CEF Transport call for proposals?

The funding available for this call is €450 million.

What projects will get CEF funding under the 2018 call for proposals?

69 project proposals were selected for funding of €421.2 million.

Examples of projects to be financed include:

- Improving road safety in the Belgian region of Flanders (€6.3 million CEF co-funding)
- Deploying European Rail Traffic Management Systems in Sweden (€43.9 million CEF co-funding)
- Building an interoperable rail system in the Baltic countries (€2.1 million CEF co-funding)

The European Commission's Innovation and Networks Executive Agency ([INEA](#)) will prepare and sign individual grant agreements with project beneficiaries by June 2019.

How will the projects be managed?

The CEF Programme is managed centrally by the European Commission, which sets the political priorities and is responsible for the selection of projects through competitive calls for proposals.

The Commission is assisted by INEA for the evaluation and selection of projects and for the overall technical and financial monitoring of project implementation.

Beneficiaries in the Member States manage the projects, and the Member States remain responsible for monitoring the implementation of the projects.

All projects co-funded by the CEF programme are available on [INEA website](#).