CEF Digital
EU infrastructure funding
2021-2027
Financial support for broadband under the next MFF

**Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)**
- ERDF: broadband investments under **priority objective 3**, together with transport and energy infrastructure
- EAFRD: broadband investment only as part of local development projects

**Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) – Digital**
- **EUR 3 bn**
  - Focus on connectivity infrastructure to enable digital transformation
  - Synergies with CEF transport and CEF energy networks within CEF Programme

**InvestEU**
- Part of Sustainable Infrastructure Window
  - **11.5 bn guarantee** available for broadband investments, *but* also other infrastructures
CEF DIGITAL 2021-2027 - €3 billion

- Alignment with Gigabit Society Strategy objectives: supporting MS in addressing the overall funding gap (€155 bn) with strategic projects
- Complementarity with Digital Europe, structural funds & InvestEU

Grants for:

- Cross-border 5G automotive corridors (but also railways, inland waterways)
- Gigabit connected hospitals, schools, business parks, public Wi-Fi & coverage of surrounding areas (5G communities)
- Key international/ cross-border connectivity etc.
5G corridors along transport paths

• Uninterrupted 5G coverage of cross-border sections on pre-agreed (indicative) corridors
• 5G coverage of other transport paths (rail, inland waterways)

Strategic deployment agenda & cross-sector public - private partnerships (access to roads, spectrum, intra-MS service)

Complementary to Digital Europe and Horizon Europe Programmes
5G ready communities in Europe

- VHC (including 5G) connectivity to as many socio-economic drivers as possible
- Maximising number of household coverage in the surrounding areas

- Boost use of online services + 5G use cases
- Reduce digital divides
- Maximising the reach of private investments

- Complementarity with Digital Europe Programme
- Delineation from structural funds and InvestEU
Next generation WiFi4EU & 5G Synergy Projects

Policy objectives:

- **Option A**: Increase number of public WiFi4EU networks (continuation of Wi-Fi router voucher programme)

- **Option B**: Fund deployment of 5G “smart” cells to support 5G communities applications, but which are also capable to expand the “free of charge” WiFi4EU network in Europe
Key backbone connectivity

Increasing capacity & resilience of backbone networks of strategic importance (intra-EU or international links)
Cross-border HPC connectivity

Terabit links making high performance computing (HPC) available throughout Europe, including industry

Cooperation / Partners (TBC)
- Geant
- EuroHPC JU
- Network providers

Possible projects: links to e.g. Digital Innovation Hubs; to HPCs (i.e. also commercial connectivity)
Key international backbone connectivity

Increasing capacity & resilience of connections to EU islands or between EU and external hubs

Prospective beneficiaries: submarine cable consortia foreseeable, with MS backing

Possible projects: Azores-Madeira-PT, MT- Sicily, FI to Asia (Northeast Passage), Lisbon-Marseille-Milan, etc.

Possible eligibility & selection criteria: market failure, (required) increased capacity and resilience, security, other qualitative connectivity improvements
Synergies: Transport – Energy – Digital

Decarbonisation and digitalisation of the Union economy implies a growing need for synergy between transport, energy and digital sectors

✓ "operational digital platforms” which support the flow, storage, processing and analysis of transport and/or energy infrastructure data can be funded under CEF DIGITAL

✓ Possibility to adopt joint work programmes on specific topics (e.g. Connected and Automated Mobility)

✓ The higher co-funding rate of the sectors concerned could be applied, which may in addition be increased by 10%

✓ For each sector synergetic elements pertaining to another sector could be eligible up to 20% of the total eligible cost (e.g. fibre deployment or energy regeneration within a transport project)
Operational Digital Platforms

Definition (Art 2(l))
(l) "operational digital platforms directly associated with transport and energy infrastructure" means physical and virtual information communication technology ("ICT") resources, operating on top of the communication infrastructure, which support the flow, storage, processing and analysis of transport and/or energy infrastructure data;

Eligible actions (Art. 9.4):
(f) actions implementing digital connectivity infrastructure requirements related to cross-border projects in the areas of transport or energy and/or supporting operational digital platforms directly associated to transport or energy infrastructures.

Prioritisation of actions (Art. 8.3.):
(f) with regard to projects deploying operational digital platforms, priority shall be given to actions based on state-of-the-art technologies, taking into account aspects such as interoperability, cybersecurity, data privacy and re-use.

Policy objectives:
- Operational digital platform for Connected and Automated Mobility (CAM) services to be available along all EU 5G corridors.
- Operational digital platforms for 5G along rail and/or inland waterways
**CEF DIGITAL 2021-2027 - Timeline**

- **Commission proposal**: June 2018
- **Stakeholder Consultations**: March/April/May 2019
- **Consultation on Implementation Roadmap**: June – September 2019
- **First Multiannual Work Programme**: End 2020
- **Political agreement with [1]**: 8 March 2019
- **Consultations in CEF Expert Group**: June 2019
- **Closing MFF negotiations**: December 2019
Thank you for your interest!

To be continued...

Dr. Daniel KITSCHA
Deputy Head of Unit - Unit B5
Investment in High-Capacity Networks, DG CONNECT
European Commission
Voluntary transfers of structural funds to CEF Digital

Discussion still open, co-legislators have two different approaches

**European Parliament**

*text of Article 4(9) as voted by ITRE & TRAN on 25/03/2019*

Resources allocated to a Member State under shared management may, at its request, and in accordance with the relevant managing Authority be transferred to the Programme, **in order for them to be used as part of a blending operation or synergy with other Union programmes action** included in a proposal submitted by the Member State concerned and declared eligible by the Commission under a work programme procedure. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with [point (a) of Article 62(1)] of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article.

**Council**

*text of Article 4(9) and Article 4(10 new) as agreed in COREPER on 13/03/2019*

[9. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with [point (a) of Article 62(1)] of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. **Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.**]

[10. (new) Without prejudice to Article 4 paragraph 9, in the digital sector, resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme, including to complement the funding of eligible actions under Article 9 paragraph 4 up to 100% of the total eligible cost where possible, without prejudice to the co-financing principle laid in Article 190 of the Financial Regulation and to the State Aid Rules. Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned only. ]
More Information

For info or further questions on this seminar and the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform, please contact the JASPERS Networking and Competence Centre at the following email:

jaspersnetwork@eib.org

JASPERS Networking Platform: www.jaspersnetwork.org

JASPERS Website: jaspers.eib.org