

[The Connecting Europe Broadband Fund](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/connecting-europe-broadband-fund) (<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/connecting-europe-broadband-fund>)

The Connecting Europe Broadband Fund invests in underserved areas where there are strong opportunities for profitability.



European Investment Bank

The European Investment Bank

The purpose of the Connecting Europe Broadband Fund (CEBF), launched in 2018, is to contribute to the achievement of gigabit connectivity objectives. Eligible countries to receive funding are EU Member States, Norway, Iceland and the United Kingdom. The fund held its final close in June 2021, raising €555 million for broadband investment and is expected to unlock total investments of €1-1.7 billion. Its public investors include the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Commission, and National Promotional Banks from France (Caisse des Dépôts), Germany (KfW), and Italy (Cassa di Risparmio di Venezia).

To date, the CEBF has invested in nine projects across Europe:

Project	Inv. date	Location	Sector	Target size
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Rune Crow	Jan 2019	Croatia	Open Access Network FttH	117k homes
Rune Enia	Apr 2019	Slovenia	Open Access Network FttH	190k homes in rural areas
Trooli	Apr 2019	United Kingdom	Open Access Network FttH	400k residential and business premises in areas within semi-dense geo-types
Rede Aberta	Mar 2020	Spain	Open Access Network FttH	400k units in the rural and semi-rural areas of Galicia
Scancom	Jul 2020	Czech Republic	Open Access Network FttH	Over 200k homes by the end of 2030
Rodin Group	Sep 2020	Netherlands	Open Access Network FttH	127k houses in two phases
Unifiber	Dec 2020	Italy	Open Access Network FttH/O	195k residential houses and 8k offices within 4 years of deployment
Asteo Red Neutra	Jul 2021	Spain	Open Access Network FttH	160k units in the rural and semi-rural areas of several provinces across Castilla & Leon and Extremadura
Fibernet	Oct 2022	Finland	Open Access Network FttH	41k houses in a 1st phase

The main eligibility criteria for projects can be summarized as follows:

- Eligible projects (whether fixed line or mobile) should make a **significant contribution to the achievement of the targets of the Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE)**, which means, at the minimum, the support to the connectivity necessary to achieve the DAE Target 2 (30 Mbps) and/or Target 3 (100 Mbps). Furthermore, in case of fixed line networks, minimum speed levels in line with DAE target 3 (100 Mbps) should be permanently available for at least one or several retail products out of the operator’s commercial product offerings. A **priority** should be given to projects that facilitate the transition towards a **European Gigabit Society** by the deployment of networks upgradable to 1 Gigabit as well as to projects based on wholesale-only models.
- The Company only invests in what is referred to as **“greenfield” projects**. These projects are defined as investments carried out by “start-up” companies or companies that have an asset base which is small compared to the cumulative investments planned for new assets.
- Eligible projects deploy **“state of the art technology”** which means a technology, or a mix of technologies, whose performance features are comparable to the best-performing commercially available technologies.
- The projects are deployed **predominantly in underserved areas**, which would be typically classified as grey NGA (i.e. only one NGA network exists or is planned) and white NGA areas (no NGA network exists), for state aid purposes.
- An investment by the Fund **will not exceed € 50 million for one project**.

Visit [cebfund.eu](https://www.cebfund.eu/) (<https://www.cebfund.eu/>) for more information

The video was prepared for the launch of the CEBF in 2018

See also

[More videos on broadband in the EU](#)

(https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyMUk47rPuqq76B2nX2SoqMCf5IPgn_Ay)

Contact

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