

## European Investment Project Portal (EIPP)

### What is EIPP?

EIPP is a publicly available web portal in which EU based project promoters are given the opportunity to show their projects to potential investors worldwide. EIPP will thus serve as a transparent forward-looking pipeline of investment projects, reinforcing investors' confidence about the prospects of the EU economy. EIPP is integral part of the virtuous circle paradigm: more investment leads to more jobs and higher economic growth, and EIPP is there to stimulate the investment process.

EIPP's main components are: (i) a database of project fiches (structured project summary information); (ii) an interactive project map; and (iii) an interactive project directory in a tabular form.

### EIPP's Legal Basis

Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 from 25/06/2015 on the European Fund for Strategic Investments, the European Investment Advisory Hub and the European Investment Project Portal (in particular, article 15 and recitals 55-57) and Commission Decision (EU) 2015/1214 from 22/07/2015 creating the EIPP and setting out its technical specifications.

### Why do we need EIPP?

Various investors have claimed that the lack of a transparent forward looking pipeline of EU investment projects had acted as a barrier to investment in the EU, especially in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis.

Such investors have commended the EIPP approach of establishing a common project promoting platform, where they could see projects across different EU countries, sectors and sizes alike. Some multinational investors have experienced increasing liquidity in recent years without a corresponding increase in investment opportunities.

Meanwhile, the EU Investment Plan stresses the need to leverage and multiply limited available public finances by crowding in more external investment.

Project promoters also prefer to have more than one option for financing their projects, just as investors prefer to screen more projects before deciding which ones to actually invest in. Public and private project promoters alike will be able to submit projects to EIPP.

EIPP is designed to contribute towards the establishment of an EU-wide promotional project platform, helping the acceleration and the fruition of more investment within the Union and beyond.

Organisations such as the OECD, G20, the IMF have commended and encouraged the effort to create transparent portal of EU projects. The former two are actively pursuing the establishment of transparent pipelines of projects.

### Timeline

EIPP is expected to become live in February 2016. The Commission, with the help of the Member States and private organisations is collecting a pre-launch database of projects, which will appear on EIPP from its very start.

### Criteria for admitting projects to EIPP

Projects shall:

- have a minimum size of EUR 10 million,
- fall within one of the sectors/areas listed in Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) 2015/1017,
- be compatible with Union law and the law of the relevant Member State,
- be expected to start within three years from submission to EIPP,
- The project promoter should be a legal entity established in a Member State (individuals cannot submit projects), and
- Publication of a project can be denied if the information is inaccurate or if its publication may entail reputational or national security risks.

A light screening procedure will be in place, whereby the European Commission and the EU Member States will have the right to object to projects based on the above grounds.