

Green Logistics Programme: sustainable practices in Morocco, Serbia and Turkey



Many economies where the EBRD invests are characterised by highly inefficient energy use in transport operations, a key contributor to climate change. Technical skills and expertise need to be improved so that professionals can increase their understanding of how to make logistics more sustainable across transport networks.

In order to make freight operations more environmentally sound and sustainable, the Bank has launched a Green Logistics Programme (GLP) across its region.

Through the Programme we are investing US\$ 153.2 million with co-financing from the private sector, blended with US\$ 15 million in concessional financing from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as mobilising US\$ 800,000 of technical cooperation (TC) funds. The application of green logistics principles through the GLP will bring energy savings, thus reducing the negative environmental impact of logistics.

One of the TC components of the Programme, launched in 2017 with a two-year duration, is dedicated to building the capacity of training providers, including universities and local professional associations. It will also raise the level of skills among logistics professionals in Morocco, Serbia and Turkey through a work-based vocational education and training programme.

We are currently completing the development of training curricula in green logistics,

tailor-made to the specific conditions of each country. The curricula will include modules such as infrastructure impact measurement and green supply chains, as well as sustainable and efficient multi-modal transport technologies, and technological change. The training will be delivered in the three target countries during Q3 2018 and will be certified by a registered charity, the UK Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. The transfer of skills will act as a model for the adoption of green processes in logistics.

As a result of this work, we will contribute to building best practices, demonstrate the

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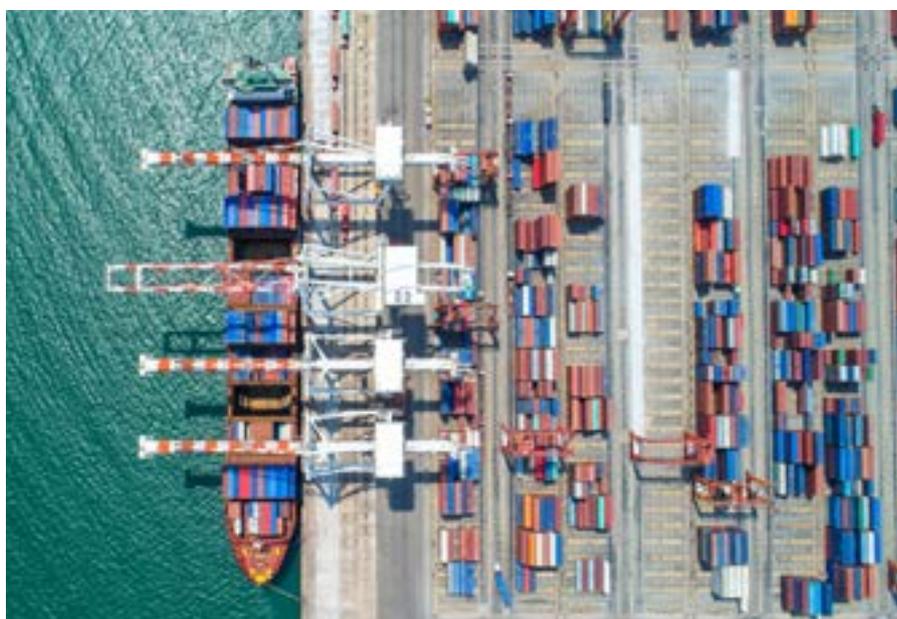
Welcome to the CSO Newsletter

In this issue we report on a Green Logistics Programme to improve the skills of academia and professional associations through vocational training. We look ahead to the 2018 EBRD Civil Society Programme, which will take place from 9-10 May at the Dead Sea, Jordan, alongside the 27th EBRD Annual Meeting and Business Forum. And we give you a snapshot of the EBRD's new Cultural Heritage Framework and report back from the Board of Directors' meetings with civil society in Uzbekistan. As always, we bring you the latest news about the Bank's dialogue with CSOs on strategies, recent projects and initiatives.

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benefits of adopting greener operational practices and lead to ongoing behavioural changes in the sector.



2018 Annual Meeting: Civil Society

This year the Civil Society Programme will take place from 9-10 May at the King Hussein bin Talal Convention Centre by the Dead Sea in Jordan. It will provide an opportunity for dialogue between civil society and EBRD staff, senior management, the President and Board Directors about the EBRD's policies and investment projects. The Programme will also feature the roundtable sessions detailed below.



Supporting youth inclusion in SEMED

The first panel of the 2018 Civil Society Programme will be organised and led by CSOs themselves; the call for proposals has been launched on ebrd.com, Facebook and Twitter, and the selection process is being finalised. This year, the CSO panel will explore the importance of civil society's role in creating an environment that can integrate young people and facilitate their access to finance and economic opportunities in the southern and eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) region. Globalisation, migration and growing numbers of refugees have put labour markets under considerable pressure recently. In this context, young people in economies where the EBRD invests often face challenges such as high unemployment rates, and a lack of skills and access to training. The panel will look into the vital role that CSOs play in bridging these gaps by fostering youth entrepreneurship and access to finance, and by catalysing job creation and the development of skills.

We are currently inviting CSOs to propose ideas for this panel. If you work with young people in SEMED and you would like to lead this discussion and be the organiser and speaker for this panel, please get in touch with us at csos@ebrd.com!



Increasing resilience to climate change and water scarcity

The second panel will look into how civil society can promote resilience in the EBRD region as areas undergo transition to market economies. Many SEMED economies face significant water scarcity. The projected impact of climate change will put additional strain on water resources and could increase the frequency, duration and intensity of droughts. These changes are a significant threat to public health and the environment, with the risk of adverse economic impact. In this context, Jordan, as the world's fourth-driest country, is particularly affected by water poverty. With the help of country-specific examples, the panel will explore the role of CSOs, looking at community engagement with municipalities and ways to improve stakeholder involvement

in water governance in the SEMED region. Panellists will discuss how outreach measures to end-users in local communities can improve awareness of safe and sustainable practices in water and wastewater management, thereby increasing access to safe drinking water and establishing sustainable water-supply systems.

The roundtable discussion panels will be open to all participants in the Annual Meeting and Business Forum.

More information about the Civil Society Programme is available at <http://www.ebrd.com/who-we-are/civil-society/news-and-events.html>

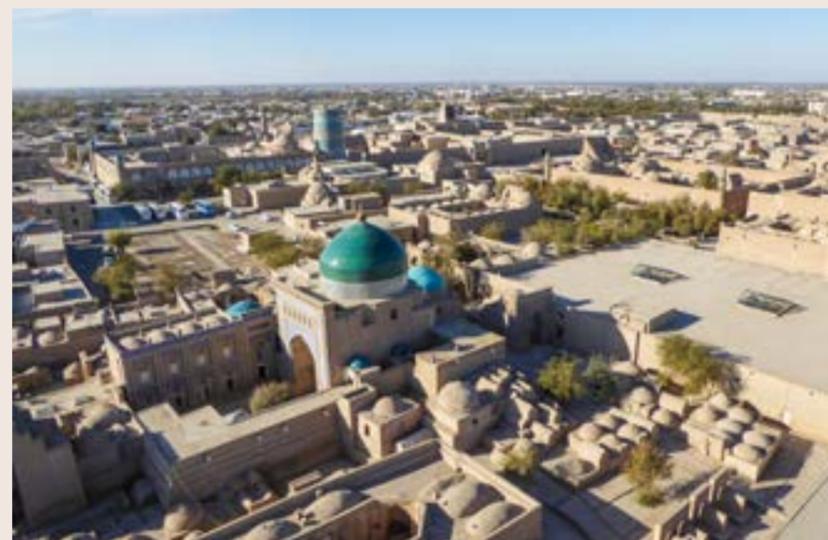
For more details about the EBRD Annual Meeting and Business Forum 2018 (including registration for CSOs) see www.ebrd.com/am



India has become the EBRD's 69th member, after applying for membership of the Bank in December 2017. The country is taking a shareholding in the Bank but it will not become a recipient of financing. The EBRD has already been cooperating with India on financial and policy issues: joint investments with Indian firms are currently worth a total of almost €1 billion. In 2017 the EBRD strengthened ties with the International Solar Alliance, an initiative of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former French President François Hollande.

DIALOGUE

Country strategy consultations and Board consultation visits



EBRD President visits West Bank and Gaza and Lebanon for the first time

The EBRD President Suma Chakrabarti visited the West Bank and Gaza on 13 March for the first time since the Bank began its engagement there. He was in Ramallah and Bethlehem to meet the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah, Minister of National Economy Abeer Odeh, Minister of Tourism Rula Maayeh, and the Governor of the Palestine Monetary Authority Azzam Shawwa. During this visit, a signing ceremony for the EBRD's first investment in the West Bank and Gaza was also held: a US\$ 5 million loan to Cairo Amman Bank Palestine that will provide access to finance for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

Consultation with local and international CSOs on Uzbekistan Country Strategy

In the context of greater engagement in Uzbekistan since last year, the Bank is currently reviewing its Uzbekistan Country Strategy. On 22 February a consultation meeting was held in Tashkent to gather input from local CSOs about the EBRD's planned activities in the country and the operational priorities envisaged for the forthcoming strategy period (2018-23). The meeting was attended by 10 CSOs active in the areas of civil society development, legal advocacy, economic policy research, socio-economic development and environmental issues. Civil society participants raised a number of concerns but also welcomed the Bank's strengthened engagement in Uzbekistan. In their view, the EBRD has an important role to play in policy dialogue and setting standards through its investment projects, in particular in terms of social and environmental impact as well as transparency and governance standards.

In addition, on 9 March, the Bank hosted a consultation meeting with international CSOs in its London Headquarters. Participants shared their concerns about the recent setting for political and economic reform in the country as well as challenges and opportunities for CSO activities. The following CSOs participated: Amnesty International, CEE Bankwatch Network, Human Rights Watch, International Partnership for Human Rights, the International State Crime Initiative (ISCI) research centre at Queen Mary University

of London, the Open Society Foundation, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) and the Uzbek-German Forum.

The draft Strategy is due for publication in June, to be followed by a 45-calendar-day public consultation period. The final document is due to be adopted in Q4 2018.

Board Directors meet with civil society in Uzbekistan

On 20 March, EBRD Board Directors met with civil society representatives in Tashkent as part of their consultation visit to Uzbekistan. The topics covered during the meeting included the development of civil society, judicial and regulatory reform, as well as economic inclusion and challenges in sustainability.



President Chakrabarti also visited Beirut on 15 March for the first time since Lebanon became an EBRD recipient in September 2017. During his stay, he met the President of Lebanon Michel Aoun, Prime Minister Saad Hariri, Speaker of the Parliament of Lebanon Nabih Berri, Minister of Finance Ali Hassan Khalil, and Governor of the Central Bank Riad Salameh. During his visit, the EBRD also launched its first project in the country, supporting Bank Audi by acquiring ordinary shares listed on the Beirut Stock Exchange.

IN BRIEF

Cultural Heritage Integration Framework

The EBRD has approved a new Cultural Heritage Integration Framework for investments that support and enhance projects located near or within a cultural heritage site. The Framework will be used in five locations: Albania, Jordan, Romania, Uzbekistan, and the West Bank and Gaza. It has the overall goal of increasing income related to tourism while also improving connectivity and accessibility to cultural heritage sites, boosting the involvement of communities and SMEs in the local and wider value chains of the tourism sector, and developing cultural heritage tourism in a sustainable manner.

Total EBRD finance/project value: €150 million



Green Innovation Voucher scheme in Serbia

A new voucher scheme for innovative green solutions has been awarded in Belgrade in partnership with Austria's DRIVE (Delivering Resource Efficiency InVEstments) Programme and with funding from Italy and the Central European Initiative. Under the scheme, 10 companies will be eligible to receive an innovation voucher of up to €20,000 for proposals aimed at increasing the capacity of MSMEs in the field of green technology and resource efficiency. Companies will work with providers of research, mainly local universities, and a few selected projects will specifically aim to support sustainable and precision agriculture, waste management and the reuse of waste materials.

EBRD finance: €150,000

EBRD adopts new strategy for Serbia

The EBRD's Board of Directors has approved a new strategy for Serbia that will guide the Bank's investments and policy work in the country for the next five years.

The 2018-23 strategy sets out the following three priorities: (1) fostering competitiveness and governance by boosting private companies and reforming state-owned enterprises and public utilities; (2) enhancing integration by improving the transport network, supporting regional economic connectivity and advancing energy interconnections; and (3) supporting the green economy through investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as promoting sustainable practices across industries. The new strategy for Serbia follows a year of strong EBRD investment in the country. In 2017 the Bank provided over €380 million in more than 20 projects across various sectors of the Serbian economy.

Key dates and contacts

Country strategies: public comment periods

Poland	February – March 2018
Uzbekistan	May – June 2018
Tunisia	July – August 2018
Ukraine	August – September 2018
Azerbaijan	To be confirmed

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www.ebrd.com/strategies-and-policies/have-your-say.html

Contacts

Civil Society Engagement Unit

Tel: +44 20 7338 7982
Email: cso@ebrd.com

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

One Exchange Square
London EC2A 2JN
United Kingdom
www.ebrd.com

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