

CINEA 2023 Annual Activity Report

Funding a Green Future for Europe:

A record of **10.6 EUR billion** was committed to new projects for the development of a climate-neutral, resource-efficient, competitive and resilient economy for the benefit of all EU citizens.





RESULTS ON CINEA KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Efficient programme implementation

For the second consecutive year, CINEA reached all targets for the indicators related to sound budget management while managing a high volume of operations and overseeing an increasing and diverse portfolio of projects.

Effective budget execution

payment

Timeliness of the operations

Timely payments

99%

Grant agreements (GAs) signed

Estimated risk at closure

Robustness of controls

Execution commitment appropriations

Execution appropriations

Timely payments amount

number

98%

on time

100%





1.41%

HIGH QUALITY EVALUATION PROCESS



% OF REQUESTS FOR REVIEW UPHELD BY THE REDRESS EVALUATION COMMITTEE

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES









OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF)

With EUR 5.3 billion of the EU contribution paid in 2023, the CEF portfolio contributed to building a sustainable transport and energy infrastructure in Europe.

Funding was awarded to Moldova and Ukraine, countries newly associated to the CEF programme, to implement projects related to border crossing points.

Other newly awarded projects, among others, will build 12 000 charging points and 18 hydrogen refuelling stations and support the construction of the first high voltage underwater electricity interconnection between Sicily and Tunisia.

HORIZON EUROPE (HE)

The Horizon portfolio grew to more than 1 200 projects tackling the negative impacts of climate change as well as making the energy and transport sectors more resilient, efficient and competitive.

The programme's innovative portfolio includes the CarbFix2 project located at the Hellisheidi geothermal plant in Iceland with its ground-breaking technology capturing carbon dioxide from the air, dissolving it in water and turning it into stone.

INNOVATION FUND Funded by the EU Emissions Trading System

INNOVATION FUND (IF)

The size of the IF portfolio doubled compared to 2022.

The first Innovation Fund auction call for renewable hydrogen with a budget of EUR 800 million was published. The auction aims to kick-start the development of a European hydrogen market in view of meeting Europe's ambitious climate targets.

At the same time, the IF 2023 call for proposals for net/zero technologies with a record budget of EUR 4 billion was published.

CROSS-PROGRAMME SYNERGIES

Working together to strengthen synergies! 2023 was the second year of implementation of the cross-programme & synergy strategy with deliverables such as portfolio analyses (e.g. analysis of CINEA's Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage portfolio), thematic workshops (e.g. a workshop on hydrogen) as well as organisation and/or participation to cross-programme events (e.g. European Maritime Day).

PROGRAMME FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION (LIFE)

The LIFE public dashboard was released, offering detailed data on over 1 400 LIFE projects aiming at circular and energy-efficient EU economy as well as to protect the environment and to halt and reverse biodiversity loss.

The Green Assist initiative providing technical advisory services with an estimated budget of EUR 30 million became fully operational in 2023.

EUROPEAN MARITIME, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE FUND (EMFAF)

Newly awarded EMFAF projects to support Blue Careers and Women in the Blue Economy started their implementation alongside several key contracts to support DG MARE's policy activities.

Simultaneously, the Agency carried out several procurement procedures to purchase services in support of the common fisheries and maritime policies.

JUST TRANSITION MECHANISM - PUBLIC SECTOR LOAN FACILITY (JTM-PSLF)

CINEA signed the first grant agreement funded by the Public Sector Loan Facility. The project will receive EUR 14.5 million of EU funding to help the Western Macedonia region in Greece in its transition away from carbon intensive activities, such as lignite mining.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FINANCING MECHANISM (RENEWFM)

CINEA launched the first call for proposals under the RENEWFM and co-organised a dedicated info day with the Finish Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment in Helsinki.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HIGHLIGHTS

Staff turnover and vacancy rate were at the lowest level since the creation of CINEA thanks to an intensified recruitment and the Agency's efforts to nurture talent though

HR at the heart of CINEA An environmentally friendly Agency

Several initiatives to reduce CINEA's environmental footprint such as installation of additional plugs for e-bikes, awareness raising campaign and support for corporate campaigns such as Buildings Energy Savings Together (BEST) actions took place in 2023.

An Agency embracing digital transformation Successful launch of CINEA's public dashboard, enabling users to explore all projects managed by the Agency alongside further development of other IT tools to gather and show programme related information.

Promotion of an inclusive common culture through the adoption of CINEA Staff Core Values.

Support for bottom-up initiatives such 'Let's talk' sessions, 'Innovation Lab' and the 'Ideas box'.

An Agency fostering staff engagement

Internal controls are efficient and functioning as intended attested by the satisfactory balance between generally low error rates, swift time-to-pay and low costs of controls

An effective and efficient Agency

WE FACED SOME CHALLENGES

A rapidly growing portfolio of over 3 600 projects contributing to the European Green Deal Adverse external effects on projects' implementation due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine

TO OVERCOME THEM, WE...

Optimised our working methods through further simplification of our procedures

Intensified recruitment achieving the lowest vacancy rate (3%) since the Agency's new mandate Maintained robustness of our controls while keeping an agile programme management approach Continued providing excellent project management services and offered tailored solutions to beneficiaries

CINEA STAFF WAS A KEY DRIVER OF OUR SUCCESS

The motivation and dedication of CINEA's staff as well as its commitment to contribute to a green future for Europe lies at the heart of CINEA's achievements.