

 Early Warning System

EIB-20240435

AURUBIS CRM COPPER INVESTMENTS



Quick Facts

Countries	Bulgaria, Germany
Specific Location	Pirdop (BG); Hamburg (GE)
Financial Institutions	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2025-06-18
Borrower	AURUBIS AG
Sectors	Energy, Industry and Trade, Mining
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 229.52 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 229.52 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 353.46 million



Project Description

According to the EIB, the project will finance the expansion of a copper electrolysis refining plant at an existing site in Bulgaria. It also includes the construction of a first-of-its-kind recycling facility in Germany, designed to process complex internal and external smelter intermediary products as well as recycling materials.

The promoter's investments aim to address the growing demand for copper—a strategic raw material essential for the production of Net-Zero technologies, including e-mobility, renewables, ICT, as well as aerospace and defence.

The expansion of the electrolysis plant will increase the output of copper cathodes—refined, finished copper—at the Pirdop refinery in Bulgaria by 50%, reaching 340,000 tons per year.

Through the Complex Recycling Hamburg (CRH) project, the promoter will gain the capacity to process approximately 30,000 additional tons per year of recycled materials and complex internal smelter intermediary products. As a result, the company is streamlining both internal and external value chains, contributing to the circular economy.



Investment Description

- European Investment Bank (EIB)



Private Actors Description

As stated by Bloomberg, Aurubis AG operates copper smelting and refining facilities. The Company primarily produces copper rod used in the manufacture of power cables, building wires and other wiring used in electrical applications. Aurubis also produces copper cakes, cathodes, billets and bars and markets precious metals, chemicals and other metals produced as by-products of copper smelting.



Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	Aurubis AG	Client	Mining



Contact Information

No project contacts provided at the time of disclosure.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/registers/request-form/request-form-default.htm>

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF EIB

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When dissatisfied with a complaint to the EIB Complaints Mechanism, citizens can then turn towards the European Ombudsman. A memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the EIB and the European Ombudsman establishes that citizens (even outside of the EU if the Ombudsman finds their complaint justified) can turn towards the Ombudsman on issues related to 'maladministration' by the EIB. Note that before going to the Ombudsman, an attempt must be made to resolve the case by contacting the EIB. In addition, the complaint must be made within two years of the date when the facts on which your complaint is based became known to you. You can write to the Ombudsman in any of the languages of the European Union. Additional details, including filing requirements and complaint forms, are available at: <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/atyourservice/interactiveguide.faces>



Bank Documents

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