

 Early Warning System

EIB-20240521

INWIT DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT II



Quick Facts

Countries	Italy
Financial Institutions	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2025-02-05
Borrower	Infrastrutture Wireless Italiane (INWIT) S.p.A.
Sectors	Communications
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 363.95 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 363.95 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 819.41 million

Project Description

As stated on the project disclosure page, this is the second EIB operation with Infrastrutture Wireless Italiane (INWIT) S.p.A., a leading company in mobile and broadcast communication towers in Italy.

The present project aims to support INWIT's expansion and modernisation, specifically focusing on towers and rooftop sites. It will host radio, antennas, and transmission equipment for multiple mobile network operators (MNO) and fixed wireless access operators.

The expansion through new sites will enable a wider coverage, particularly for 5G services, including in more disadvantaged areas.

The project also comprises new network infrastructure for fibre optic backhauling of the tower sites and the installation of small cells and Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) to extend the mobile network coverage inside facilities such as hospitals, museums, shopping malls, metro underground and highway tunnels. Such investments will support a better network coverage, higher network capacity and allow for better mobile indoor services particularly in the light of strongly raising mobile data traffic.

The project aligns perfectly with the "EU Digital Compass 2030," which states that by 2030 all EU households must have Gigabit connectivity. It also addresses the market failure of under-investment in Very High-Capacity Network (VHCN) infrastructure in areas previously considered unprofitable. The strategy of sharing infrastructure will facilitate the expansion to less populated areas due to reduced investment costs.

Furthermore, the project supports Innovation, Digital, and Human Capital - Digital Infrastructure and addresses failures in the financial market caused by the fact that the economic lifetime of digital infrastructure exceeds the tenor of loans, which are typically not available on domestic capital markets or from commercial banks.

The project is expected to accelerate investment in VHC networks in designated areas, thereby rating the EIB's as 'Very Good'. Additionally, it is important to consider that a significant share of the project (42%) will be located in cohesion regions.

The Project is eligible under / conforms with Article 309 point (a) Projects for developing less-developed regions and point (c) common interest of the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union.



Investment Description

- European Investment Bank (EIB)



Private Actors Description

As stated by the EIB, INWIT, Italy's first tower company and one of the country's digital infrastructure leaders, builds and manages digital shared infrastructure enabling mobile telecommunication connectivity. Its assets form part of an integrated ecosystem of macro-grids (around 25 000 towers) and micro-grids (some 600 dedicated indoor DAS roofs), including 4G and 5G of the main mobile operators, FWAs and IoT sensors. INWIT is listed on the Italian Stock Exchange (FTSE MIB - benchmark stock market index)



Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
-	-	-	-	INFRASTRUTTURE WIRELESS ITALIANE SPA	Client	Communications



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

- [Environmental and Social Data Sheet \(ESDS\)](#)

Media

- [Italy: EIB and INWIT sign €350 million agreement to develop digital telecommunications infrastru](#)



Other Related Projects

- EIB-20200946 INWIT DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT