

 Early Warning System

EIB-20250578

CASA L4SMES SECURITY AND DEFENCE



Quick Facts

Countries	France
Financial Institutions	European Investment Bank (EIB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2026-02-24
Borrower	CREDIT AGRICOLE SA
Sectors	Finance, Industry and Trade
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 470.96 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 470.96 million



Project Description

As stated by the EIB, the operation will support the intermediary in financing 100% eligible Security and Defence sub-projects carried out by small and medium-sizes enterprises (SMEs) and mid-caps in France.

The aim is to enhance access to finance for French SMEs and mid-caps active in the European security and defence sector, thereby bolstering France's and Europe's strategic sovereignty and the competitive resilience of the defence supply chain.

The operation is designed to alleviate financial constraints for French SMEs and Midcaps active in the European security and defence sector. It addresses entrenched market gaps stemming from restricted access to capital and/or elevated financing costs, attributable to sector-specific considerations, military technology activities and insufficient availability of bespoke financial solutions, further compounded by information gaps, perceived reputational concerns and inadequate collateral.



Investment Description

- European Investment Bank (EIB)

Financial Intermediary

Financial Intermediary: A commercial bank or financial institution that receives funds from a development bank. A financial intermediary then lends these funds to their clients (private actors) in the form of loans, bonds, guarantees and equity shares. Financial intermediaries include insurance, pension and equity funds. The direct financial relationship is between the development bank and the financial intermediary.

- [Crédit Agricole S.A.](#) (Financial Intermediary)



Private Actors Description

As stated by Bloomberg, Credit Agricole SA operates as a bank holding company. The Company, through its subsidiaries, offers banking, insurance, consumer finance, leasing, and factoring services, as well as designs and manages financial products. Credit Agricole serves customers worldwide.



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

The EIB Complaints Mechanism is designed to facilitate and handle complaints against the EIB by individuals, organizations or corporations affected by EIB activities. When exercising the right to lodge a complaint against the EIB, any member of the public has access to a two-tier procedure, one internal - the Complaints Mechanism Office - and one external - the European Ombudsman. A complaint can be lodged via a written communication addressed to the Secretary General of the EIB, via email to the dedicated email address: complaints@eib.org, by completing the online complaint form available at the following address: <http://www.eib.org/complaints/form> via fax or delivered directly to the EIB Complaints Mechanism Division, any EIB local representation office or any EIB staff. For further details, check: http://www.eib.org/attachments/strategies/complaints_mechanism_policy_en.pdf

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>



Other Related Projects

- EIB-20240718 PAN-EU SECURITY & DEFENCE LENDING ENVELOPE