



Le principali attività del Centro EUROPE DIRECT Siena

Il Centro EUROPE DIRECT è un progetto europeo - ospitato dall'Università di Siena - che prevede l'attivazione di iniziative al fine di Informare, comunicare e formare sui temi dell'Unione europea.

Si tratta di un network di oltre 40 Reti Europe Direct (ED) in tutta Italia, coordinate dalla Commissione Europea; in Toscana si trovano a Siena e Firenze che cooperano attraverso un Coordinamento Toscano.

La EUROPE DIRECT Siena si rivolge a tutti i cittadini e ha l'obiettivo di diffondere sul territorio le informazioni relative alle politiche ed ai programmi dell'Unione nonché dei finanziamenti al fine di soddisfare le esigenze informative e formative su questo tema.

La EUROPE DIRECT Siena si occupa, inoltre, di organizzare, in collaborazione con altre istituzioni e associazioni del territorio, iniziative ed eventi volti a sensibilizzare i cittadini e soprattutto a promuovere il dibattito, favorendo la conoscenza delle tematiche legate all'Unione europea.

State aid: Commission approves €89.5 million Italian measure under Recovery and Resilience Facility to support 3Sun's solar panel plant expansion

The European Commission has approved, under EU State aid rules, a €89.5 million Italian measure made available through the Recovery and Resilience Facility ('RRF') to support the expansion of **3Sun's** solar panel plant in Catania, Sicily. The measure will contribute to the EU's strategic objectives relating to the European Green Deal and to reinforce the EU strategic autonomy.

The Italian measure

The measure notified by Italy will be funded by the RRF, following the Commission's positive assessment of Italy's Recovery and Resilience Plan and its adoption by the Council. The aid will take the form of a €89.5 million direct grant to support 3Sun's investment for the expansion of its solar panels factory in Catania, Sicily. 3Sun is part of the Enel Group.

The project will expand the annual capacity of 3Sun's existing plant from 200 MW to more than 3 GW. It will also introduce a new technology called "TANDEM", which will improve the panel efficiency and therefore increase significantly the energy generated by each MW installed.

The factory will be the largest solar panels manufacturing site in Europe, which will ultimately reduce the EU dependency on imports from foreign manufacturers. The gigafactory is expected to create almost 650 direct jobs.

[...]

The Commission found that:

- The measure will contribute to the economic development and to the competitiveness of a disadvantaged area. In particular, the measure will have a **positive impact** on employment by creating almost 650 direct jobs in Sicily.
- The aid has an **incentive effect**, as the beneficiary would not have carried out the project without the public support.
- The measure has a limited impact on competition and trade within the EU. In particular, it is **necessary and appropriate** to ensure the expansion of the solar panel plant.

The aid is **proportionate** and limited to the minimum necessary to trigger the investment and will not exceed the maximum amounts of set out in Italian regional aid map.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3964

Commission presents Global Gateway Investment Agenda with Latin America and Caribbean

During EU-LAC Business Round Table as part of the EU-CELAC Summit, President Ursula von der Leyen has presented the **EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda (GGIA)**, which revolves around the following pillars: a fair green transition, an inclusive digital transformation, human development and health resilience and vaccines. She also announced that Team Europe has committed over €45 billion to support the reinforced partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean until 2027.

President of the European Commission, Ursula **von der Leyen**, said: *"I am pleased to announce that Team Europe will invest over €45 billion in Latin America and the Caribbean until 2027 via our programme Global Gateway. We shaped a high-quality investment agenda together, to the benefit of both our regions. We agreed on sectors and value chains to prioritize, from clean energy and critical raw materials to health and education. And it's not just about how much we are spending, but also how we are investing. Global Gateway comes with the highest environmental and social standards, and with transparency. This is Europe's way of doing business."*

The GGIA includes a list of more than 130 projects to make the fair green and digital transition a reality on both sides of the Atlantic. The list has been composed in close cooperation with the Spanish Presidency and is the basis for further dialogues with the Latin American and Caribbean partners.

Some examples of projects

- The EU will work with LAC partners on **Critical Raw Materials** (such as lithium and others) in the region (Argentina, Chile), as well as with the Critical Raw Materials Club to strengthen sustainable supply chains.
- **Brazil**: the EU will collaborate with the Brazilian government and EU private sector to expand telecoms networks in the Amazon region.
- **Costa Rica**: The EU will help with the electrification of public transport. Conversion of urban bus fleet to electric: 40 public e-vehicles contributing to a reduction of 5000 CO2 ktons per year.
- **Colombia**: Construction of a metro line.
- **Jamaica**: Deployment of 5G to reach island-wide broadband access.
- **Paraguay**: Upgrade of the electricity network with support to the Administración Nacional de Electricidad.

Commission presents Global Gateway Investment Agenda with Latin America and Caribbean

- **EU-LAC Digital Alliance:** EU-LAC digital cooperation activities are underway such as the extension of the BELLA cable and the creation of two regional Copernicus centres for disaster risk reduction, climate change, land and marine monitoring.
- In **Chile**, the EU has developed a **Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Green Hydrogen (GH2)**, to promote investment opportunities.
- The GGIA will support LAC countries' policies towards a climate-neutral economy and a resilient society that lives in harmony with nature. The EU and its Member States have pooled their resources to jointly establish the **Team Europe Initiative 'Brazil Tropical Forests'**. The EU will also contribute to the **Amazon Fund**.
- **LAC-Health Resilience initiative**, supporting the development of local medicines and vaccine manufacturing and health systems resilience, including regulatory frameworks.
- **LAC-Global Green Bonds Initiative**, fostering the development of the green bond market in LAC, thus mobilising capital for financing a sustainable transition.
- In **Panama**, the EU supports a joint project on universal **access to energy**.
- **'Inclusive Societies' programme** to tackle inequalities, reduce poverty and social exclusion, and enhance social cohesion within Latin American and Caribbean countries. It will promote gender and social policies, education and skills development, protection and social inclusion, with a specific emphasis on women and youth and focus.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3863



EU-Latin America and Caribbean Investment Agenda

Partnerships on Digital, Climate and Energy, Transport, Health, Education and Research

#GlobalGateway #TeamEurope



July 2023

Access City Award 2024: applications are open

The 2024 **Access City Award** is organised by the European Commission in partnership with the European Disability Forum.

This edition will have a special mention for cities whose work on accessibility is aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus: sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusiveness.

Who can apply?

The Access City Award is open to

- all EU cities of over 50 000 inhabitants
- urban areas composed of two or more towns with a combined population of over 50 000 inhabitants, if they are in EU countries with fewer than 2 cities with over 50 000 inhabitants

Download the latest Rules of Contest of the Access City Award. The Rules of Contest must be adhered to in order for applicant cities to submit eligible applications.

Why apply?

- Participating in the Award is an opportunity to gain European recognition and a unique chance to review the current situation in your city.
- It also allows you to share experiences with other European cities, helping you to become an even better city to live and visit.

Awards

Winning cities receive a financial prize:

- 1st prize: €150 000
- 2nd prize: €120 000
- 3rd prize: € 80 000

Special award

This year, the European Commission also intends to award a '**New European Bauhaus**' **special mention** to a city whose work on accessibility is aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus: sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusiveness.

Selection

The juries will consider measures taken and planned in the following areas:

- built environment and public spaces
- transport and related infrastructure
- information and communication, including new technologies (ICTs) public facilities and services

Apply now

Prepare your application now in the application portal. The deadline to apply is 18 September 2023 at 12:00 CEST (noon).

Please carefully read the guidance note for applicants before you apply. It will help you fill in the sections in the application form correctly and describe your activities successfully

Access City Award 2024: applications are open

Timeline

- 17 July 2023 : Launch of the competition
- 18 September 2023 noon (12:00 CEST): Application deadline
- Beginning of November 2023: Announcement of finalists
- 30 November 2023: Announcement of winner and runners-up at the award ceremony.

Award Ceremony

The winners will be announced at an award ceremony during the European Day of Persons with Disabilities conference taking place on 30 November and 1 December 2023.

Previous winner: Skellefteå (Sweden)

You can find examples of best practice by the 2023 winner and finalists in the Access City Award 2023 brochure

<https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?lgld=en&catId=89&newsId=10631&furtherNews=yes>



Diritti dei passeggeri aerei

I diritti dei passeggeri aerei dell'UE si applicano:

- Se il tuo volo avviene **all'interno dell'UE** ed è gestito da una **compagnia aerea dell'UE o extra UE**
- Se il tuo volo **arriva nell'UE** con provenienza da un paese extra UE ed è gestito da una **compagnia aerea dell'UE**
- Se il tuo volo **parte dall'UE** con destinazione in un paese extra UE ed è gestito da una **compagnia aerea dell'UE o extra UE**
- Se **non hai già ricevuto benefici** (risarcimento, volo alternativo, assistenza dalla compagnia aerea) per problemi connessi a questo volo ai sensi della normativa vigente in un paese extra UE.

Il viaggio di andata e quello di ritorno sono sempre considerati due voli distinti anche se sono stati prenotati insieme. In alcuni casi la compagnia aerea che gestisce il volo (a volte chiamata anche "vettore aereo operativo") potrebbe essere diversa da quella da cui hai acquistato il biglietto. In caso di difficoltà, è considerata responsabile soltanto la compagnia che gestisce il volo. Se una compagnia aerea noleggia (con un contratto di wet lease) un aeromobile insieme all'equipaggio di un'altra compagnia aerea, la compagnia aerea che noleggia l'aeromobile assume la responsabilità operativa del volo ed è considerata come compagnia aerea operante in base alle norme dell'UE (in particolare il regolamento (CE) n. 261/2004).

https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/travel/passenger-rights/air/index_it.htm



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