

Background note EBRD draft Transport Sector Strategy 2019-2024 Public consultation

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is currently reviewing its strategic approach to the Transport Sector and invites interested stakeholders in sharing comments and suggestions on the Draft Transport Sector Strategy 2019-2024.

Transport is a catalyst for economic and inclusive growth. At the same time transportation across the countries where the EBRD operates needs to be greener and more resilient to climate change to ensure these economies follow sustainable paths.

The Draft Transport Sector Strategy 2019-2024 aims at promoting sustainable transport systems, which embody market principles, balance economic, environmental and social needs and are responsive to the needs of people, industry and trade.

The EBRD Transport Sector Strategy covers the Bank's activities across the transport sector, including infrastructure and services (but excluding urban transport covered under the <u>EBRD Municipal and</u> <u>Environmental Infrastructures Strategy</u>). The Strategy is applicable to **all of the Bank's countries of operations** and interfaces with other strategies, approaches and policies of the Bank (e.g. Environmental and Social Policy, Economic Inclusion Strategy, Green Economy Transition).

The key strategic directions suggested by the EBRD draft Transport Sector Strategy are:

- **Connected Networks** to improve access in line with the needs of businesses and individuals to support economic growth, trade and prosperity.
- **Private Sector Participation** to encourage commercial principles that will drive sector and reform of state owned enterprises.
- Environmentally and Socially Responsive Transport which seeks to reduce inequality and regional imbalances.
- Low carbon and Innovative Solutions, which will drive change and reduce carbon emissions.

Alongside its investments, emphasis will continue to be placed on policy dialogue and reform as a key instrument for the Bank to meet its strategic objectives. As part of this effort the EBRD will pursue effective cooperation with other Multilateral Development Banks, international organisations as well as other actors with the objective to engage with governments across the region on sector reform.



Public Consultation Process

In accordance with the EBRD's Public Information Policy, the Bank invites civil society organisations, its clients, partners and all interested stakeholders to contribute to the development of its Transport Sector Strategy. The Strategy draft has been released in English on EBRD's website on 11 July 2019 and will be open for public consultation via written comments from stakeholders for 45 calendar days, or until 6 September 2019.

Three consultation meetings will be held across the EBRD's countries of operations, taking place in Istanbul (25 July), Belgrade (26 July) and Cairo (29 July).

Upon conclusion of the public consultation process, all comments received in writing and during consultation meetings will be reviewed by EBRD management for relevant implications for the Strategy. A Report on the Invitation to the Public to Comment - including a summary of the feedback from stakeholders and responses by EBRD management - will be presented to the Bank's Board of Directors ahead of the Strategy's final review for approval.

Contact points

EBRD is leading the public consultation process, with support from an implementation partner, Revelle Group. For any organisational issues, please contact: EBRD-transport@revellegroup.eu.

For any specific questions related to the EBRD Transport Strategy, comments or suggestions, please write to <u>TransportStrategy@ebrd.com</u>. Please note that while all comments will be acknowledged by email, responses will be provided as part of the Report on Public Comments.