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EU-FUNDS NEXT GENERATION: INVESTMENTS OPPORTUNITIES

IN SPAIN

FLANDERS INVESTMENT & TRADE MARKET SURVEY

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EU-FUNDS ‘NEXTGENERATION’

INVESTMENTS OPPORTUNITIES IN SPAIN
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In addition to the NextGenerationEU, the European Council approved the *Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027* for a total of €1.8 trillion including the RRF. This is in addition to the €540 billion in liquidity provision launched in spring 2020 through three instruments:

- ***SURE***, which aims to protect workers and from which Spain will receive €21 billion to finance ERTes, the extraordinary benefit for the self-employed and work incapacities arising from the pandemic.
- ***Pan-European guarantee fund of the European Investment Bank (EIB)*** aimed at strengthening the solvency of companies.
- ***European Stability Mechanism (ESM)*** through the credit line for Member States for pandemic-related expenditure.

3. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN SPAIN

There has been talk about digital transformation for many years, but perhaps it has been in recent months, with the effects of quarantine resorting teleworking or e-commerce, that it has been noticed the need for it the most. Many companies have had to transform quickly, adapting their internal processes, their relationship with customers and even their business models to the new needs.

However, digital transformation is nothing new, and before the health crisis many organizations had already come a long way. This is reflected in the *Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)*, which annually measures the performance and evolution of EU Member States in terms of digital competitiveness.

The DESI Index analyses five indicators: **Digital Public Services, Connectivity, Human Capital, Digital Technology Integration and Use of Internet Services.**

In ecological transition, it includes (1) the deployment of renewable generation, (2) the promotion of sustainable, safe, and connected urban mobility (250,000 electric vehicles and 100,000 charging points by 2023), (3) a housing rehabilitation and urban regeneration plan, (4) investment in electricity infrastructures and promotion of smart grids, and (5) renewable hydrogen and its sectoral integration.

Within the sector, sustainable construction is set to be one of the keys to the decarbonization of the planet. Building is currently one of the areas with the greatest potential for improvement in energy terms, given that buildings are responsible for 40% of the EU's energy consumption and 36% of greenhouse gas emissions, generated mainly during their construction, use, renovation and demolition. While it is true that the construction of new buildings is very much geared towards efficiency and the incorporation of environmental and sustainability criteria that considerably reduce their impact, the existing building stock is one of the main focuses of action.

5. RECOVERY PLAN OF SPAIN

To achieve a counter-cyclical effect and to boost economic activity and employment already in the second part of 2021, the General State Budget foresees an investment of 27 billion euros in line with the Recovery Plan. In addition to the budgetary envelope, a specific legal framework has been adopted to modernize and streamline investment and PPP (public-private-partnership) instruments, with a governance that allows for a good articulation of actions with the Autonomous Communities and local governments.

This will lead to potential growth of over 2%, sustained and rich in quality job creation, allowing for catching up with European investment levels and re-establishing quality job creation, allowing us to approach European investment levels and regain the pace seen before the financial crisis.

The following table shows Spain's 20 most important investments during the period 2021-23¹:

20 KEY INVESTMENTS	Billion € 2021-23
Strategy for Sustainable, Safe and Connected Mobility	13.2
Housing Rehabilitation and Urban Regeneration Program	6.8
Modernisation of Public Administrations	4.3
SME Digitalisation Plan	4
5G Roadmap	4
New Industrial Policy Spain 2030 and Circular Economy Strategy	3.7
National Digital Skills Plan	3.5
Modernization and Competitiveness of the Tourism Sector	3.4
Development of the National Science and Innovation System	3.3
Deployment and Integration of Renewable Energies	3
New Care Economy	2.5
New Public Policies for a Dynamic, Resilient and Inclusive Labor Market	2.3
Coastal and Water Resources Preservation	2
Strategic Plan for Vocational Training	2
Modernization and Digitalization of the Education System	1.6
Conservation and Restoration of Ecosystems and Biodiversity	1.6
Renewable Hydrogen Roadmap	1.5
Electricity Infrastructures, Smart Grids, Storage	1.3
Renewal and Modernization of the Health System	1
National Artificial Intelligence Strategy	500

¹ Source: Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan - Government of Spain

6. HOW TO BENEFIT AND APPLY?

The NextGenerationEU European Funds will be implemented respecting the distribution of competences of the different levels of government and in accordance with the forms of expenditure defined in the legal system of public administrations. They will therefore be implemented through calls for tenders, grants and subsidies. It is also foreseen that the use of existing public-private partnership tools will be significantly increased.

The MOVES III program will be coordinated by the IDAE and managed by the autonomous communities and cities, which will have to make the corresponding calls for proposals in the desired territory.

- For more information: ([PLAN MOVES III](#)).

It also contains information available on the call for applications in each Autonomous Community.

Autonomous Community	Budget	Acceptance of aid	Links
Andalucía	71.353.165 €	YES	Agencia Andaluza de la Energía
Aragón	11.206.480 €	YES	Gobierno de Aragón
Asturias	8.588.130 €	-	Gobierno Principado de Asturias
Islas Baleares	9.875.856 €	-	Dirección General de Energía
Canarias	18.342.808 €	-	Gobierno de Canarias
Cantabria	4.913.764 €	YES	Gobierno de Cantabria
Castilla- La Mancha	17.240.773 €	YES	Gobierno de Castilla-La Mancha
Castilla y León	20.188.644 €	-	Gobierno Castilla y León
Cataluña	65.587.765 €	-	Instituto Catalán de Energía
Ceuta	709.805 €	-	Gobierno de Ceuta
Comunidad Valenciana	42.632.398 €	YES	Gobierno Comunidad Valenciana

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