

European Conference on Social Infrastructure Investment

There are significant investment needs in social care & support, health, education and housing;. The Report “[Boosting Investment in Social Infrastructure in Europe](#)” estimates the investment gap in social infrastructure alone as 150 billion per year for the next ten years.

The Council of the European Union has [recently highlighted](#) the lack of investment into the social sectors with its recommendation for the development of a ‘clear strategy and strong investment’ to ensure the provision of modern high-quality community-based services.

The EU Investment Plan has been successful in many areas. It has however struggled in unlocking significant investment into social infrastructure; with under 4% of the European Fund for Strategic Investments being used for social investments into the aforementioned sectors.

There are several explanations for this; highlighted in EASPD’s November 2017 report [Investing in Social Care and Support, a European Imperative](#).

Despite their investment needs, many social, health, education & housing service providers are either unaware of the opportunities offered through the EU Investment Plan or struggle with the gap between their own investment plans and what the EIB and the EU Investment Plan has to offer.

EASPD therefore wishes to organize a Conference on the 18th October to better understand what social projects are out there, to match projects with potential financiers and explore the support available and needed to help make these projects suitable for European investors.

Due to the cross-sectoral linkages in social, health, education and housing sectors, EASPD would be keen on organizing such a Conference together with the members of the Steering Board on Social Infrastructure. The morning could focus on the investment plans and projects themselves, the afternoon could focus on what’s needed to bring these projects to the EIB (capacity building, technical assistance. It could also be the opportunity to present the Steering Board to the general public.

17th October 18h30 – 20h30

Match-making session between investors and projects along with CEB, EIB advisory Hub and Our members to meet in a less formal surrounding.

II. Conference Programme

9h30 10h15	–	Opening Speeches & Keynote speaker CoR/ DG ECFIN/ Representatives from the Organisers
10h15 11h15	–	General Plenary discussion/debate: What do we mean by Social Infrastructure investment? <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What should we invest in? Lieve Fransen- How should we invest in these projects? ELTI- Which criteria & evaluation system to use, Francis Deplace, Delphis- Barriers/opportunities for investors, CEB/EIB- Barriers/opportunities for social sectors, Bjorn Mallants, HE- What role for the EU, rep from Advisory Hub
11h15 11h45	–	Coffee Break
11h45 13h	–	General Plenary: What do we mean by Social Infrastructure projects? <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation of different projects (social needs, rationale, objective, financial details) Discussion on how to finance such projects: challenges and opportunities
13h – 14h		Lunch & Display of project opportunities



