Spotlight on...

Building a future of energy efficiency

Latest news
Catch up on developments from across the CEB

Exclusive
The CEB’s first social inclusion bond

The interview
Info meets Alain Rosenoer of Société Wallonne du Logement

Focus on...
Energy efficiency utility projects in Spain

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Dear reader,

In the context of the global fight against climate change, the CEB has made environmental protection one of its priority areas of operation. The aim is to give maximum support to CEB members in order to help them reach their Sustainable Development Goals and other green targets in line with European and international standards.

CEB efforts in this area include climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, enhancing the energy efficiency of buildings through renovation and modernisation, and in general reducing the impact of human activity on the environment.

In this issue of Info, you will find examples of projects financed by the Bank in this area. For example, you can read about the CEB’s contribution to a nationwide programme of the Bulgarian government aimed at increasing the energy efficiency of some 700,000 housing units, generating massive energy savings throughout the country and improving the living conditions of close to two million persons.

You will also find details about the financing of similar programmes in Castile and León in Spain, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and in Wallonia in Belgium, to improve the energy efficiency of up to 100,000 social housing units.

More recently, the CEB approved a €45 million loan to finance the installation of floating solar plants in Portugal. They will cover the needs of ten pumping stations of irrigation systems in the South-West of the country, reducing the use of potentially arable land and also energy costs and carbon emissions.

These, by way of example, demonstrate the CEB’s firm and ongoing commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection.

Rolf Wenzel
Governor, CEB
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**FIND OUT MORE ONLINE** [www.coebank.org](http://www.coebank.org)
IRISH FINANCE MINISTER VISITS CEB
Patrick O’Donovan, Ireland’s Minister of State at the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, visited CEB headquarters in April, to meet Governor Wenzel and discuss projects in Ireland. More than €600 million has been approved by the CEB in loans to Ireland in recent years; the Bank is currently financing a €150 million facility to support social housing upgrades.

CEB ISSUES SECOND SOCIAL INCLUSION BOND
The CEB issued a €500-million 7-year social inclusion bond on 20th March via Credit Agricole CIB, DZ Bank, Goldman Sachs International, and Rabobank. The bond gathered investor interest of over €700 million. The proceeds of the bond will finance projects with a high social added value, including those in social housing and education.
Page 8-9 Discover the projects funded by the CEB’s first social inclusion bond

CEB ISSUES €1BN 5-YEAR BENCHMARK
On 17th May the CEB launched a successful new €1 billion 5-year benchmark via Commerzbank, J.P. Morgan, Natixis and SGCIB.

CEB RECEIVES AN HONORARY AWARD
The Bank has received an honorary award from the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency in recognition of its support on various key infrastructure projects in the country.

GOVERNOR VISITS BULGARIA
Governor Wenzel visited Bulgaria on 12th June. As well as meeting with government ministers and key officials, he signed a €20 million agreement to support MSMEs.
Page 10 How the CEB is helping to finance energy efficient housing in Bulgaria

BANK FINANCES A NEW HOSPITAL
On 8th June, Vice-Governor Rosa Sanchez-Yebra signed a grant agreement for the construction of a new hospital near the Syrian border. The CEB will oversee the construction and equipment of the new facility.

Fresh boost for irrigation infrastructure
The CEB and the European Investment Bank (EIB) are joining forces to fund €280 million of infrastructure upgrade work as part of the National Irrigation Programme of Portugal.
The project aims to enhance Portugal’s agricultural production and reduce water loss by an estimated 35 million cubic metres, and create many thousands of jobs. The project will promote rural economic development and increase resilience to the effects of climate change – particularly drought.

Governor Wenzel on official visit to Croatia
Governor Wenzel met with the head of the Croatian government, Prime Minister Andrej Plenković, and other senior government members during an official visit to Zagreb on 5th June.
Together they discussed the progress of CEB operations in Croatia and continuing cooperation to support the country’s public infrastructure development. The Governor also visited Gorica Staklo, a glass processing company, one of many MSMEs which has been able to finance its business expansion plans thanks to CEB funds channelled through the Croatian Bank for Reconstruction and Development.
The Governor later joined a panel discussion on the EU’s Multiannual Financial Framework, and the role of promotional banks in Europe, as part of a conference organised by the European Association of Public Banks.
CEB holds annual Joint Meeting

The CEB held its 53rd annual Joint Meeting in Bratislava on 15th June, bringing together members of the Bank’s Governing Board, Administrative Council and senior management.

Speaking at the start of the session, Dominique Lamiot, Chair of the Governing Board, said that the high number of projects and amounts in loans approved since 2017 demonstrated that the CEB was an important partner to its member states in the area of social investments.

Miglė Tuskienė, Chair of the Administrative Council, outlined some of the recent and ongoing CEB operations aimed at helping its members tackle the challenges facing them. She said that the Bank was employing innovative financial instruments and adapting its mechanisms and products to a changing environment.

In his statement, Governor Wenzel said, “The Slovak Republic exemplifies how the close cooperation between the CEB and a member country can yield excellent results in terms of supporting development, boosting growth and raising the living standards of entire cities and regions.”

During its afternoon meeting, the Administrative Council approved 11 projects with a high social impact.

Supporting young people

Governor Wenzel has signed a €150 million framework loan agreement with Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (CDC) to finance the renovation of France’s Young Workers’ Hostels.

The hostels provide temporary accommodation for young people aged from 16 to 30. Up to 100,000 people live in the hostels each year. The CEB loan will be used to enhance up to 200 housing units, improving their safety, energy efficiency and quality.

Speaking at the loan agreement signing in Paris on 14th May, Governor Wenzel said, “Access to affordable housing and the job market is crucial when it comes to building a decent life. With this loan, CEB funds will support thousands of young persons.”

The CEB’s Administrative Council has approved 11 new loans worth nearly €900 million, bringing the total amount approved for the first half of 2018 to €2.2 billion.

**SPAIN**
- **Loan size:** €200 million
- **Borrower:** Banco Santander
- **Aims:** To finance construction of renewable energy power plants, helping Spain’s government to reach its Europe 2020 objectives.

**Loan size:** €200 million
- **Borrower:** Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid
- **Aims:** To contribute to public programmes aimed at social cohesion, including those involving older people, people with disabilities, and the homeless.

**PORTUGAL**
- **Loan size:** €45 million
- **Borrower:** Empresa de Desenvolvimento e Infra-estruturas do Algueva (EDIA)
- **Aims:** To finance the harnessing of solar power.

**Loan size:** €100 million
- **Borrower:** Instituição Financeira de Desenvolvimento (IFD)
- **Aims:** To finance MSME productive investments throughout the country.

**ITALY**
- **Loan size:** €7 million
- **Borrower:** Permicro SPA
- **Aims:** To promote financial inclusion and boost job creation for vulnerable groups.
In short

The latest CEB loans span a variety of projects, ranging from those promoting energy efficiency to others supporting small businesses or enhancing health services.

**FINLAND**
- **Loan size:** €60 million
- **Borrower:** City of Vantaa
- **Aims:** To co-finance investments in water production, treatment and distribution.

**POLAND**
- **Loan size:** €67 million
  - **Borrower:** Region of Podlachia
  - **Aims:** To finance investments in public transport and health infrastructure.
- **Loan size:** €150 million
  - **Borrower:** Pekao Leasing
  - **Aims:** To finance investments by MSMEs, strengthening competitiveness and boosting jobs.

**SLOVAK REPUBLIC**
- **Loan size:** €50 million
  - **Borrower:** Bratislava Water Company
  - **Aims:** To co-finance investments in water production, treatment and distribution.

**ROMANIA**
- **Loan size:** €2 million
  - **Borrower:** Roma Education Fund
  - **Aims:** To provide bridge-financing for Roma community education programmes.

**REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**
- **Loan size:** €12 million
  - **Borrower:** Republic of Moldova
  - **Aims:** To modernise a key ambulance fleet, enhancing access to medical services for people in isolated rural areas.
An update on the CEB’s first social inclusion bond

In April last year the Bank issued its first social inclusion bond, dedicated to financing social housing, education and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). In this report we highlight the impact of the social loans granted by the CEB.

The inaugural CEB Social Inclusion Bond was well received, with more than 40 investors taking part in the bond offering, mainly from France, Germany and the Netherlands.

There are strict criteria for projects being financed through the bond. They must involve the renovation or construction of social housing for people on low incomes, relate to education or vocational training, or support MSMEs in creating/preserving viable jobs.

KEY DEAL CHARACTERISTICS

| Issue date | 3 April 2017 |
| Amount     | €500m |
| Maturity   | 10 April 2024 (7-year) |
| Rating     | Aa1/AA+/AA+ |
| Coupon     | 0.125% |
| Second Party Opinion | Sustainalytics |

Loan disbursement

- Social housing for low-income persons
- Education and vocational training
- Supporting MSMEs for the creation and preservation of viable jobs

Allocation of bond proceeds

- Amount of loans disbursed: €500m
- # of projects: 14
- # of sectors: 3
- # of countries: 11

- Germany
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Spain
- Finland
- France
- Italy
- Montenegro
- Poland
- Slovenia

Finland

- 12,061 MSMEs financed: 7,600 Micro | 3,898 Small | 563 Medium
- 112,877 jobs preserved | 1,228 jobs created
2013, Germany
The CEB approved a €100 million loan to part-finance NRW.BANK’s subsidised housing loan programme to enhance affordable rental housing for low-income tenants.

- Total cost: €173m
- CEB loan: €50m
- CEB Loan share: 29%
- Type of loans: Mortgage
- # of dwellings: 980

2014, Finland
We approved a €60 million programme loan to part-finance social infrastructure investments in the city of Vantaa, the majority supporting the construction and upgrade of schools.

- Total cost: €30m
- CEB loan: €14m
- CEB Loan share: 48%
- # of establishments: 203
- # of students/interns: 51,052

2015, Germany
The CEB approved a €100 million loan to part-finance NRW.BANK’s subsidised housing loan programme to enhance affordable rental housing for low-income tenants.

- Total cost: €6m
- CEB loan: €3m
- CEB Loan share: 49%
- Type of loans: Mortgage
- # of dwellings: 112,877
- Jobs preserved: 1,228

Bosnia and Herzegovina
We provided a €20 million loan to Raiffeisen Leasing d.o.o. Sarajevo to part-finance projects by new and existing micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), providing the long-term financing so vital to small businesses in this country.

- Total cost: €6m
- CEB loan: €3m
- CEB Loan share: 49%
- # of SMEs: 234
- o/w Micro: 104
- o/w Small: 94
- o/w Medium: 36
- # of Jobs preserved: 6,389

INFO MAGAZINE #2 2018
Energy efficiency is a key focus for the Bulgarian government. Since 2016 it has been implementing a programme to update large parts of its housing stock to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. A €150 million loan from the CEB is helping to finance the programme.

By 2020 the Bulgarian government aims to increase energy efficiency by 25% and reduce energy consumption by 50% (compared to 2005 levels). With Bulgarian households the third largest energy user in the country, consuming 25% of the country's energy, the government is focusing on refurbishing the state's outdated – and energy hungry – apartment buildings.

A sizeable challenge
The bulk of multi-apartment housing stock in Bulgaria was built in the 1960s, '70s and '80s to meet the high demand for housing. These buildings – some 19,000 of them – house mostly lower income families and are now rapidly deteriorating. Many were constructed with poor quality materials and little regard to energy efficiency and have seen minimal maintenance. With some of the buildings nearing sixty years old, their services have reached the end of their lifespan. As a result, these tired buildings require a combination of measures, and substantial investment, to make them energy efficient and fit for purpose.

Tackling the problem
Thanks to a Bulgarian government programme, the homeowners’ associations of eligible buildings are entitled to a full government grant to cover the full cost of renovation. Initially projected to cost around €500 million, and later extended to €1 billion, the programme is being financed through

continued on page 12
“The cost of heating my apartment has fallen by more than 40% to 130 lev, which is enough of a benefit in itself.”

Dimcho Topchiiski, a resident of the Boulevard Osvobojdenie building in Karlovo

“From a renovation to a community”

“Our block is a large-scale residential system – the standard old construction. Since the renovation, it’s incomparably better. As if there is a new residential building. It is so different,” says Dimcho Topchiiski, a resident of the Boulevard Osvobojdenie building in Karlovo.

In 2016, the multi-apartment building was completely renovated, inside and out. The refurbishment has markedly improved the quality of life for the residents, and has even created a stronger community spirit among them.

Quality materials

Dimcho, who has lived in the block since 1989 continues, “There was a contest for a contractor, won by Astral Engineering from Plovdiv. They used good materials with a balloon system, exterior masonry plaster, thermal insulation in the attic, Bramac tiles, balconies were glazed and railings added... Everything was done beautifully, the overall appearance of the block is completely changed. The project was completed to 100%.

Feeling the benefits

“Before the refurbishment, the homes were heated only by electricity - with air conditioners and converter heaters. The cost of heating my apartment has fallen by more than 40% to 130 lev, which is enough of a benefit in itself. The main goal of the project, namely energy-saving, has certainly been fulfilled.”

Another resident, Anka Georgieva, lives on the first floor. “When you live on the first floor, you feel the cold in the winter. My apartment used to be below zero,” she explains. “Now, the temperature in my home is very good. I almost don’t need to have the stove burning in winter. My electricity bill has dropped to 17 lev per month,” she says with a smile.

“We are grateful for this project, which is a gift for us,” says Daniel Stoyanov, chairman of the residents’ association. “We wouldn’t have been able to finance the work ourselves – hence our infinite gratitude for the renovations! This project has brought people together, made friends of neighbours. Together we’re taking care of our common living space.”

“My apartment used to be below zero. Now the temperature in my home is very good. I almost don’t need to have the stove burning in winter.”

Anka Georgieva, resident
state-guaranteed loans and government contributions, with €150 million coming from a CEB loan. Through the programme, high quality renovations are helping to:
• reduce the buildings’ energy consumption and promote long-term energy savings for families
• prolong the condition and lifespan of buildings
• support the government to achieve its energy efficiency targets

The programme integrates the government’s environmental and housing sector priorities. By providing renovated housing, the programme will reduce the apartment buildings’ environmental impact, decreasing energy consumption and CO2 emissions.

“This project was BDB’s fourth with the CEB as lender. Thanks to the state-guaranteed loan we received, we were able to substantially lower the cost of the financing and save public money. The CEB team’s professionalism, and our working relationship with them, were key to the project’s success”

Stoyan Mavrodiev, Chairman of the Management Board and Executive Director of the Bulgarian Development Bank (BDB)
Bringing big benefits to low-income homes

Info talks to Alain Rosenoer, Director General of Société Wallonne du Logement, a housing corporation that provides supervision and technical, financial and administrative assistance to public housing organisations.

**Info:** What were the driving forces behind the greening of social housing projects that SWL undertook in cooperation with the CEB?

**AR:** Since 2004, SWL and local housing companies in Wallonia have been engaged in a major multi-annual programme for the renovation of the stock of public housing. The aim of the renovation work has been to upgrade health and safety standards in 32,000 of the 100,000 social housing units rented out to vulnerable or low-income households.

While carrying out this programme, it quickly became apparent that it was not sufficient to provide safe, healthy housing without regard for the thermal quality of the dwellings. While the average social rent amount is €270 per month, many tenant households were having to pay extremely high energy costs, representing around 70% of their rent.

To renovate without optimising the energy efficiency of the dwellings (and without reducing the bill for the social tenants) was to run the risk of falling short of the political objectives of the Walloon government regarding housing, particularly in terms of social equity, cohesion and inclusion.

**Info:** Tell us a little about the social impact of these projects?

**AR:** In macro-economic terms, the tangible impact is that we have reduced the average energy bill by over 50% for the tenant households, who have particularly low incomes.

At the beginning of the year, the Platform Against Energy Poverty, managed by the Belgian King Baudouin Foundation, published the results of a study entitled ‘Improving energy efficiency in social housing in Belgium – cost-benefit analysis and recommendations’.

The study shows the economic impact of energy efficiency investments in housing, notably the ratio of jobs created, the leverage effects of public investments, and the financial returns at federal and regional level. Among other things, it highlights the resulting reduction in energy poverty, the drop in the incidence of chronic diseases, the fall in levels of stress and psychological problems among tenants, the impact on the quality of the environment and the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

**Info:** How do you provide support for residents?

**AR:** With the encouragement of SWL, the local housing companies have introduced a system of social support for the inhabitants. We wanted to promote a relationship of co-responsibility with the residents that would strengthen their ability to become active co-players in their homes. In practical terms, this has meant that before, during and after the renovation work, the social assistance teams provided ongoing information to the tenants. Specific arrangements for accompanying tenants were also put in place for vulnerable people, the elderly and disabled.

The study also puts forward a number of arguments and recommendations that provide substantial support for our policy to promote energy quality in housing in Wallonia.

**Info:** How do you provide support for residents?

**AR:** With the encouragement of SWL, the local housing companies have introduced a system of social support for the inhabitants. We wanted to promote a relationship of co-responsibility with the residents that would strengthen their ability to become active co-players in their homes. In practical terms, this has meant that before, during and after the renovation work, the social assistance teams provided ongoing information to the tenants. Specific arrangements for accompanying tenants were also put in place for vulnerable people, the elderly and disabled.

The rate of completion of the sub-projects for the renovation of the housing units supported by the CEB has reached 99%. This is a remarkable score indeed.

Alain Rosenoer
Castaña y León in northwestern Spain is one of the country’s 17 autonomous communities, with its own executive, legislative and judicial powers. The north of the region has traditionally been a mining area, so coal-fired heating (as well as gas- and oil-fired heating) is the standard in many households. The CEB is partially funding various investments in energy efficiency and wastewater infrastructure being carried out over a five-year period (2014-2019) by SOMACYL, the regional public utility company in the region. The Bank is loaning the company €50 million, half of the value, with the European Investment Bank (EIB) co-financing the other half.

**Moving to biomass heating**

With funds from the CEB and EIB, SOMACYL is aiming to replace coal- and oil-based heating with highly efficient forest firewood biomass boilers. This is a local, sustainable resource, producing no greenhouse gas emissions, and helping to support a circular economy. It boosts employment in rural areas, reduces dependence on fossil fuels and lowers the risk of fires.

**Lighting upgrades**

SOMACYL is also implementing energy efficient lighting systems on the region’s streets and in public buildings. This work involves replacing high energy consumption bulbs (such as mercury vapour or sodium vapour types) with low consumption luminaires (such as LED), and adding modern remote control systems and lighting controls. This work will reduce lighting costs in the long term and is likely to benefit more than 28,000 people in Castilla y León, particularly in small villages with outdated (and potentially unsafe) lighting systems.

“SOMACYL is carrying out an important programme of actions in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energies, seeking to modernise thermal infrastructures and public lighting, in the autonomous community, based on criteria for the renewal of equipment, improvement of lighting quality, efficiency and energy saving.”

Jesus Bragado, General Manager of Administration and Finance, SOMACYL
• Castilla y León is the only autonomous community in Spain with a specific Bioenergy Plan.

• It aims to boost biomass energy consumption from 2% to 8%, replacing fossil fuels and reducing CO₂ emissions.

• Only 13 states and 10 regions (out of a total of 271) in Europe have a similar plan.

“Shared benefits

Working with SOMACYL is helping the CEB to better respond to the needs of beneficiaries in regions, as well as local authorities, that we would otherwise be unable to reach. Our financial contribution is supporting vital investments in key infrastructure sectors, improving Castilla y León’s environmental protection standards and enhancing its social infrastructure.

“This is an example of how the CEB can financially support Spanish autonomous communities and municipalities in their effort to mitigate climate change and to foster the environmental transition to low-carbon economies,”

Maria Sigüenza, CEB Country Manager for Spain
Investing in migrant women

Research shows that migrant women face double discrimination in accessing employment, due to their status and gender. As part of this year’s European Development Days, the CEB organised a debate on supporting the integration of migrant women.

Migration is a pressing concern in many countries, and in Europe, migratory pressures are expected to increase over the coming decades. Many societies are tackling the complex challenge of long-term integration. As lessons are learned, some are now better equipped to seize the opportunities that migration brings.

A double bind
Labour inclusion plays a crucial role in the integration of migrants, but research shows that migrant women face double discrimination in accessing employment, due to their status and gender. Ultimately, this marginalisation of migrant women is detrimental to the social cohesion of their host community.

European Development Days are an annual event that brings the development community together to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions to the world’s most pressing challenges.

Protect, empower, invest
This year’s event, on 5th June, took the theme of “Women and Girls at the forefront of Sustainable Development: protect, empower, invest”, and the CEB organised a session called ‘Investing in migrant women’. As part of the session, five panelists from the public, private and civil society sectors discussed initiatives and policies that support migrant women’s access to sustainable income generation. The panel looked at how societies can support long-term integration by facilitating the economic empowerment and financial inclusion of migrant women.

European initiatives and projects that support migrants throughout the integration process were debated. The first step in the process is to help migrants face some of the challenges they encounter on arrival. These include language barriers, negotiating different social and culture norms and, for highly skilled migrants, the non-recognition of qualifications.

Joining the discussion
Shada Islam, Director of Policy at Friends of Europe, steered the discussion and engaged the audience.

In addition to raising awareness of the unique challenges faced by migrant women in accessing employment in host countries, the session created some replicable and scalable ideas on economically empowering migrant women. An important point that came out of the session was that how, in seeking to support migrants, overly targeted approaches can serve to exclude rather than include. Therefore projects should encourage social cohesion by embracing diversity.

“The CEB has the expertise and the funds to invest in innovative projects that contribute to better integration of migrant women.”

Isabelle Brun, Technical Advisor, CEB

SPEAKERS

- Nuria Diez Guardia, Policy Officer, Migration and Integration, Directorate General Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission
- Andrea Limone, CEO, Per Micro
- Inesse Benmohammed, Director of Entrepreneurship Programme, SINGA France
- Isabelle Brun, Technical Advisor, CEB
- Leen Almasri, architect and entrepreneur

Panelists came from public, private and civil sectors.
What’s on
July to September
2018

Find out more about forthcoming meetings at the CEB and beyond.

10th July, London, UK
Western Balkans Summit
The leaders of the Western Balkans countries and their European partners come together to strengthen political and security co-operation and increase economic stability
More at: www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/western-balkans-summit-london-2018

3rd-5th September, Paris, France
The Dialogue of Continents Forum: Drifts or Connectivity
Politicians, academics and economists will exchange views about the future of the postwar global economic order in the light of the profound disruptions that the world is facing today.
More at: https://www.dilogueofcontinents.com/

28th September, Paris, France
CEB Administrative Council meeting
The Administrative Council of the CEB meets regularly, bringing together representatives for each member state. The Council’s role includes approving new investment projects.
More at: coebank.org/en/about/structure-management/administrative-council

Read our latest publications
All CEB publications can be downloaded from our website. Visit coebank.org and click on news and publications.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
A best practice guide for educators, architects and engineers involved in the planning, design and construction of early childhood education facilities.

INVESTING IN EFFECTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
A technical brief that examines the links between spatial design and learning outcomes, and the impact of design on construction and operating costs.

Interested in accessing CEB financing?
Visit coebank.org and click on Project Financing – How to access CEB financing. There’s plenty of information about eligibility criteria and the project cycle.

Creating energy efficient businesses, housing and public infrastructure is a key focus for the CEB. We continue to approve loans to partners, from banks to public authorities, to help create sustainable places for people to live, work and study in.

Promoting energy efficient projects

Between 2010 and 2017 the Bank approved three loans to support energy efficient renovations to social housing in Belgium. These projects had high social impact and involved long-term cooperation with the Walloon Housing Association.

In 2012 the CEB approved a €30m loan to SOMACYL, the public utility company in the Castilla y Leon region of Spain. This included investment in biomass boilers for heating and energy efficient lighting.

In 2014 we approved a €50m loan to SOMACYL, the public utility company in the Castilla y Leon region of Spain. This included investment in biomass boilers for heating and energy efficient lighting.

In 2008 we approved a €15m loan to Germany’s KfW Bankengruppe in 2008 to support small and medium-sized enterprises to become more energy efficient.

In 2014 we approved a €50m loan to Germany’s KfW Bankengruppe in 2008 to support small and medium-sized enterprises to become more energy efficient.