

## Terna: EIB provides €1.9 billion in financing for Tyrrhenian link

- The EIB will finance around 50% of the total cost of the Tyrrhenian link, a 970 km, 1,000 MW double submarine cable connecting Sicily with Sardinia and the Italian peninsula.
- The initial €500 million tranche signed today will be directed to the construction and commissioning of the east section connecting Campania to Sicily.
- 250 companies involved in the implementation of the project, with important benefits for the Regions involved.

**Rome, 8 November 2022** — The European Investment Bank (EIB) today signed a €500 million finance contract with Terna for the east section of its Tyrrhenian link connecting Sicily with Campania. The aim of the Tyrrhenian link is to connect Sicily with Sardinia and the Italian peninsula via a 970 km, 1,000 MW DC double submarine cable, contributing to the development of renewable energy sources, power grid reliability and energy security.



The loan signed today is the first tranche of a total of €1.9 billion approved by the EIB for the Tyrrhenian link. Terna is planning an overall investment of around €3.7 billion for building the Tyrrhenian link, with the submarine electricity cable connecting the Italian peninsula with Sicily (East section, whose first cable will be operational at the end of 2025) and

then to Sardinia (West section). The infrastructure will be fully operational in 2028. It is estimated that around 250 companies will be involved in the implementation of the project, with important spin-offs for the Regions involved.

**EIB Vice-President Gelsomina Vigliotti** said: “As world leaders gather for COP27 in Egypt, the EIB, as the EU climate bank, is pleased to have signed the first €500 million tranche supporting the construction of the Tyrrhenian link. This piece of infrastructure is of huge strategic importance to ensuring Italian energy security, as well as to cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and fostering the development of renewable energies, thereby reducing the cost of our bills. This operation also serves to consolidate our already excellent partnership with Terna, which aims to promote the energy transition and climate neutrality by 2050.”

“We are particularly happy that the European Investment Bank has recognised the strategic importance of the Tyrrhenian link, a key piece of infrastructure for the security of the Italian power grid. The Tyrrhenian link is the world’s biggest undersea energy transmission project, a work of Italian engineering excellence that will decisively accelerate the development of renewable energy sources,” added **Terna CEO Stefano Donnarumma**.

The 22-year loan has a longer maturity and more competitive costs than those generally available on the market, in line with Terna's policy to optimise its financial structure.

This operation brings total EIB financing for Terna to €2.6 billion, in addition to the remaining €1.4 billion for the other Tyrrhenian link project tranches already approved by the Bank.

## Background information

### European Investment Bank (EIB)

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the long-term lending institution of the European Union owned by its Member States. The EIB Group adopted the Climate Bank Roadmap with the ambitious goal of unlocking €1 trillion of investment in climate action and environmental sustainability by 2030 and allocating over 50% of its financing to climate action and environmental sustainability by 2025. Under the Climate Bank Roadmap, all new EIB Group operations have been aligned with the objectives and principles of the Paris Agreement since 2021. **Between 2019 and 2021, the EIB Group provided more than €36 billion in financing for projects in Italy.**

### The EIB at COP27

An overview of the EIB at COP27 is available [here](#) and the full agenda is available [here](#). Join our virtual hub to watch the sessions live or later at your convenience.

### Terna

The [Terna Group](#) is one of the leading European and global electricity transmission operators. It operates the high-voltage national transmission grid with about 75,000 km of lines, around 900 electrical substations throughout the Italian territory and 26 interconnections with foreign Countries. Its mission is to guarantee 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, the secure operation, quality and efficiency of the Italian electricity system and ensure equal access conditions for all market operators. A centre of excellence made up of over 5,100 professionals, Terna plays a guiding role in the energy transition process towards complete decarbonisation and full integration of energy from renewable sources into the grid. For more information [www.terna.it](http://www.terna.it)

### Press contact

**EIB: Lorenzo Squintani**, [l.squintani@eib.org](mailto:l.squintani@eib.org), mobile: +39 366 57 90 312

Website: [www.eib.org/press](http://www.eib.org/press) — Press Office: +352 4379 21000

[press@eib.org](mailto:press@eib.org)



**Terna: Media Relations** (+39) 06 8313 9081

[ufficio.stampa@terna.it](mailto:ufficio.stampa@terna.it)