EU-India Connectivity Partnership

Transparent, inclusive, sustainable and rules-based connectivity between EU and India and with third countries and regions, including Africa, Central Asia, and the Indo-Pacific.

New opportunities via quality infrastructure. Socio-economic benefits from sustainable growth, shared norms and values.

Joint work on regulation and support for private investments in physical infrastructure across all sectors: digital, transport, energy, and people-to-people.

Partnerships between EU and Indian public and private sector. EU institutions and Member States together as “Team Europe”, implementing the EU’s Global Gateway strategy.

EU & INDIA – AN ECONOMIC POWER-COUPLE

Combined market size
1.8 billion people

Combined GDP
€16.5 trillion

Combined outward investment stocks of
€11.1 trillion

Huge investment potential –
€1.6 trillion

India National Infrastructure Pipeline

€95.5 billion in trade, in goods and services in 2020

The EU was India’s third largest trading partner in 2021

The EU was India’s second largest export destination

India young and growing:
40% aged under 25 in 2030

Indian core digital GDP +250%
2019-2025

Delivering comprehensive connectivity

DIGITAL
Increased access to digital services with high protection of consumer and personal data

ENERGY
More interconnected regional platforms, modern systems and environmentally friendly solutions

TRANSPORT
Diversified trade and travel routes linking networks, shorter transit times and simplified customs procedures

PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE
Cooperation in education, research, innovation, culture and tourism
Digital.
Aims: strong and secure connections, submarine cables, satellite networks, 5G, cross-border payments, and warning services.

For example:
» Planned Galileo and NavIC for emergency warning services
» India’s National Knowledge Network participates in ASIA CONNECT
» The EU supports climate-smart, inclusive infrastructure investments in the agricultural sector through the EU-IFC project ACSIIS

Energy.
Aims: market-driven reliable and sustainable energy solutions, regional interconnections, renewable energy generation.

For example:
» Work with International Solar Alliance
» Planned work on floating solar, hydrogen, offshore wind (Denmark) and energy storage
» EU supports Indian cities to implement urban infrastructure projects (CITIIS programme)
» EU support to rehabilitate 242 km of pipeline networks to ensure 24/7 delivery of water in Chandigarh

Transport.
Aims: regulatory frameworks, interconnection of corridors, security – focus on standardisation, decarbonisation, digitalisation, smart mobility, aviation and maritime.

For example:
» Metros and railways: EIB €2.2bn invested in six urban rail projects in Pune (€350m), Bangalore (€500m), Kanpur (€350m), Lucknow (€450m), Bhopal (€250m), and most recently Agra (€250m) - further financing from AFD and KfW and EU businesses among suppliers and service providers
» Italy Cooperation with National Infrastructure Investment Fund
» Planned EU-India Aviation Summit
» Possible new air routes, enhanced direct air connectivity

People-to-People.
Aims: advance cooperation in scientific research and innovation, technology and skills.

For example:
» Over 2,000 Indian researchers (PhD and Postdoc) funded by EU Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska Curie programme
» Under Erasmus+ and previous programmes, over 6,000 Indian students and staff travelled to Europe and 1,450 Europeans were hosted in India. In 2021, India ranked 1st worldwide for scholarships
» EU-India Innovation Partnership connecting 100 incubators

» Over €320m total projects funding involving EU and India participants under Horizon 2020 between 2014-2020
» EU Horizon Europe 2021-2027 open to cooperation with India, addressing cooperation on green and digital transition
» €10m investment in WayCool Foods, supporting over 85,000 farmers to build more sustainable agricultural supply chains
» Supporting sustainable consumption and production through SWITCH ASIA