

InvestEU SIFTA Event

Ethical banking for more social impact in Europe

4 - 5 June 2025

📍 Les Ateliers des Tanneurs

Rue des Tanneurs 58-62
1000 Brussels, Belgium

Language: English

[Register here](#) >>

Source photo: <https://www.ateliersdestanneurs.be>

Agenda*

Moderator: **Bruno Robino**, Deputy Head Advisory Financial Institutions Division, European Investment Bank

08:30 - 09:00 CEST

Arrival of participants, registration, networking coffee

09:00 - 09:10 CEST

Welcome

Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice-President, European Investment Bank

09:10 - 09:40 CEST

Opening remarks

Ruth Paserman, Director, Funds: Programming and Implementation, DG EMPL, European Commission

Gemma Feliciani, Director, Financial Institutions Department, European Investment Bank

FEBEA / GABV

09:40 - 10:30 CEST

EIB Group support in the area of social and ethical finance

European Investment Bank

European Investment Fund

Eduardo Sierra Martin, Financial Instruments Advisor, Financial Institutions Department, European Investment Bank

Including Q&A

10:30 - 11:00 CEST

Coffee & networking

11:00 - 12:00 CEST

Panel discussion: Evolution of EU's social and ethical finance

Brigitte Fellahi-Brognaux, Head of Unit, Social and Inclusive Entrepreneurship, DG EMPL, European Commission

FEBEA and GABV

Paola Zanet, Head of International Affairs, Banca Etica

European Investment Bank

European Investment Fund (tbc)

Including Q&A

12:00 - 13:00 CEST

Panel discussion: Opportunities and challenges linked to ethical and social financing

GLS (Germany), **La Nef** (France), **Laboral Kutxa** (Spain), **Cooperative Bank of Poznań** (Poland) (tbc)

Francois Dauriat, Policy Officer, DG EMPL, European Commission

European Investment Bank

European Investment Fund

Including Q&A

13:00 - 13:05 CEST

Closing by moderator

13:05 - 14:30 CEST

Lunch and networking

14:30 - 16:30 CEST

One-to-one meetings with EIB Group's experts (20-minute meeting slots can be booked once participation is approved)

*A preceding **networking cocktail** will take place on **Wednesday, 4 June 2025, from 19:00 - 22:00 CEST**, at the same location (Les Ateliers des Tanneurs).

Speakers and final agenda will be confirmed and shared in due course.

Registration is mandatory and participation is subject to approval.

For more information on InvestEU, visit:
[European Commission](#)
[European Investment Bank](#)
[European Investment Fund](#)
[Social Inclusive Finance Technical Assistance](#)

Scan the QR code to register
or use the following link:
<https://forms.gle/JJoMbwrnNqafMEgGA>



Partners

SIFTA | Social Inclusive Finance Technical Assistance



The European Investment Bank (EIB) under the InvestEU Advisory Hub reinforces the European Microfinance and Social Enterprise Finance sectors through market development activities, capacity-building services as well as rating, assessment and evaluation services. This is done through the **Social Inclusive Finance Technical Assistance (SIFTA)** project implemented since July 2022. SIFTA provides support to microfinance and social enterprise finance providers through tailored training, workshops and webinars, peer-to-peer exchanges, and study visits on a wide range of topics related to financing micro and social enterprises.



The European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL) is responsible for EU policies that foster employment, social affairs, improve social protection, promote social inclusion and enhance working conditions and skills development across EU Member States. It also manages key funding programmes, such as the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), supporting projects that contribute to a more inclusive, resilient and fair European labour market. DG EMPL plays a key role in advancing the EU's social agenda and supporting Member States in building fairer and more inclusive societies.



The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the lending arm of the European Union and one of the world's largest multilateral financial institutions. Owned by the EU Member States, the EIB provides financing and expertise for sustainable investment projects that support EU policy objectives, both within Europe and globally. Its activities focus on key areas such as climate action, innovation, infrastructure and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), playing a vital role in fostering economic growth, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability.

The EIB also supports the European ethical and social finance sector. A recent example is the 2024 operation with Banca Etica, aimed at promoting gender equality, refugee inclusion and regional development in southern Italy.

EIB Advisory delivers several InvestEU capacity building programmes, including SIFTA.



Part of the European Investment Bank Group, the **European Investment Fund (EIF)** provides support in the areas of microfinance, social entrepreneurship as well as skills, education and training by designing and implementing a wide range of financial instruments, including venture capital and guarantees. Working through financial intermediaries such as banks and funds, the EIF helps improve access to finance for SMEs, fostering job creation, competitiveness and growth throughout the EU. EIF is a specialist provider of risk finance to benefit small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) across Europe.



Founded in 2001, **FEBEA, the European Federation of Ethical and Alternative Banks and Financiers**, is a Brussels-based non-profit network of 34 financial institutions in 17 countries. It supports the promotion of Ethical Finance models in Europe and its members finance projects with social, environmental, and cultural impact. FEBEA fosters cooperation among social finance actors and mobilizes citizen savings for local, sustainable development. It is active in EU policy circles and broader social economy networks.



The Global Alliance for Banking on Values (GABV) represents a movement of independent banks and credit unions with a shared mission to put finance at the service of people and the planet. Founded in 2009, the GABV comprises 70 financial institutions operating in over 45 countries across Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America, North America and Europe. It serves more than 50 million customers collectively, holds over USD 265 billion of combined assets under management and employs 145,000 co-workers.

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