
April 18, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Royal Government of Bhutan and the European Investment Bank (EIB) signed the first ever EIB project on Supporting Reliable, Green Energy for Communities in Bhutan of Euro150 millions loan with a tenure of 30 years.

Bhutan being the only three net-carbon-negative countries in the world, the project will support construction of small to mid-size run of the river hydropower plants and solar photovoltaic generations to diversify the power generation mix to meet its ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution target of permanent carbon neutrality.

The renewable energy framework loan was signed on the margins of the 2024 IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings on April 17, 2024 EST by Leki Wangmo, Finance Secretary of the Ministry of Finance of the Kingdom of Bhutan, and Markus Berndt, Acting EIB Global Managing Director, in the presence of Nadia Calviño, President of the European Investment Bank.

EIB President Nadia Calviño said “Bringing green, reliable and affordable energy to communities around the world, especially in more remote regions, has huge benefits not just in environmental terms but also by improving access to health, education and economic activity. That’s why I am delighted that we’ve been able to agree to this €150 million investment with our Bhutanese partners, under the EU’s Global Gateway initiative. We’re looking forward to working as a key partner for climate action and sustainable economic development in Bhutan.”

Finance Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan Lyonpo Lekey Dorji, said: “As Bhutan strives to maintain its carbon-negative status amidst rising global challenges, this partnership not only strengthens Bhutan's renewable energy sector but also contributes to the broader regional and global effort in combating climate change. We welcome the European Investment Bank as our partner in our pursuit of the sustainable development goals and look forward to more collaboration in the future as we take forward our agenda of building a more sustainable planet.”

Photos of the EIB Project are attached.




