



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 08 October 2025

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INFORMATION

From:	European Commission
To:	Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) – Horizontal Questions
Subject:	Global Gateway Forum – scale-up sessions web releases

Delegations will find attached web releases regarding the scale-up sessions at the Global Gateway Forum. These documents are for their information **and are not yet for public distribution** . Only factual corrections would be possible at this stage – if any, must be sent to the following contact point in the Commission, INTPA 02 by 16:00 (Brussels time) today: Jeroen.REIJNEN@ec.europa.eu



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: EU enhances support to ASEAN Power Grid development

Today, the European Union has announced its increased support for sustainable energy connectivity in Southeast Asia. In a partnership with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and international actors, the EU will scale up its engagement in the ASEAN Power Grid development in a Team Europe approach, bringing together the EU, its Member States, development finance institutions and private sector to maximise impact.

The ASEAN Power Grid aims to improve access to reliable and affordable electricity for more than 670 million people in the region and strengthen regional integration through sustainable cross-border energy infrastructure. The announcement was made during the Global Gateway Forum that takes place on 9-10 October in Brussels.

European Commissioner for International Partnerships, **Jozef Síkela**, said: *“Reliable access to clean energy means better education, lower costs, stronger local businesses, and greater energy security. The ASEAN Power Grid will make all this possible - fully in line with our Global Gateway Strategy - and that is why we are stepping up our support for this project. It is also a major step forward in our shared ambition to promote sustainable energy solutions across Southeast Asia.”*

The EU has long been a leader in renewable energy. This places very high demands on our electricity networks. We are ready to share our experience in regional electricity market integration and grid operation with our ASEAN partners.

This cooperation on the ASEAN Power Grid, the EU and ASEAN will further strengthen our strategic partnership, a relationship that will soon celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2027.

The EU already cooperates closely with ASEAN on energy, from clean power to energy connectivity, through dialogue, bilateral initiatives and regional projects. This includes preparing investments in infrastructure and creating the right conditions for a fair and sustainable energy transition, such as through Just Energy Transition Partnerships.

A dedicated session at the Global Gateway Forum provided a platform for partners to discuss the opportunities and challenges for the ASEAN Power Grid development and explore concrete next steps. The discussions focused on the EU’s experience with electricity market integration,

the scale of investment needs and ASEAN's plan to upgrade the ASEAN Power Grid Memorandum of Understanding into a Framework Agreement in 2025.

The partners also explored options for financing feasibility studies, harmonising regulations, and investment in renewable energy generation, transmission and interconnection. On this occasion, the EU and European development banks, including the European Investment Bank, the French development agency AFD, KfW, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti and European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI), signed a Joint Declaration of Intent with the Asian Development Bank to scale up support for the ASEAN Power Grid.

Background

Global Gateway Forum

The Global Gateway Forum brings together an assembly of leaders from the European Union and across the globe, alongside key stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, thought leaders, financial institutions, and international organisations to promote global investment in infrastructure - hard and soft - to deliver on the SDGs and sustainable growth and resilience worldwide.

Global Gateway

Global Gateway is the EU's positive offer to reduce the worldwide investment disparity and boost smart, clean and secure connections in digital, energy and transport sectors, and to strengthen health, education and research systems.

The Global Gateway strategy embodies a Team Europe approach that brings together the European Union, EU Member States, and European development finance institutions. Together, we aim to mobilise up to €300 billion in public and private investments from 2021 to 2027, creating essential links rather than dependencies, and closing the global investment gap.

For More Information

- [Global Gateway Forum 2025](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: New supercomputing network for artificial intelligence powers innovation across Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean

Faced with the rapid rise of artificial intelligence (AI), entrepreneurs, researchers, and engineers across Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) will soon have access to faster, smarter, and more secure computing power. Under the European Union's Global Gateway strategy, the EU-LAC Digital Alliance is launching a new bi-regional supercomputing network that connects existing infrastructures, builds skills, and opens opportunities for joint innovation.

Commissioner for International Partnerships, **Jozef Síkela**, said: "The EU-LAC Supercomputing Network shows how the Global Gateway creates real value for people and businesses on both sides of the Atlantic. Through the Global Gateway, we are together investing over €12 million in the infrastructure and knowledge that will power tomorrow's innovations - from fighting climate change to developing new medicines and advancing artificial intelligence. This is a win for Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean."

The network will enhance the use of existing High-Performance Computing (HPC) resources in LAC and promote links with Europe's advanced supercomputing ecosystem. This will help scientists from both regions work together to run simulations, analyse big data and test cutting-edge processing models to address pressing global challenges, from climate modelling and drug discovery to artificial intelligence.

The initiative kicks off with the signature of a new €3 million Contribution Agreement between the European Commission and the European High-Performance Computing Joint Undertaking. In parallel, Brazil's National AI Plan will allocate R\$50 million (approximately €8 million) to promote access to HPC infrastructures at regional level. Additionally, Spain (the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation, AECID) will contribute up to €1 million to the Barcelona Supercomputing Network to support the implementation of the EU-LAC Supercomputing Network.

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The EU-LAC Supercomputing Network for AI will:

- Promote shared HPC infrastructures;
- Enhance skills with capacity building and training for researchers;
- Boost scientific collaboration by developing joint use-cases such as drug development and climate simulations;
- Demonstrate the capacity of networked infrastructures to work together on developing and deploying AI applications;
- Increase the use of the BELLA cable, the high-speed digital link connecting the two regions.

In the first stage, with coordination from the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking, the network will see fourteen EU and LAC countries bringing together their existing computing capacity: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Slovenia, Spain, Portugal and Uruguay. Over time, it will expand to include more countries that are member of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance.

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Digital Alliance

The EU-LAC Digital Alliance was launched in March 2023 in Bogota in the framework of the Global Gateway Investment Agenda and represents the political determination of the 27 Member States and 24 LAC countries to collaborate closely on key digital issues through joint initiatives, fostering a people-centred digital transformation in both regions.

Participating countries issued a Joint Declaration in the context of the EU-CELAC Summit in July 2023, where they committed to regular bi-regional dialogue and cooperation on digital matters for the benefit of their citizens.

For More Information

- [Global Gateway Forum 2025](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)
- [EU-LAC Global Gateway Investment Agenda](#)
- [EU-LAC Digital Alliance](#)
- [BELLA Cable](#)
- [Joint Declaration on a Digital Alliance](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: Latin America and the Caribbean move towards more electricity market integration with support from the EU

Millions across Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) could benefit from more reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity, thanks to the European Union (EU) backed Regional Electricity Integration initiative. At the Global Gateway Forum, the EU and its LAC partners presented their plan to advance deeper collaboration under this initiative. This is a key step towards building a progressively interconnected continental electricity market that delivers reliable clean energy and strengthens regional unity through stronger national grids and cross-border electricity connections.

Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jozef **Síkela**, said: *“Our sustainable future depends not only on producing clean energy, but also on distributing it effectively - where it is most needed - to unlock its full potential for people, businesses, and communities. This project is about building a reliable electricity network across Latin America and the Caribbean, and we will continue to support its development through technical assistance and investment mobilisation together with European financial institutions.”*

Electricity transmission is essential for deploying renewables on a large scale. Yet many countries in the region face barriers. From outdated infrastructure to fragmented markets, these challenges limit progress.

To address these, the EU is offering a dual approach:

- Technical assistance and capacity building channelled through EU-funded facilities to support planning, regulatory harmonisation and the efficient use of renewable resources
- Investment mobilisation through 24 dedicated projects benefiting countries across the region, including Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Suriname.

This initiative brings together the EU, its Member States - Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain - and the European Investment Bank in partnership with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the

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Caribbean States, the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, the European Investment Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Latin American Energy Organization.

The coordinated effort aims to enhance grid efficiency, resilience and security, improve cost-effectiveness and optimise investment, while strengthening cooperation on regional infrastructure planning and regulatory alignment. The initiative will also accelerate the use of renewable energy sources, helping to mitigate the effects of climate change.

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- [Global Gateway](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: Accelerating digital transformation through IMEC: EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor

At the Global Gateway Forum in Brussels today, the European Commission and key partners from Africa, India, and the Mediterranean region discussed the EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor, an initiative aiming to create a trusted, secure, and high-capacity data connection between continents. The project represents a concrete delivery under the India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).

IMEC was announced in September 2023 at the G20 Summit in New Delhi. The corridor aims to connect India, the Middle East and Europe through advanced transport, digital, and energy infrastructure to strengthen cooperation in sectors like trade, economy, energy, and security among all partner countries. The IMEC signatories are the European Union, France, Germany, India, Italy, Saudi Arabi, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America.

As part of the EU efforts to deliver on IMEC, the EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor, which is centred around the Blue Raman submarine cable system, is an important step forward in the EU's Global Gateway strategy to bridge the global digital divide and strengthen international research, innovation, and education.

With contributions from Team Europe, including EU Member States, development finance institutions, and the private sector, the initiative will deliver ultra-high-speed digital connectivity across a 11,700 km subsea cable linking Europe, East Africa, the Middle East, and India.

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European Commissioner for International Partnerships **Jozef Sikela**: *“By delivering ultra-high-speed, secure connectivity across Europe, Africa, and India, we are not only fostering closer collaboration in research, innovation, and education but also empowering communities to participate fully in the digital economy. The EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor is a key milestone in these efforts. It embodies our commitment to building resilient and diversified digital infrastructure that strengthens global partnerships and drives sustainable economic development.”*

The submarine cable system will land in key partner countries including India, Djibouti and Oman, creating a diversified and resilient digital route between continents. The corridor will:

- Link over 10,000 academic and research institutions in Europe with 3,750 institutions in India and Africa;
- Support digital innovation, economic development, and education across three continents;
- Enhance secure, best-in-class connectivity infrastructure that reduces strategic dependency and increases digital resilience.

As part of the rollout, several key milestones were celebrated during the Global Gateway Forum. The European Investment Bank (EIB) and the project’s promoter Sparkle formalised their collaboration on the project and Ministers and high-ranking officials from Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania expressed their support to the extension of the submarine cable system to their respective countries.

Additionally, the Forum highlighted a Memorandum of Understanding between the pan-European data network *GÉANT*, India’s national research network *NKN*, and the *African Ubuntunet Alliance for research and education networking* aimed at fostering cooperation to ensure high-performance connectivity for education and research communities.

Background

The EU-Africa-India Digital Corridor reflects the [Team Europe approach](#), with strong support from EU Member States and their private sectors including Italy, France and Finland and in collaboration with Development Finance Institutions such as the EIB and Cassa Depositi and Prestiti. Through this project, the EU is contributing to the implementation of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC). It will also serve as a foundation for future partnerships in the digital domain.

Global Gateway Forum

The Global Gateway Forum brings together leaders from the European Union and across the globe, alongside key stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, thought leaders, financial institutions, and international organisations to promote global investment in infrastructure to deliver on the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) and sustainable growth and resilience worldwide.

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For More Information:

- [Global Gateway Forum](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)
- [EU-Africa-India digital corridor - European Commission](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: EU expands investments in hydropower to drive Central Asia's energy transformation

In a significant boost to energy and water security in Central Asia, the European Union together with partners announced new investments in hydropower infrastructure in Central Asia. Particularly, the Kambarata-1 hydropower plant megaproject in Kyrgyzstan marked noticeable progress, with a total of €900 million in Memoranda of Understanding signed between the EU, European Investment Bank (EIB), and Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, and an unveiled feasibility study co-funded by the EU and implemented by the World Bank.

These new investments will further improve electricity access and unlock economic opportunities for the local population. The announcements were made during the Global Gateway Forum that takes place on 9-10 October in Brussels.

European Commissioner for International Partnerships, **Jozef Síkela**, welcomed the new announcements: *"During my recent mission across Central Asia, I have very well learned the importance of water for the stability of the whole region. Smart investments in Hydropower plant can improve the access to reliable and affordable electricity, generate income for local people, while supporting sustainable agriculture and protecting people's health and the environment. We are proud to support the future construction of the Kambarata-1 hydropower plant that is key to energy production in Central Asia. Our new investments strengthen the strategic partnership between the EU and Central Asian countries."*

"Enabled by guarantees from the European Commission, the EIB as the climate bank is backing infrastructure that strengthens regional energy cooperation in Central Asia. We see the potential of the Kambarata-1 hydropower plant project as instrumental in expanding renewable electricity trade in the region, fostering economic development, and enhancing energy security," says **EIB Vice-President Kyriacos Kakouris**, who oversees the Bank's operations in Central Asia. *These partnerships underscore the European Union's commitment to deepening its strategic partnership with Central Asia, based on mutual respect and delivering shared benefits for people and the planet."*

In a Team Europe approach that brings together the European Union, its Member States, finance institutions and private sector, the EU is working together with Central Asia to improve regional

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coordination on water management. This cooperation also unleashes the region's hydropower potential, including through the Team Europe Initiative on Water, Energy and Climate Change. It aims to address water and energy challenges, improve regional cooperation, and foster a green and blue transition in Central Asia.

At the Forum, the EU showcased the impact of the regional green transition and national energy sector reforms, in the context of the Team Europe Initiative on Water, Energy and Climate Change in Central Asia. The participants also discussed the way forward for the two planned Global Gateway projects in the region: Kambarata-1 and Rogun hydropower plants.

Background

The Kambarata-1 hydropower plant

This transformative energy megaproject is under preparation on the Naryn River in Kyrgyzstan. It will be the largest hydropower facility in the country and one of the most important in Central Asia. Once completed, it could significantly enhance Kyrgyzstan's energy security, foster regional cooperation, and contribute to the region's economic development. As a greenfield project, it has already garnered the interest by international donors, including the EU, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the Italian development bank Cassa Depositi e Prestiti as Team Europe who reaffirm their position as a central partner for renewable energy production.

The Rogun hydropower plant

This clean energy megaproject - the highest dam in the world - is key for Tajikistan and the entire Central Asia region. It could double the country's energy production by 2032, address domestic shortages, advance the region's decarbonisation, and allow for regional electricity export. Led by the World Bank, the EU and several donors are building together a sustainable foundation for this project. Several European companies are also actively participating in the project.

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For More Information

- [Global Gateway Forum 2025](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)





EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: EU and partners drive sustainable cocoa investment in West Africa

At the Global Gateway Forum in Brussels, the European Commission and its partners showcased progress under the **EU Sustainable Cocoa Initiative**, a Team Europe flagship transforming the cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Cameroon. Through investments, sustainability standards, and responsible trade, the initiative is helping farmers earn fairer incomes, expand local cocoa processing, and protect forests while strengthening Europe's sustainable supply chains. Over the past 3 years, €100 million of EIB intermediated loans have been granted to certified sustainable cocoa cooperatives. EIB plans to triple this amount in the next three years.

European Commissioner for International Partnerships **Jozef Síkela** said: "On cocoa depends the livelihood of millions of African farmers. However, for too long, most of the value has been created outside Africa, while local communities saw only a fraction of the benefit and bore the environmental cost of shipping raw beans abroad. Through the Global Gateway, we are investing in a fairer, greener, and more resilient cocoa sector that keeps more value - and more jobs - where cocoa is grown. By promoting local processing, fair prices, and sustainable farming, we are creating real opportunity for our partners while reducing emissions and strengthening Europe's responsible supply chains."

The Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, **Maroš Šefčovič** underlined that *"as the EU, we are the world's largest importer of cocoa. Nearly 65% of EU cocoa imports come from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana & Cameroon. This status comes with responsibility: through the Sustainable Cocoa Initiative, we work with both the private sector and partner governments to ensure that cocoa products are produced and traded sustainably."*

The EU Sustainable Cocoa Initiative brings together the economic, environmental, and social aspects of sustainability. It aims to make sure the price of cocoa reflects the cost of its sustainable production, so that producers earn a decent income, nature is protected, and child labour is eliminated.

With cocoa prices now three times higher than historic levels, farmers and stakeholders can invest more in sustainable production and agroforestry. Stable prices give farmers confidence, while European Development Finance Institutions support them with "cocoa credit lines" to meet financing needs.

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For example, Côte d'Ivoire has attracted hundreds of millions of euros in investments, becoming the world's leading cocoa processor. The next challenge is ensuring that processors have steady access to quality cocoa beans, so factories can operate fully, and jobs are secured.

To support this, the EU committed a study on financing opportunities for cocoa processing, whose findings have been unveiled today at the Global Gateway Forum. The EU is also promoting sustainable trade with partners through Sustainable Investment Facilitation Agreements (SIFAs). These agreements will create a stable investment climate, set sustainability standards, and align trade and development tools.

Background

The EU is the world's largest cocoa importer, with 65% of its cocoa coming from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Cameroon. Thanks to their respective Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU, these countries benefit from duty-free, quota-free access to the EU market. This makes the region vital to EU supply chains and central to the Sustainable Cocoa Initiative, which promotes sustainable, traceable, and fair cocoa production. In parallel, the respective Economic Partnership Agreements also serve as a platform for sustainability discussions.

Key Development Finance Institutions supporting the initiative include AFD (France), FMO (Netherlands), CDP (Italy), EDFI, BIO (Belgium), and the EIB.

The initiative also supports cooperatives through the ABC Investment Fund and local financial institutions, while stakeholders-including private companies, civil society, and local processors-participate in shaping the initiative through the EU's Cocoa Talks.

Team Europe coordinates efforts from the EU, the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France, and Switzerland through the National Platforms for Sustainable Cocoa in Europe (ISCOs).

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For More Information:

- [Global Gateway Forum](#)

- [Global Gateway](#)
- [The Sustainable Cocoa Initiative - European Commission](#)





EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 8 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: New value chains and new jobs in the Caribbean as the EU and Caribbean tackle the sargassum crisis together

For over a decade, extensive sargassum seaweed blooms have affected Caribbean coasts, disrupting fisheries, tourism and local communities and causing multi-million damage. Through the European Union's (EU) Global Gateway Investment Agenda, the EU, Team Europe and Caribbean partners are working to turn this challenge into cleaner coastlines, new opportunities for employment, and a boost for local business ventures.

The third EU-Caribbean Global Gateway Conference on Sargassum, which took place today, marks a shift from studies and pilot projects to real action. Governments, the private sector, academia, and international financiers came together to explore practical solutions for turning sargassum into economic opportunities and supporting its collection and management.

Commissioner for International Partnerships, **Jozef Síkela**, said: *The sargassum crisis has been a persistent challenge for Caribbean communities, harming local livelihoods and causing costly damage to tourism, one of the region's key economic sectors. But together, we are proving that this crisis can be turned into an opportunity - a source of jobs, innovation, and even clean energy across the region - by building value chains from sargassum*

At the conference, Grenada, the Dominican Republic and Mexico pledged to collect and process at least 660,000 tonnes of sargassum between 2026 and 2027:

- Grenada: 10,000 tonnes
- Dominican Republic: 150,000 tonnes
- Mexico: 500,000 tonnes

This announcement is the first step towards a regional market for sargassum-based products, backed by EU support to mobilise investment and ensure the right policy frameworks are in

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place. The conference closed with the announcement of the fourth EU-Caribbean Global Gateway Conference on Sargassum in Mexico, ensuring the momentum and scaling operations continue across the region.

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Sargassum

Since 2023, the EU has prioritised sargassum under Global Gateway, working with partners in the Caribbean basin to collect sargassum and design solutions that are both economically viable and environmentally sustainable. The EU acts as a convener to connect governments, investors, innovators and experts together to ensure the funding and know-how to take ideas forward. This work has created platforms such as national task forces in Grenada, Dominican Republic and Mexico to coordinate action, open expression of interest to attract practical business and research solutions, and feasibility studies to assess investment opportunities.

For More Information

- [Global Gateway Forum 2025](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)
- [Sargassum Project Page](#)
- [Sargassum Infographic](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway Forum: EU and partners accelerate maritime decarbonisation through Green Shipping Corridors

At the Global Gateway Forum in Brussels today, the European Commission announced significant progress in the Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridors (GGGSC) initiative, a flagship initiative aimed at fast-tracking the decarbonisation of the maritime sector while promoting global cooperation and equitable growth.

The Global Gateway Forum featured the announcement of pivotal agreements aimed at contributing to the establishment of green shipping corridors worldwide:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Port of Algeciras in Spain and the Panama Canal Authority to develop a digital and green Shipping Corridor;
- A Letter of intent (LoI) between the European Union and the Republic of Chile to collaborate on the establishment of the first green maritime corridors connecting Chilean with European ports.

European Commissioner for International Partnerships **Jozef Síkela** said: *“Maritime shipping is the backbone of global trade, but also a major source of CO₂ emissions. Its transformation is essential to achieving our climate goals. By strengthening cooperation between ports, nations, and international organisations, we are showing how innovation and digitalisation can drive sustainability and deepen strategic partnerships worldwide. The Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridors initiative embodies our vision for resilient, inclusive, and climate-neutral trade routes that enhance economic competitiveness while protecting our planet for generations to come.”*

Maritime shipping accounts for nearly 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions, making it a significant contributor to climate change. As one of the world’s most interconnected industries, maritime shipping faces unprecedented challenges in its transition toward sustainability. The shift to renewable and sustainable fuels and technologies involves complex dynamics, including regulatory inconsistencies and significant investment hurdles. The GGGSC aims to contribute towards the harmonisation of these efforts.

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The decarbonisation of the maritime sector is not only about using renewable fuels, is also about use of new vessel and port technologies (e.g. dual fuel engines, innovative vessel technologies, decarbonisation of port operations) as well as digitalisation of the operations of the vessels and ports to improve their efficiency.

The collaboration between the Port of Algeciras and Panama, for example, is expected to improve the operational and environmental performance of a pivotal shipping route, while promoting digitalisation and sustainable fuels.

Likewise, the EU-Chile letter of intent features an initial feasibility study marking the first steps towards creating green corridors between Europe and South America, supporting bilateral trade and clean transport solutions.

Background

Following a proposal by Denmark in 2023, the European Commission has spearheaded a collaborative approach, engaging EU Member States and private sector stakeholders to connect European ports with strategic global ports. The GGGSC is part of the EU's broader Global Gateway strategy aiming to support sustainable and resilient global trade infrastructure. By fostering green maritime corridors, the EU seeks to contribute meaningfully to achieving global climate goals.

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- [Global Gateway Forum](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)
- [Global Maritime Green Corridor - European Commission](#)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

WEB RELEASE

Brussels, 10 October 2025

Global Gateway: EU scales up local manufacturing and access to health products in Africa, advancing the MAV+ initiative

Today, at the Global Gateway Forum in Brussels, the EU announced new milestones worth **€190** million in total to scale up local manufacturing and equitable access to quality, safe, effective and affordable health products in Africa. These six new separate investments concretely advance the **Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies** (MAV+) initiative at regional and continental level, and in particular in Rwanda, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal, strengthening local pharmaceutical systems and manufacturing capacity to facilitate access to quality, safe, effective and affordable health products.

The European Commission and the European Investment Bank unveiled a €52 million agreement with [Medaccess](#) to provide volume guarantees to manufacturers of medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, medical devices and nutritional products. With the aim of encouraging manufacturers to meet demand in Sub Saharan Africa while ensuring affordability and accessibility for the consumers, the guarantees will cover the manufacturer for their loss if a minimum amount of goods or services is not purchased. The guarantees can cover for example radiotherapy equipment, medical liquid oxygen or vitamin A edible oil for food fortification.

The EU also announced an agreement with [BioNTech](#) worth €95 million to support the advancement of its pharmaceutical [manufacturing facility](#) for mRNA vaccines in Kigali, Rwanda. The aim is to significantly enhance continental capabilities for supply, production and testing. People residing in African Union member states will get priority access to the vaccines and novel medicines manufactured at the site.

Jozef Síkela, Commissioner for International Partnerships said: “Global health is a key priority of the Global Gateway strategy, and the EU has already invested more than €1.9 billion in local vaccine and medicine manufacturing and affordable access in Africa. The agreement with BioNTech to support the advancement of its state-of-the-art mRNA manufacturing facility in Rwanda will boost expertise across the region and build increased independence from entities outside of Africa. The volume guarantees with MedAccess will encourage manufacturers to optimise supply and ensure affordability and accessibility for the consumer.”

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The European Commission also presented the following investments:

- €15.8 million to strengthen the biomanufacturing capabilities of **South Africa**, focusing on addressing skilled labour shortages and scaling up biomanufacturing processes for vaccines and pharmaceuticals. This support will also boost capacity building in biopharmaceutical production and pandemic preparedness and establish a Centre of Excellence for health product safety monitoring across Southern Africa.
- €1.9 million to strengthen the Ghana Food and Drugs Authority laboratory capacity and skills, further support the research and development ecosystem, strengthen compliance as well as continue to stimulate an enabling environment for local production of vaccines and pharmaceuticals in **Ghana**.
- €15.5 million for enabling local manufacturing of health, immunisation and nutrition commodities and in quality uplift for advancing local industry in medicine standards in **Nigeria**.
- **€10** million for strengthening the pharmaceutical sovereignty of **Senegal**, by supporting the development of an ecosystem conducive to pharmaceutical production, particularly of vaccines, therapies and essential medicines in Senegal.

The new investments come at a moment when the European Commission has reaffirmed its commitment to global health through the announcement of the new Global Health Resilience initiative, the details of which are currently being developed.

They benefit from the [Human Development Accelerator](#) (HDX), which facilitates investment in infrastructure and enables a better environment for health systems, as well as improved manufacturing capacities for health products and technologies. The European Commission is making available €750 million to support vaccine and pharmaceutical manufacturing under the Human Development Accelerator (HDX) guarantee facility.

Background

Africa imports 99% of its vaccines and 70% – 90% of its medicines. According to the World Health Organization, over 50% of people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to essential medicines. The [Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies](#) ('MAV+') initiative offers a comprehensive, 360-degree approach to tackle barriers on supply, demand and enabling environment. The overall objective of the initiative is to facilitate access to quality, safe, effective and affordable health products as outlined in the UN's Sustainable Development Goal target 3.8. Supporting access to essential health products and technologies is in alignment with the development objectives and geo-political priorities shared by both the EU and the African Union.

Since its launch, MAV+ has invested €1.97 billion in supporting the development of both manufacturing and the institutional ecosystem equally in its six priority African countries (Senegal, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Rwanda and Egypt) as well as at regional and continental level. The implementation of the initiative is a key priority of the EU Global Health strategy, which

is a fundamental part of the Global Gateway strategy, and of the African Union – European Union Innovation Agenda. The Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies initiative forms part of the Team Europe Initiative on the EU-AU Health Partnership.

Global Gateway Forum

The Global Gateway Forum brings together an assembly of leaders from the European Union and across the globe, alongside key stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, thought leaders, financial institutions, and international organisations to promote global investment in infrastructure - hard and soft - to deliver on the SDGs and sustainable growth and resilience worldwide.

Global Gateway

Global Gateway is the EU's positive offer to reduce the worldwide investment disparity and boost smart, clean and secure connections in digital, energy and transport sectors, and to strengthen health, education and research systems.

The Global Gateway strategy embodies a Team Europe approach that brings together the European Union, EU Member States, and European development finance institutions. Together, we aim to mobilise up to €300 billion in public and private investments from 2021 to 2027, creating essential links rather than dependencies, and closing the global investment gap.

For More Information

- [Team Europe Initiative on manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa](#)
- [Accelerating Human Development](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Global Gateway Forum](#)
- [Global Gateway](#)