



30 April 2020



EBRD launches Vital Infrastructure Support Programme

<https://www.ebrd.com/news/2020/ebrd-launches-vital-infrastructure-support-programme.html>

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) issues **guidance** for a **safe return to the workplace**

<https://osha.europa.eu/en/themes/covid-19-resources-workplace>

Banking package to facilitate bank lending

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_740

New rules on the **use of cohesion funds** to make their disbursement more flexible as part of the response to the coronavirus crisis

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R0558>

On 23 April, the European Council agreed the **€540 billion support plan**. The European Council asked the Commission to make a proposal by 6 May and to specify the details in relation to the EU's multi-annual budget.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/23/conclusions-by-president-charles-michel-following-the-video-conference-with-members-of-the-european-council-on-23-april-2020/>

EC report on the **impact** of coronavirus **on EU trade**

https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2020/april/tradoc_158713.pdf

WTO report: growing number of **export restrictions** in response to COVID-19 crisis (23 April 2020)

https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/export_prohibitions_report_e.pdf

European Parliament Services study: How **state aid** can back coronavirus economic support measures

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI\(2020\)649399](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EPRS_BRI(2020)649399)

European Innovation Council (EIC) Advisory Board published its first vision statement on the role of **Horizon Europe** in Europe's recovery from the COVID-19 crisis
https://ec.europa.eu/research/eic/pdf/ec_rtd_eic-vision.pdf

COVID-19 **Disinformation** EEAS (European External Action Service) Special report – update 2-22 April 2020)
<https://euvsdisinfo.eu/eeas-special-report-update-2-22-april/>

EU launches **global** coronavirus response and vaccine pledging effort on 4 May
<https://europa.eu/global-response/>



EFCA Board of Directors is inviting suggestions for **further EFCA COVID-19 actions** and policy engagement from the Committees and the national associations

EFCA European External Aid Committee reports that DG DEVCO's clarification to the Headquarter and Delegations in response to the joint EFCA/Feaco letter proves most useful for the industry and the firms' dialogue with clients.

<https://www.efcanet.org/news/dg-devco-response-efca-and-feaco-call-all-procedures-be-made-digital> (See also DG DEVCO 'COVID-19: Q&A on the temporary impact on contractual procedures' https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/covid-19-faq-impact-contractual-procedures_en.pdf)

There are delays, extended deadlines; some shortened projects and also corona related requirements in tender notices. However, except for one experience, funds and programmes seem not redirected to support the response to COVID-19.

The second **EFCA corona impact report** was issued on circulated on 24 April
Main conclusions: (1) Permanent layoffs are becoming more prevalent than temporary leaves; (2) Drop in new projects increased, loss of projects stable; (3) Effects are increasingly affecting public sector and exports in addition to a significant, negative, impact on private sector projects: <https://www.efcanet.org/news/efca-corona-survey-ii>

GUIDANCE

Koninklijke Nlingenieurs, construction related organisations and major public clients issue a joint statement 'Continue building together The Netherlands'. Guidance on the implementation of corona measures on sites: <https://www.nlingenieurs.nl/dossier-coronavirus-website-koninklijke-nlingenieurs/>

FIEC Overview on EU and national measures (update 28 April):
<http://www.fiec.eu/en/themes-72/covid-19.aspx>

FIDIC COVID-19 webinar programme: <https://fidic.org/node/29213>