

FI Campus 2026

30 November, 1 & 2 December 2026 | Brussels

Programme

Day 1 – Monday, 30 November 2026

16:30 – 17:30	Registration of participants and welcome coffee
17:30 – 17:45	**Opening of FI Campus 2026**
17:45 – 18:30	**Reinforcing the uptake of financial instruments today and beyond: an interactive session with the audience** *An interactive session featuring live audience polling and insights from stakeholders from Member States, with different levels of experience on financial instruments, with a focus on how to drive financial instrument uptake today and tomorrow.*
18:30 – 19:30	**Showcase 2026 presentations and pitches**
19:30 – 21:30	Networking standing dinner

Day 2 - Tuesday, 01 December 2026

8:45 – 9:15	Registration and welcome coffee
9:15 – 9:25	**Welcome from the moderator**
9:25 – 9:45	**Inspirational keynote opening session**
9:45 – 11:00	**Roadmap to the next MFF** *Discussion on the upcoming regulatory changes in the next MFF, focusing on new performance-based requirements.*
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 12:30	**Mapping the future of financial instruments: study insights and Member State needs** *This session presents key fi-compass study findings on Member State trends and investment needs, focusing on the ecosystem, reform prerequisites, and product recommendations designed to scale-up the role of financial instruments in the next MFF.*
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 15:00	**Financial intermediaries: overcoming challenges and improving access to finance** *Financial intermediaries and banks will share their hands-on experiences, exploring current challenges, market trends, and strategic opportunities to improve access to finance and respond effectively to evolving market needs.*
15:00 – 16:00	**Challenges for financial instruments in areas of particular interest: Outermost regions, Islands and coastal areas, Eastern Border Regions**
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 17:30	**Audit of financial instruments and lessons learnt**
17:30 – 19:00	**Networking cocktail**
19:00 – 22:00	Showcase Awards 2026 ceremony and networking dinner

Day 3 - Wednesday, 2 December 2026

9:00 – 9:30	Welcome coffee			
Parallel sessions				
9:30 – 10:45	**Mobilising capital markets for regions – potential of green bonds and the role of Cohesion policy** *Building on EBRD's research on municipal green bonds, the panel will explore their potential to address regional investment needs and support future reforms by mobilising private capital and diversifying the investor base. Bringing together perspectives from across the financing ecosystem, it will discuss benefits and incentives, key constraints and enabling conditions, including aggregation. It will also examine how Cohesion policy, shared management financial instruments and other support could unlock this potential, looking towards the next MFF and the wider SIU agenda.*	**Security and Defence: A New Frontier for Cohesion Policy and Financial Instruments** *As Europe strengthens its security and defence capabilities, the Managing Authorities are increasingly assessing how EU funds can support related investments while maximising leverage through financial instruments. In this session, panellists will share their policy perspectives, highlight emerging opportunities and implementation challenges, and provide examples of how public and private finance can collaborate to support innovation, industrial capacity, and regional development.*	**Scaling up social impact: how ESF+ can support the social economy and beyond** *This session will showcase practical examples of how ESF+ funding has helped to develop and structure a more sustainable financial ecosystem for social and impact-driven enterprises, and how this support paves the way for financial instruments and private sector capital.*	**Microfinance: Creating opportunities for third-country nationals** *This session will present practical examples, market insights and policy perspectives on the role of microfinance in supporting the integration of third-country nationals in the EU.*
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break			

11:15 – 12:45	**Unlocking Energy Efficiency investment: from evidence to scale** *Why do firms underinvest in energy efficiency, even when significant savings are available? This session will present new World Bank evidence on the firm-level barriers behind this investment gap and discuss what it means for Cohesion Policy. It will explore how the next MFF and NRPPs can turn evidence into targeted action—combining financial instruments, grants and advisory support to unlock private investment and deliver on the EU's energy, competitiveness and decarbonisation priorities.*	**Reflows: turning repaid resources into new investment opportunities**	**Combining ESF+ financial instruments and grants: efficient solutions for greater impact** *This session will discuss practical examples of combining ESF+ financial instruments with different grant types, including capital rebates, technical support and interest rate subsidies. It will discuss how these combinations can make better use of public funds, attract additional resources and increase impact across various social policy areas.*	**Unlocking investment for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture: the role of financial instruments** *Why do firms underinvest in energy efficiency, even when significant savings are available? This session will present new World Bank evidence on the firm-level barriers behind this investment gap and discuss what it means for Cohesion Policy. It will explore how the next MFF and NRPPs can turn evidence into targeted action—combining financial instruments, grants and advisory support to unlock private investment and deliver on the EU's energy, competitiveness and decarbonisation priorities.*
12:45 – 13:00	**Closing session – key takeaways and next steps**			
13:00 – 14:00	Closing lunch			