### Learnings from the first half of the RFF horizon

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### Main messages

#### 1. So far, so good?

Stronger recovery in the most beneficent countries - RFF provides a boost to public investment - government investment partly shielded

#### 2. Remaining challenges ahead?

Delays in the delivery – Quality of spending - Administrative bottlenecks

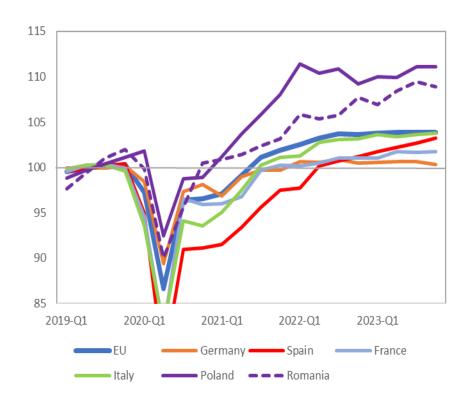
#### 3. Which learning?

Long-term planning to raise long-term growth and transform the economy – What about regulatory reforms? (Interaction with the cohesion funds?)

Survey based information suggest that reduced uncertainty/improved business environment/Enhanced market integration can also be instrumental

### 1. So far so good Strong post-COVID-19 recovery

#### **Real GDP** (Index, 2019=100)

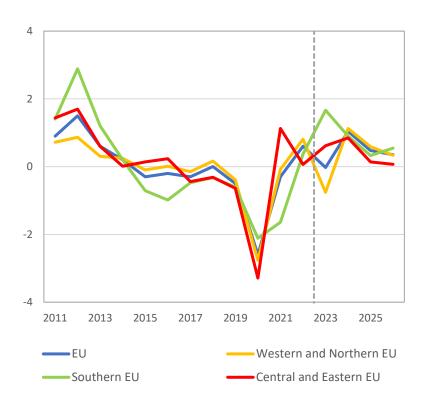


**Source:** EIB calculations based on Eurostat.

Note: Seasonally and calendar day adjusted data. Last record is 2023Q4.



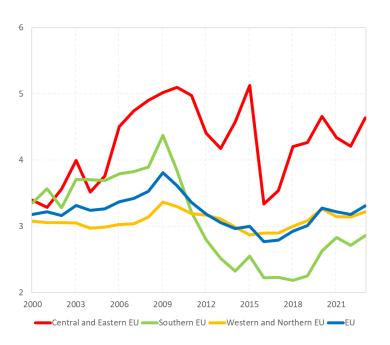
#### Structural Primary Balance (% GDP)



**Source**: EIB calculations based on AMECO and Stability and Convergence Programs. **Note**: The vertical dashed line indicates the start of the projection period (in 2023 on the Figure).

# 1. So far so good RRF to shield public investment

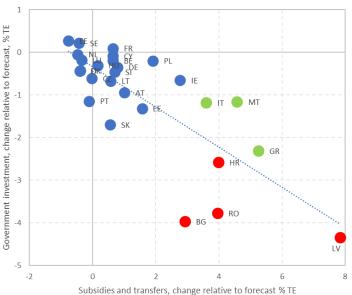
# General government investment (% GDP)



**Source:** EIB calculations based on Eurostat. **Note:** Last record is 2022. 2023 based on the November 2023 EC forecast.



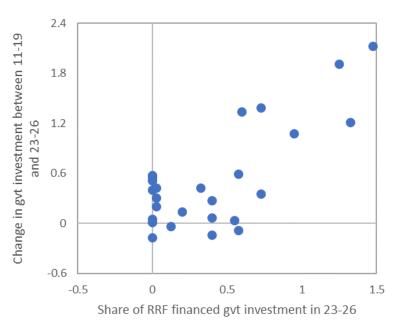
# Unexpected changes in gvt investment and in subsidies and transfers (% total expenditures)



**Source:** AMECO database of the European Commission and EIB staff calculations.

**Notes:** Subsidies and transfers include the following expenditure categories: subsidies, transfers in kind to households and other transfers. Changes are differences between the 2022 record and its projection in the 2022 EC spring forecast

# RRF expected to shield government investment



**Source**: EIB calculations based on AMECO and Stability and Convergence Programs.

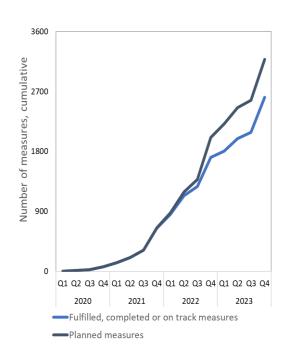
*Note:* The vertical dashed line indicates the start of the projection period (in 2023 on the Figure).

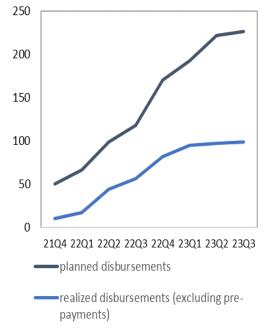
#### 2. Remaining challenges ahead?

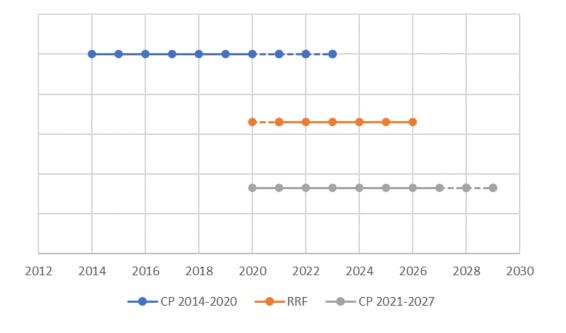
A gap is building up between plans and realizations in RRF implementation

(lhs: number of measures, rhs: disbursements in eur bn)

Overlapping implementation and size of RRF and Cohesion Policy funds might be problematic





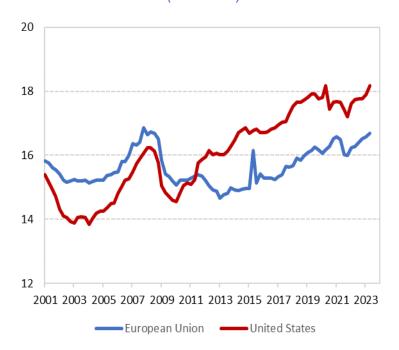


Source: EIB staff calculations based on member states self-reported data on RRF implementation, RRF Operational agreements, Recovery and resilience scoreboard.

Source: RRF scoreboard and Kohesio database.

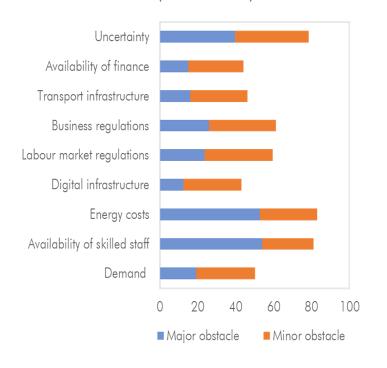
# 3. Which learning? Remove structural bottlenecks

### Non-residential investment (% GDP)

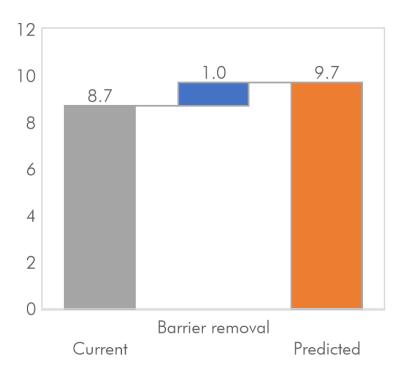


**Source**: EIB staff calculations based on Eurostat and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) national accounts. **Note:** European Union excluding Ireland. Productive investment includes all investment outside of residential investment.

# Long-term barriers to investment (% of firms)



# Estimated effect of removing major barriers (Average investment intensity pp)



Source: EIB staff calculations and estimations based on ORBIS and the EIBIS.

*Note:* Chart on the rhs indicates. Firms' investment rate as % of total assets (from firms' balance sheet) and predicted effect of removing major barriers



### Main messages

- ✓ RFF success story so far
- ✓ Some evidence that the facility catalyzes private investment
- ✓ Public investment protect but cannot do all looking forward to rely more on private sources

Enhanced market integration: Survey based information (EIBIS) suggest that reduced uncertainty/improved business environment/Enhanced market integration can also be instrumental to the transformation and competitiveness of the EU economy



