



CEF Broadband in 2014

**Connecting Europe Facility: the first
discussion with Member State experts on
the orientations**

Why broadband support in CEF?

Europe needs deployment and modernisation of broadband networks to unlock growth.

In many areas private sector investment plans fall short of the ambitions of the Digital Agenda broadband targets, in particular for:

- *Very high speeds*
- *In rural areas*

Working through financial instruments CEF will extend the reach of private investment in areas of market imperfection and reduce the need for direct (grant based) public intervention in areas of market failure.

Broadband 2014 actions: continuity and support

Ex-ante evaluation: in line with the legal basis to determine the optimal use of the limited budget for broadband throughout the 2014-2020 period

CEF debt vs. equity: ex-ante assessment and cross-sectoral preparatory work with broadband, transport and energy

Broadband technical assistance: providing technical support for candidate projects with high CEF potential

Pipeline building: identify projects serving the connectivity needs of smaller urban communities

Contracts, partnerships and call for the expressions of interest

Ex-ante evaluation: contracting external consulting advice for interviews with investor communities

CEF debt instrument: delegation agreement with the European Investment Bank, then merger and integration of portfolios of project bonds pilot initiative and LGTT

Broadband technical assistance platform: search for partners and development of the implementation modalities

Pipeline building: a call for the expression of interest open to all Member States, focusing on the urban communities with high speed connectivity needs.