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Joint Statement by the European Commission, Invest-NL, and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate

InvestEU: Commission signs agreement with Invest-NL to unlock €750 million of investments in sustainable and innovative projects across the Netherlands

Today in Brussels, the European Commission and Invest-NL, the National Financing and Development Institution in the Netherlands, have signed an InvestEU guarantee agreement. With this agreement Invest-NL becomes the first Dutch InvestEU implementing partner authorised to channel €350 million in guarantees across the Netherlands.

Thanks to the guarantee agreement between the two parties, financing projects in sectors such as sustainable energy, Deep Tech, and demonstration facilities becomes more accessible. The agreement enables Invest-NL to lower investment risk, thereby stimulating more investments in sustainable and innovative projects. This not only advances the sustainability of the Dutch economy but also strengthens its innovative capacity, improves its international competitiveness, and creates new jobs.

This agreement was made possible with the support of the InvestEU programme, which aims to trigger more than €372 billion in additional investment over the period 2021-27. InvestEU provides an EU budgetary guarantee to implementing partners to increase their risk-taking capacity and therefore contributes to mobilising public and private investment for the EU's policy priorities.

Societal and economic challenges of the future require innovative solutions and bold investments. As the National Financing and Development Institution, Invest-NL has the mission to finance what is often considered too risky or takes patient capital. Within the program, up to €350 million in guarantees can be provided, which could lead to €750 million in investments.

European Commissioner for Economic Affairs, Paolo Gentiloni, states: “InvestEU is a vital tool for achieving Europe's sustainable and digital transformation and I am delighted that Invest-NL will henceforth act as an implementing partner. By working together, we will be able to stimulate green and deep-tech businesses and projects in the Netherlands, giving a boost to both innovation and sustainability and creating high-quality jobs.”

Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy of the Netherlands, Micky Adriaansens: “The competitive position of Europe and the Netherlands in the global economy is under pressure. So we need to speed up public and private investments in digitalization and sustainability to maintain our prosperity. Especially when you consider that these challenges of the future require innovations and investments that exceed our current knowledge. This not only calls for patient capital but also a willingness to take risks to promote innovation. The Invest-NL and European Commission guarantee agreement through the InvestEU program can speed up these investments and improve the access to financing.”

Rinke Zonneveld, CEO of Invest-NL, adds: “This agreement further enables us to provide access to financing for projects in areas such as energy transition and deep technology. Invest-NL thereby

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becomes the first implementation partner in the Netherlands for this InvestEU guarantee scheme, excellently fulfilling our task to unlock capital made available through European programs.”

Background

The **InvestEU programme** provides the EU with crucial long-term funding by leveraging substantial private and public funds in support of a sustainable recovery. It also helps to mobilise private investments for the EU's policy priorities, such as the European Green Deal and the digital transition. The InvestEU Programme brings together under one roof the multitude of EU financial instruments available to support investment in the EU, making funding for investment projects in Europe simpler, more efficient and more flexible. The programme consists of three components: the InvestEU Fund, the InvestEU Advisory Hub, and the InvestEU Portal. The InvestEU Fund is implemented through implementing partners who invest in projects using the EU budget guarantee of €26.2 billion. The entire budgetary guarantee backs the investment projects of the implementing partners, increase their risk-bearing capacity and thus mobilise at least €372 billion in additional investment.

Invest-NL, the National Promotional Institute, serves as an essential link between the public and private sectors and aims to promote a sustainable and innovative business environment in the Netherlands. By actively participating in European initiatives such as the InvestEU guarantee scheme, Invest-NL contributes to the development of both a sustainable and innovative economy.

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