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Answer given by Mr Síkela
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Global Gateway (GG) programme was launched to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport sectors, while also strengthening health, education and research systems across the world. The goal of the programme is to diversify EU international partnerships around the world. It is a win-win strategy, whereby the partner countries benefit from investment and creating economic growth and jobs, while the EU promotes competitiveness and economic security¹.

The Joint Communication on GG² outlines the guiding principles³ and five key investment areas of the strategy⁴. Under GG, the Commission strives to identify sustainable, high-impact investments to strengthen EU partnerships. The recently launched GG Investment Hub also provides specific eligibility and assessment criteria to facilitate these investment projects⁵.

GG projects and investments are subject to the strict rules that apply to the selection, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and transparency of all projects financed under the EU budget⁶. The Commission also tracks and reports on EU support to GG investment projects through the annual report on the implementation of the EU's external action instruments, and provides information through the Commission's website⁷, which also includes links to approved action documents.

GG flagship projects, which are endorsed by the Council as projects which showcase GG, are monitored by the Council's Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors. Member States have full ownership in identifying and proposing GG flagship projects, considering their strategic, economic, and geopolitical interests. The relative weight given to factors such as alignment with EU priorities ensures that projects align with overall strategic interests⁸. Additional details and insights into the strategy and flagship projects are publicly available on the GG website⁹.

¹ Through the GG strategy, the EU mobilised, together with its Member States, EUR 300 billion in a period 2022-2025 and overpassed the initial plan, which was set for 2027.

² JOIN(2021)30 final, https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/3378e8f6-9d65-4ca0-8ab6-ce81399d5db6_en.

³ Democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, green and clean, security-focused infrastructure, and catalysing private sector investment.

⁴ Digital, health, climate and energy, transport sectors, and education and research.

⁵ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/investment-hub_en.

⁶ As per the Financial Regulation, https://commission.europa.eu/publications/eu-financial-regulation_en.

⁷ https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway_en.

⁸ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/global-gateway/>.

⁹ See footnote 7.