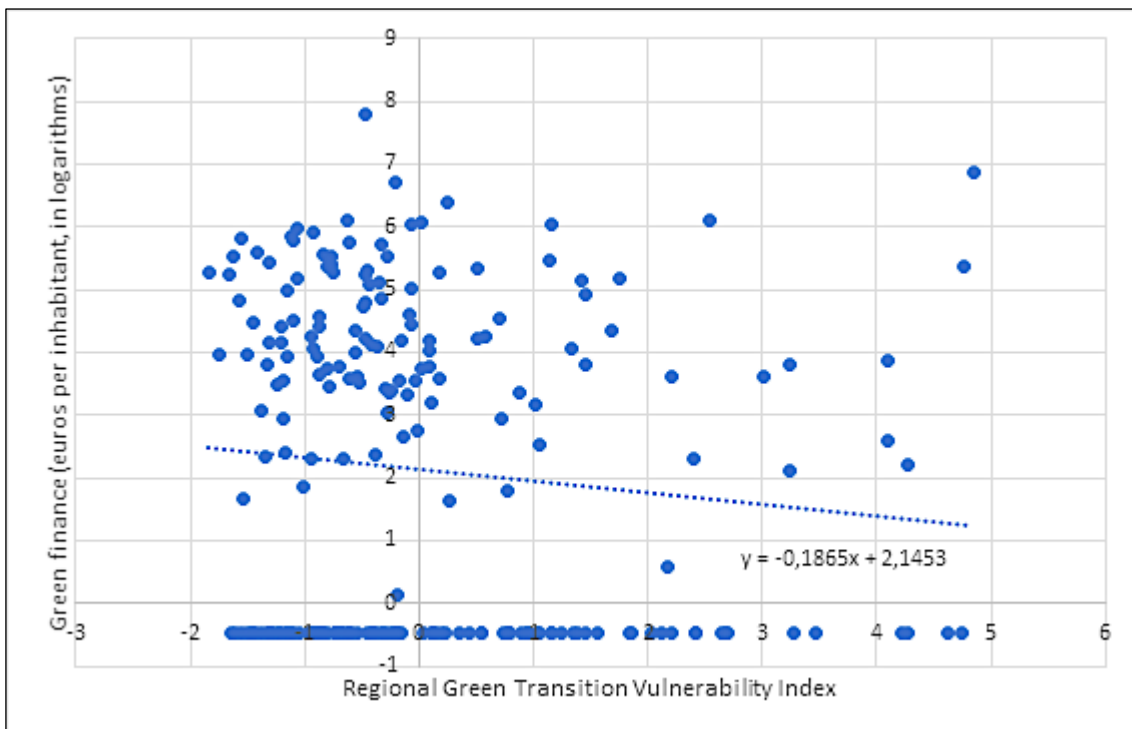


9. Evaluating the Impact of EU Green Lending Distribution on the Green and Just Transition

Lead researchers: Judith Clifton, Daniel Díaz-Fuentes, Marcos Fernández-Gutiérrez, Ana Lara Gómez (University of Cantabria)

Supporting researchers: Jose María Zavala Pérez (Oxfam Intermón) and Daniel Chavez (Transnational Institute)



Correlation between EU regions' vulnerability index to the green transition and EIB lending per inhabitant in 2021-2023 (preliminary results).

Summary

This case study examines lending by the European Investment Bank (EIB) towards the EU green and just transition from a regional perspective. The EIB, originally labelling itself as the “EU Bank”, re-launched itself as the world’s first “Climate Bank” in 2019, aligning itself with the implementation of the European Green Deal. By analysing EIB lending in climate action and environmental sustainability using available data from 2021-2023, the study aims to determine how effectively EIB finances targets place the most vulnerable to the transition towards decarbonisation. Using mixed methods, including data categorisation at the NUTS2 level and semi-structured interviews with EIB and European Commission officials, the case study will correlate EIB lending in climate action and environmental sustainability with the Regional Green Transition Vulnerability Index developed by Rodríguez-Pose and Bartalucci (2024). The findings will provide insights into the alignment of financial support with existing needs and the broader implications for

achieving a just transition, considering the potential environmental and social costs and benefits of the green transition.

The study utilises *injustice* for social impact, *decarbonisation* and *renewables* as project concepts, *green finance* as the sector concept, and *phasing out* as the case study concept.

Key data points

During the period 2021-23:

- The European Investment Bank (EIB) funded 1,304 projects on climate action and environmental sustainability in the EU.
- EIB lending on climate action and environmental sustainability in the EU represents 97,000 M,€ (0,6% of average EU GDP in the period).
- 135 EU regions benefitted from EIB lending on climate action and environmental sustainability.

