

EMEA Finance Project Finance Awards:**UniCredit is Best Project Finance House in Central & Eastern Europe**

UniCredit has received top honours in the 17th edition of EMEA Finance **Project Finance Awards** by being awarded **Best Project Finance House in Central & Eastern Europe**.

In addition, several clients were distinguished with top awards for digitalisation and renewable energy projects in **Hungary, Sweden, Romania and Serbia**.

EMEA Finance Awards recognizes excellence and exemplifies the innovative and outstanding project finance achievements made across the EMEA region. The nominees and winners were selected by parties including banks, sponsors, legal and financial advisers, and chosen by the EMEA Finance editorial team.

*“This recognition confirms UniCredit’s outstanding position in Central & Eastern Europe and are a testament to the strength of our pan-European model,” said **Teodora Petkova, Head of Central and Eastern Europe at UniCredit**. “It reflects not only our deep local client knowledge, but also the collective expertise of our Group’s product factories, which allows us to deliver tailored, innovative financing solutions across the region.”*

Background:

Among the awarded client projects at of EMEA Finance **Project Finance Awards 2024**

- **Best renewable infrastructure deal**
Greenvolt’s debt facilities for 9.3 GW pipeline of utility-scale renewable projects

October 2024, UniCredit supported KKR Group’s company Greenvolt with a EUR 400 m debt financing aimed at speeding up the development of the Renewable Energy Sources (RES) portfolio of Greenvolt Group. The existing, cash-generative asset base is supported by a 9.3 GW development pipeline of utility-scale renewable projects. The investment in Greenvolt RES platform is a notable and highly visible commitment for KKR and underpins the firm’s commitment to the RES space.

UniCredit acted as Lead Arranger.

Greenvolt is a global renewable energy company with its three core business streams focused on utility-scale projects, distributed generation and sustainable biomass, with anchored positions in Western Europe, including Iberia as well as in Eastern Europe.

- **Best industry deal**
Stegra’s water treatment plant for green hydrogen steel plant loan financing in Sweden

August 2024, UniCredit successfully closed a EUR 165 m non-recourse project financing for the water treatment plant necessary to treat the industrial water required by H2 Green Steel (recently renamed to Stegra). This project is part of the Green Steel plant “H2 Green Steel” located in Sweden – a EUR 4.2 bn project financing where UniCredit acted as Pathfinder Bank and Hedge Coordinator in earlier 2024. Once operational, H2 Green Steel/Stegra’s plant, is expected to become the world’s first large-scale green steel plant abating up to 95% of CO2 emissions compared to traditional steelmaking.

UniCredit played a key role as Mandated Lead Arranger.

- **Best renewable energy deal**

Razolv Energy and Low Carbon’s Vifor wind farms 550GW phase one in Romania

June 2024, UniCredit supported Razolv, an independent Renewable Energy Sources (RES) energy producer backed by Actis and focused on the Central & Eastern Europe region, putting in place a financing package of up to EUR 290.5 m to finance the development of the first 192 MW phase of Vifor wind energy project. The project, located in Romania is one of the largest wind farms in this country. The transaction attracted a large number of banks active in the CEE region, including EBRD and IFC.

Actis is a leading global investor in sustainable infrastructure including digital, and with a strategic focus to expand across CEE.

UniCredit played a leading role as Joint Global Coordinator and Bookrunner.

- **Best telecommunications deal**

Telekom Srbija’s sale of telecom infrastructure and towers to Actis and consortium

February 2024, UniCredit supported Actis-led consortium in the acquisition of Telekom Srbija’s tower infrastructure portfolio in the Western Balkans.

UniCredit acted as Global Coordinator and Bookrunner on the buy-side acquisition financing for Actis. UniCredit also acted as M&A sell-side advisor to Telekom Srbija Group.

Telekom Srbija is one of the largest telecommunications operators in Southeast Europe providing a wide range of fixed-line, mobile, television, and internet communication services to more than 11 million subscribers. Actis is a leading global investor in sustainable infrastructure including digital, and with a strategic focus to expand across CEE.



Boilerplate:

UniCredit is a pan-European Bank with a unique service offering in Italy, Germany, Austria, and Central and Eastern Europe. Our Vision is to be the Bank for Europe's Future. Our Purpose is to Empower Communities to Progress, delivering the best-in-class products and services for all stakeholders, unlocking the potential of our people and our clients across Europe.

Our core operations are located in Italy, Germany, Austria and Central and Eastern European Countries, all served by three Group high-quality product factories: Corporate, Individual and Payment Solutions. This allows us to be close to our clients and use the scale of the entire Group for developing and offering the best products across all our markets.

We serve circa 15 million clients worldwide. Our best-in-class in-house solutions, complemented with the top industry expertise of our partners, and powered by reliable digital and data capabilities, create significant value for our clients, firmly positioned at the centre of all we do. Digitalisation and our commitment to ESG principles are key enablers for our service. They help us deliver excellence to our stakeholders and create a sustainable future for our clients, our communities and our people.