

SEINE-SCHELDT IN SHORT



The leading large-gauge inland waterway transport network in Europe



1100 km of inland waterways between Belgium and France (including a new **107 km** inland waterway link between Compiègne and Aubencheul-au-Bac, called the Seine-Nord Europe Canal)



Forecast to be fully completed in **2030**



By 2035, more than **9.8 billion tonne-km** on the inland waterways (equivalent to **2.3 million fewer lorries on the roads**)



5 sea ports, **60** inland ports, **90** marinas and **360** towns/cities served by an inland waterway transport link

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 The Seine-Scheldt network

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THE EUROPEAN UNION CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE SEINE-SCHELDT INLAND WATERWAY NETWORK IN 2023

A 4th ROUND OF FUNDING OF €506 MILLION OVER 2023-2027

Since 2004, the European Seine-Scheldt inland waterway network has been progressively implemented with the modernisation and regeneration of canals in Belgium and France, and the creation of a new 107 km inland waterway link, namely the Seine-Nord Europe Canal.

The year 2023 was marked by a new important milestone with:

- **the opening of several major sites**, including the modernisation of the Tournai crossing on the Scheldt in Wallonia (reconstruction of the Pont des Trous), the new lock site of Vive-Saint-Bavon in Flanders, the reopening of the Condé-Pommeroeul cross-border canal, as well as the start of the preparatory work on the Seine-Nord Europe Canal;

- **the allocation by the European Commission of a new grant of €506 million** to finance the studies and work to be done on the network from 2023 to 2027. With the first three grants awarded in 2007, 2014 and 2022, European support for the Seine-Scheldt network came to approximately €1.5 billion over 15 years.

This 4th European grant will be used to carry out work on sector 1 (between Compiègne and Passel) of the Seine-Nord Europe Canal and to continue several large-scale operations in Flanders and Wallonia.

The main projects financed by this new grant

The European Union finances 50% of eligible costs (excl. taxes)

In France

A Work on sector 1 of the Seine-Nord Europe Canal (Compiègne – Passel):

- rerouting of the Oise at Montmacq and Pimprez;
- earthworks;
- construction of 11 bridges and their road links;
- construction of the Montmacq lock.



RD66 bridge at Montmacq - Cambronne-lès-Ribécourt

B Studies and preparatory work on sectors 2 to 6 of the Seine-Nord Europe Canal (Passel – Aubencheul-au-Bac):

- completion of the project studies and rescue archaeology studies;
- network deviation work (drinking water, gas, electricity) and environmental construction and landscaping work;
- awarding of the main works contracts.



In Belgium

C WALLONIA Construction of a new lock at Obourg:

- contribution to the upgrading of the inland waterway network between France and Seneffe;
- development of a turning basin upstream of the lock so that the users of the port area can turn around.

D FLANDERS Works on the Seneffe-Antwerp section and on the Lys at Menen:

- on the Seneffe-Antwerp section, reconstruction of the Bospoort bridge in Halle, construction of the banks and the left bank in order to widen the canal;
- improvement of the meanders of the Lys at Menen and raising of the Rijsselstraat bridge so that vessels with three layers of containers can pass through.



Future lock - Obourg



Rijsselstraat Bridge - Menen