



LIFE-2023-CET- ENERCOMFACILITY

European Energy Communities Facility

LIFE CET Info Day, 1st June 2023



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Energy communities

- Speed up the uptake of renewables and energy efficiency measures by mobilising private capital
- Increase public acceptance of the energy transition
- Be a tool to increase the flexibility of the market through demand response and storage
- Social, environmental and economic benefits to community members

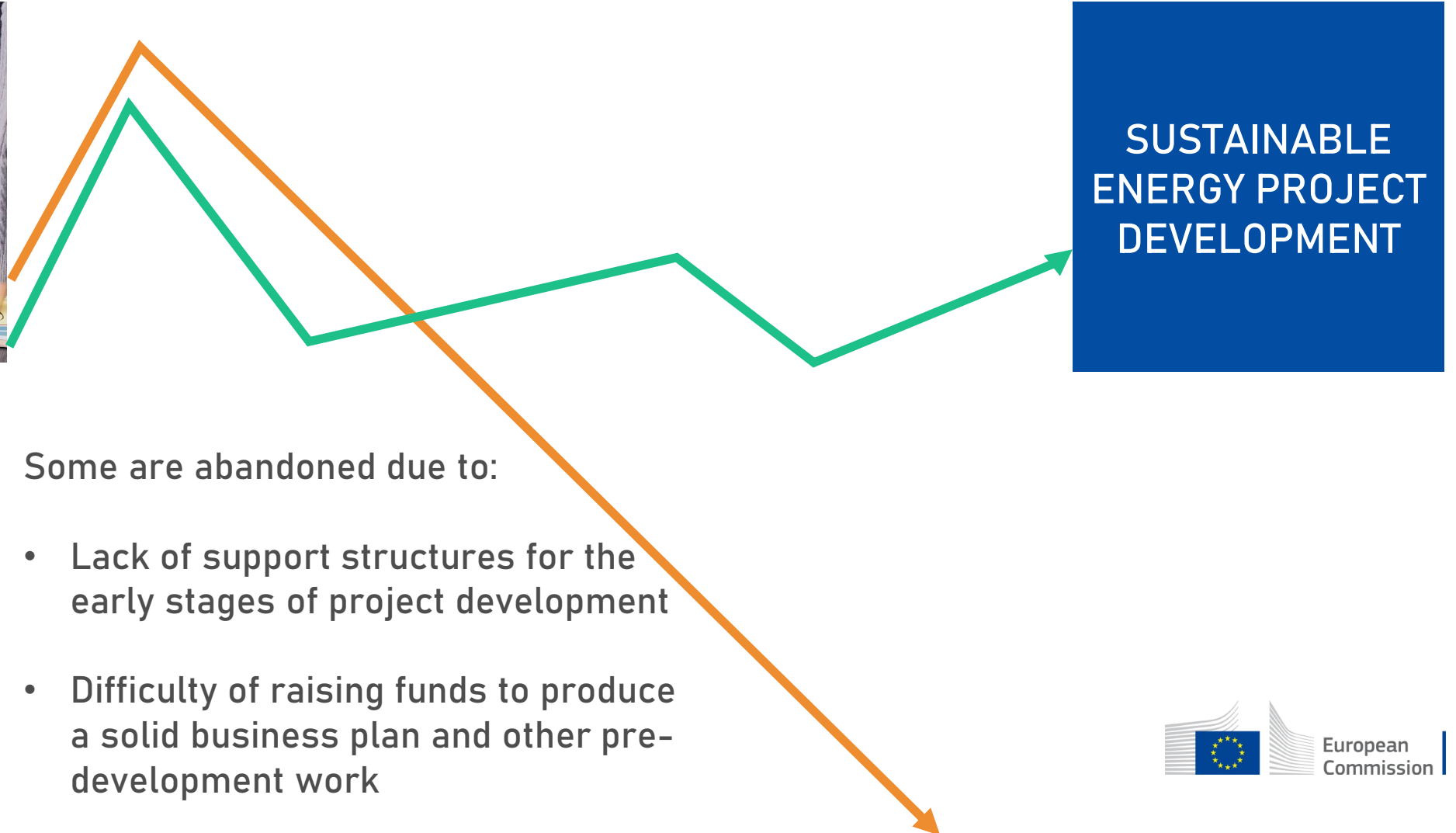
**Renewable energy
communities**
*(revised Renewable Energy
Directive Art 22)*

**Citizen energy
communities**
*(Internal Market for Electricity
Directive Art 16)*



Challenge (I)

Some communities have access to professional advice and can raise funds to support pre-development work



Some are abandoned due to:

- Lack of support structures for the early stages of project development
- Difficulty of raising funds to produce a solid business plan and other pre-development work



Challenge (II)



Take the relay from the European Energy Communities Repository and the Rural Energy Community Advisory Hub (RECAH)

Need to effectively share best practices across regions and create peer support opportunities



Focus

Create a structure to make the success of projects less dependent on the income level of community members or the availability of support at local level

Give continuity to key outputs of RECAH and the Repository

Organizing peer to peer exchanges & best practices sharing



Scope



FACILITY

BUSINESS
PLAN

SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY
PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT IDEA

The European Energy Communities Facility should offer support services, including financial support to third parties, to develop **business plans** to grow and implement sustainable energy community projects.



Two levels of support

PRE-SCREENING TO
CHECK THE
FEASIBILITY OF
PROJECT IDEAS

Network of dedicated
experts

SUPPORT TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF
BUSINESS PLANS FOR
ENERGY COMMUNITY
PROJECTS

Financial support to
third parties in the form
of 'lump sum grants'



Target beneficiaries: RECs or CECs



Financial support to third parties

Art 204 of EU Financial Regulation

Proposals should outline:

- types of activities that may receive such financial support,
- the definition of the persons or categories of persons which may receive such financial support,
- the criteria to select beneficiaries

BUSINESS PLANS

- ✓ Technical analysis of the planned investment project(s)
- ✓ Study of planning considerations and grid connection options
- ✓ Legal analysis
- ✓ Governance analysis
- ✓ Engagement strategy
- ✓ Clear identification of financing options



Helpdesk

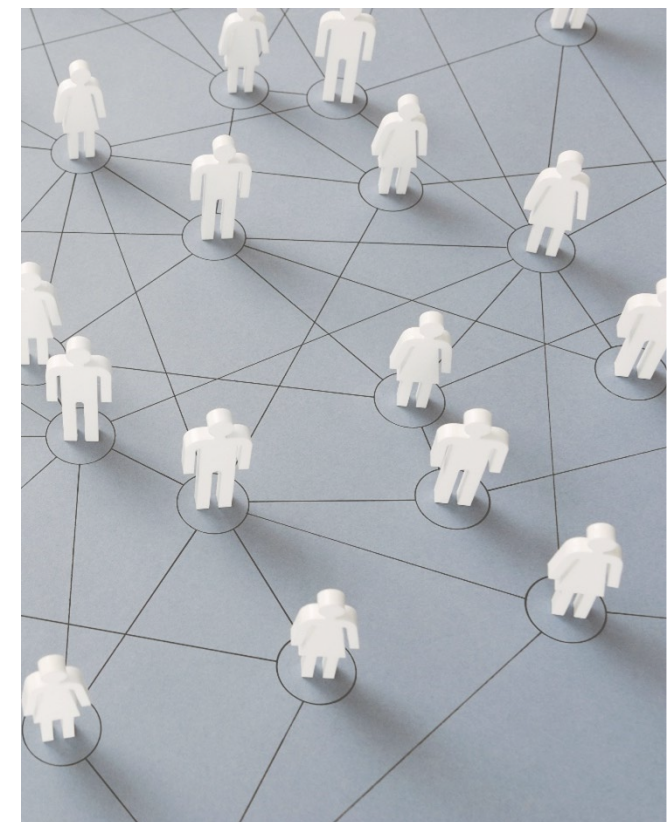
Give ad-hoc advice

Promote the Facility

Train local actors

Support third parties selected for direct financial support in contracting the expertise necessary to develop their business plans

Quality control



Complementary activities

Monitoring, analysis and capitalisation of results

Maintenance and expansion of **strategic parts of the legacy** of the Energy Communities Repository and RECAH

Best practice sharing and peer-to-peer exchanges

Monitor the emergence of services delivering support for project development in the different MS to exploit potential synergies



Energy Communities Facility

HELPDESK

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Network of dedicated
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Financial support to
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COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Monitoring & analysis

Maintenance and
expansion of strategic
parts of the legacy of
Repository and RECAH

Best practice sharing
and peer-to-peer
exchanges

Monitor the emergence
of support services
(synergies)



Considerations to build the Consortium

In-depth understanding of energy communities, their needs and challenges

Technical expertise related to sustainable energy project implementation

Capacity to run a large-scale financial support scheme

Able to mobilise a critical mass of potential energy communities to apply

Sound and inclusive outreach strategy



Impacts & Indicators

Proposals should demonstrate how project results will contribute to expected impacts and present 3 types of indicators

Topic-specific

Activity-specific

Common indicators

1. Quantify **Topic-specific indicators** provided in the topic text (where relevant*)
2. Propose additional **Activity-specific indicators** which are specific to the proposed action
3. Address impacts related to **Common indicators** for the LIFE-CET subprogramme

Impacts should be quantified for project duration + for 5 years after project end

Proposals should present the starting point and underlying assumptions & establish clear links between activity and impacts



*= not expected to address all the listed impacts/ indicators

Impacts

Number of

- **business plans delivered**
- **energy communities supported** for each type of support proposed (diversity)
- energy communities having received support which are **in operation**
- **citizens engaged** in energy community projects

Investments in RES and EE resulting business plan implementation (cumulative, in million Euro)

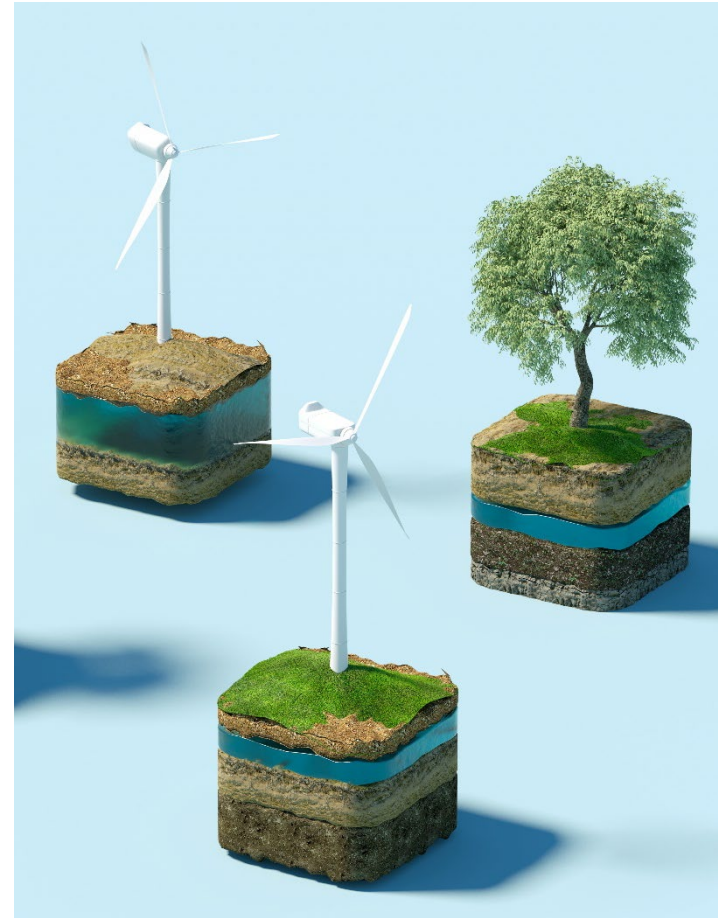


Impacts

Renewable energy generation triggered by the project
(GWh/year)

Primary energy savings triggered by the project
(GWh/year)

Reduction of greenhouse gases emissions (in tCO₂-
eq/year)



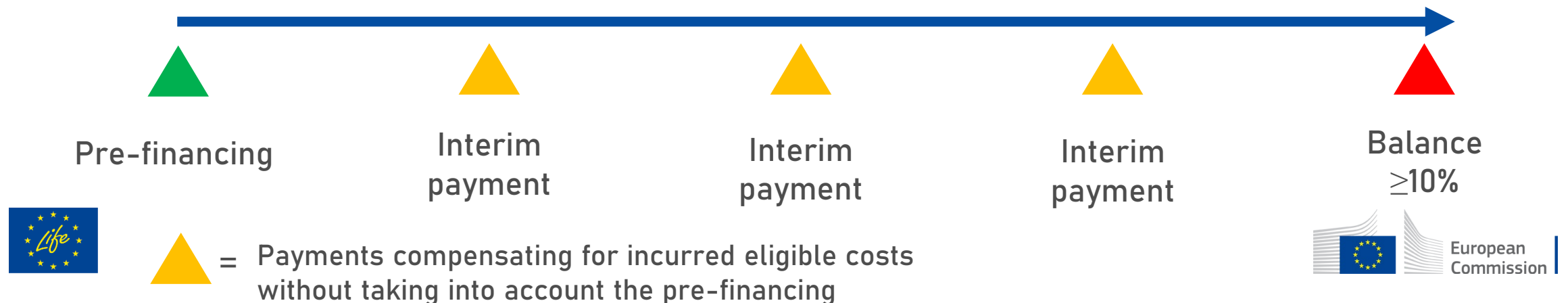
Considerations for budget preparation

Estimated budget: € 10M (95% co-financing, 7% flat rate for indirect costs)

Support directly benefiting third parties planning to launch energy community projects should amount to **at least 70%**

Lump-sums to be handed out: $\leq 60k$

Grant's payment schedule to ensure liquidity



Considerations for proposal writing

Explain clearly your **conceptual approach**

Foresee an early deliverable to define in detail the workings of the structure and the calls (e.g. “inception report”)



When thinking about the conceptual approach...

Frequency and focus of the calls

Type and collaboration arrangements with experts

Role of Helpdesks vs. Central Structure

What kind of peer to peer exchanges

How will quality be ensured?

Target groups for communication and of capacity building

Criteria to select third parties applying*

How standard will support to communities be?

Weight of different complementary activities

How will the pre-feasibility stage work

What types of lump sums will be handed out?

Structure of business plans *

How to complement existing support mechanisms?

Evaluation process (method, tools)



Considerations for timeline design

Overall duration

Period to set-up/operationalise the Facility

Cut-off dates / Sequencing of calls

Time to grant

Pre-screening / Business plan development periods

Quality check and validation timelines

Monitoring

Complementary actions' timing



Get ready to apply!

Open for submissions: 11 May 2023 - 16 November 2023

Available budget for the Facility: 10 million Euro

Foreseen start : Autumn 2024

Co-financing rate: 95% maximum

Full topic text: <https://europa.eu/!4ydwWy>



More information



Where to find...

Topic description => [LIFE-2023-CET Call for Proposals, Section 2](#)

FAQ for the topic: [Funding & tender opportunities portal](#)

[Portal Online Manual](#) (for processes)

Admissibility and eligibility conditions, eligible countries, award criteria and procedure, scoring and thresholds, etc. => [LIFE-2023-CET Call for Proposals, Section 5-9](#)

Essential forms and guides => [Submission forms and templates](#)



A screenshot of the European Commission's "Funding & tender opportunities" portal. The page features the European Commission logo and the text "Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)". The navigation bar includes a home icon, a search bar with the text "SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS", and menu items for "HOW TO PARTICIPATE", "PROJECTS & RESULTS", and "WORK AS AN". Below the navigation bar, there is a search filter section with a search box containing "ENERCOM FACILITY", a search icon, and checkboxes for "Match whole words only", "GRANTS", and "TENDERS". On the right side, there is a section titled "Funding and tenders (91)" with a sub-section for "Projects to support Bauhaus, the Phoenix Network" and the text "LIFE-2023-PLP-Bauhaus-Phoenix-Emerald".

A large cohort of projects



We encourage you when completing and submitting your application form to pro-actively give access and request support from your LIFE National Contact Point



Keep in touch with us

Any questions on CET call topics? Email us on:

CINEA-LIFE-CET@ec.europa.eu



https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en



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€99
MILLION
AVAILABLE

#EULife23
Call for proposals

Your project fits
right here

Clean Energy
Transition

Thank you



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