

CEF ENERGY

2023

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE: 6 FEBRUARY 2024

€50 MILLION

EU FUNDING FOR

CROSS-BORDER RENEWABLE

ENERGY PROJECTS

WORKS & STUDIES

Virtual Info Day | 14 November 2023

#CEFEnergyCBRES



AGENDA

14:30

Opening

Beatrice CODA

14:40

Policy context

Vasil STOYNOV

14:50

Evaluation and selection process

Beatrice CODA

15:20

Q&A with participants



15:35 coffee break

15:45

Successful proposal

Theresa KOENIG

16:15

Budget & Procurement

Gianluca FERRERI

16:30

How to submit a proposal in the portal

Gloria BARILARI

16:45

Intro to Model Grant Agreement

Giulia FRASCHETTI

17:00

Q&A with participants



CEF Energy Call for CB RES Studies and Works 2023

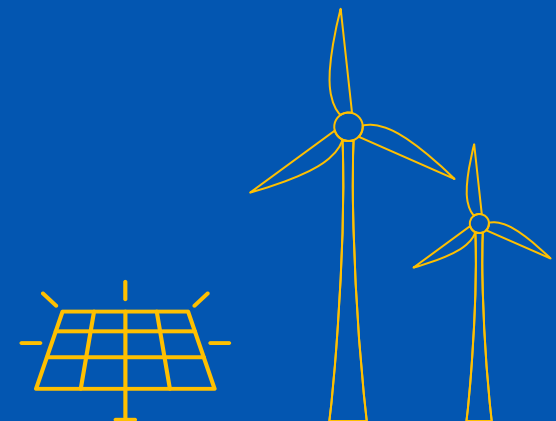


Beatrice CODA

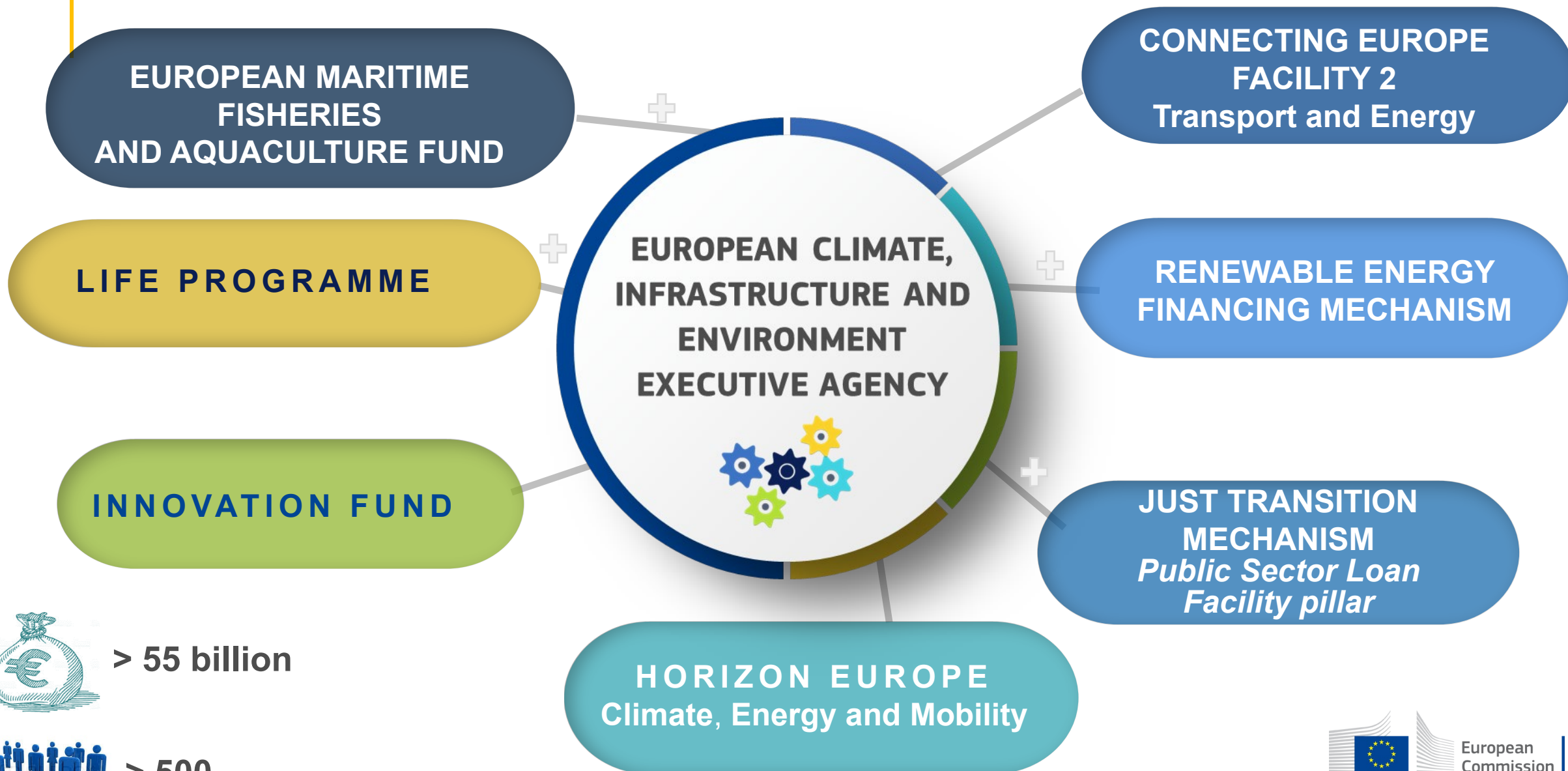
Head of Unit B4, CINEA

Virtual Info Day

14 November 2023



CINEA's key contribution to the European Green Deal



> 55 billion



> 500

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) 2021- 2027

Develop and modernise the **trans-European networks** in the fields of transport, energy and digital



Emphasis on **synergies** among sectors

Push the **decarbonisation** commitments

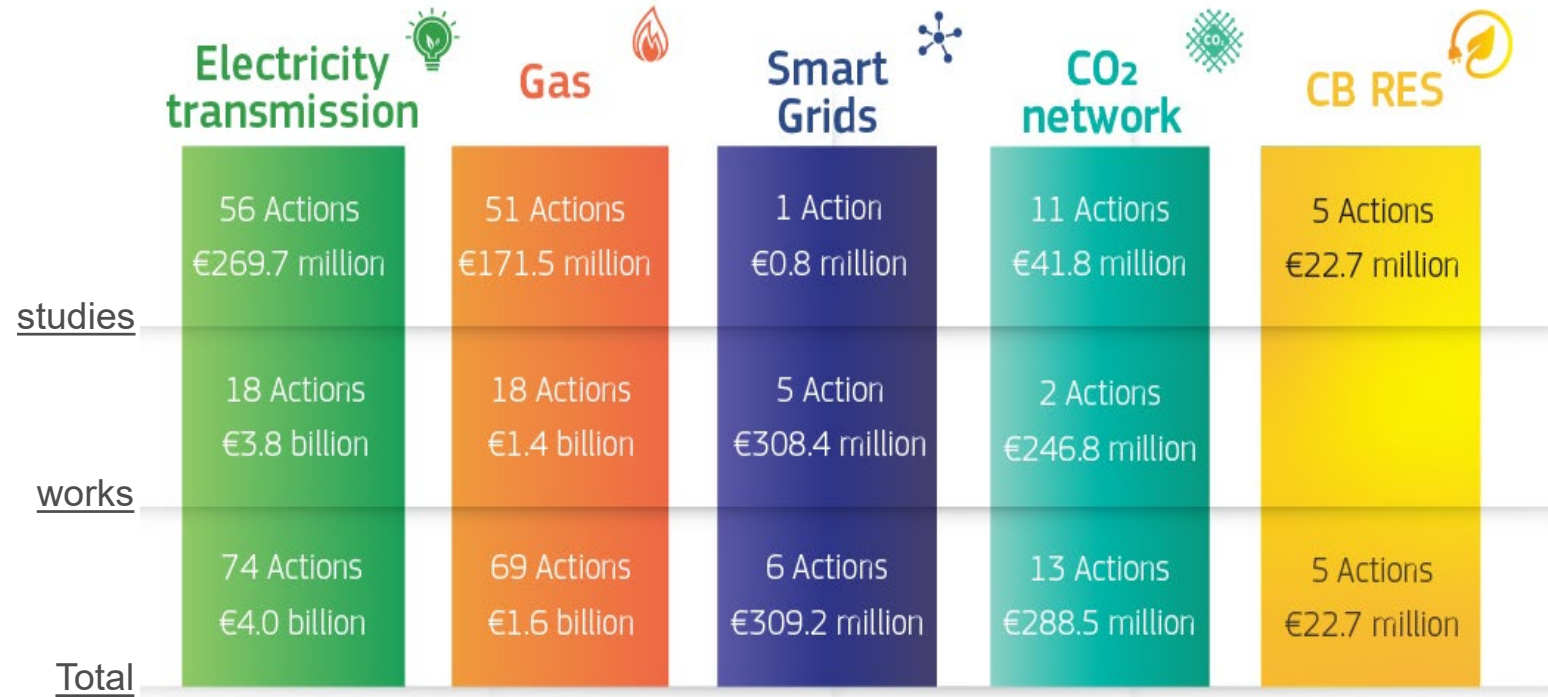


* Including CEF Digital managed by HaDEA

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) 2021- 2027



CEF Energy approved actions 2014 – 2023



- EUR 1.66 billion already allocated to PCIs
- EUR 22.7 million already allocated to CB RES projects
- CEF Energy plans to invest more than EUR 4 billion by 2027
- Overall, Up to EUR 0.85 billion reserved for CB RES, depending on market uptake



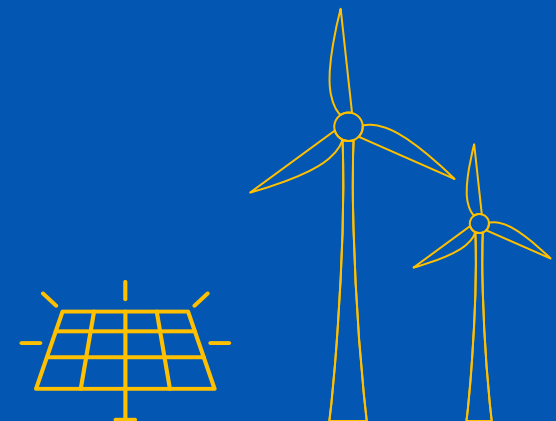
Policy context and key messages to CB RES projects

Vasil STOYNOV

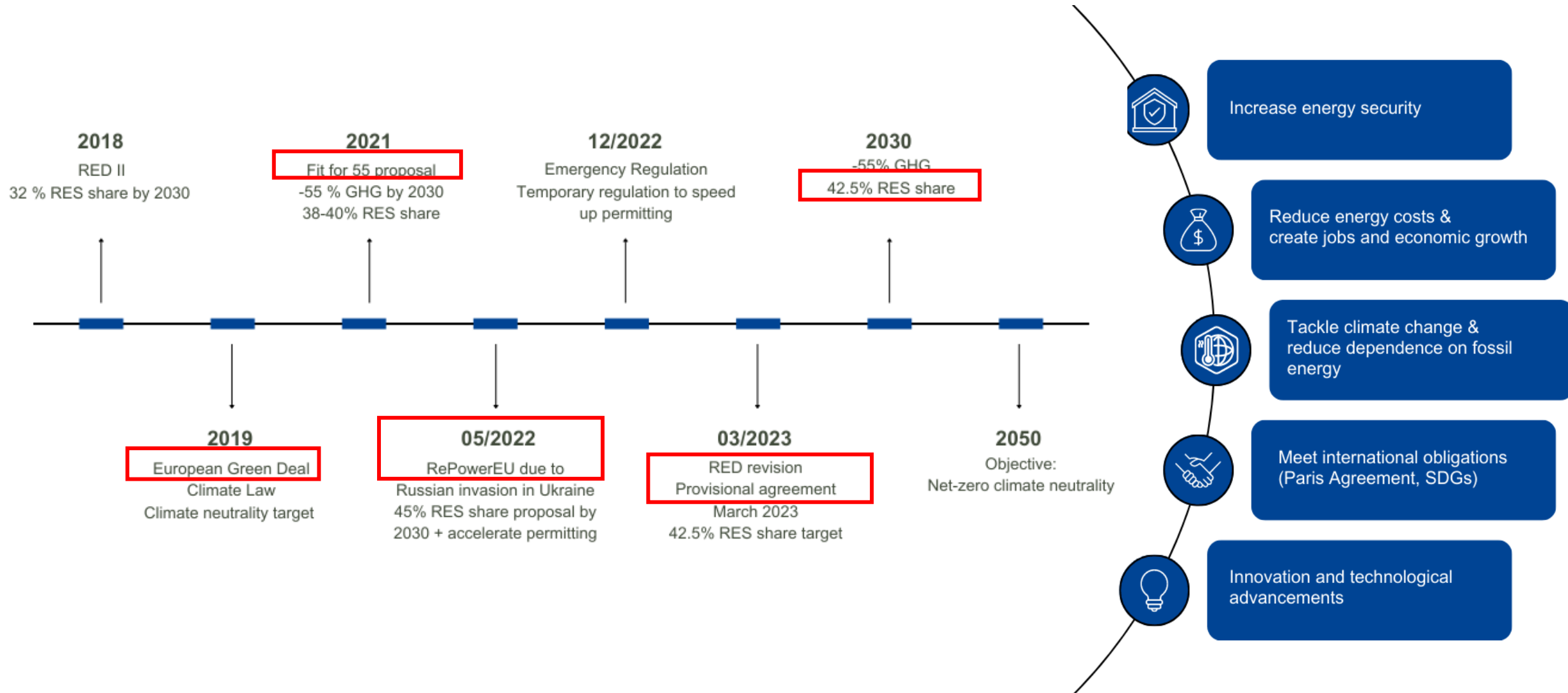
Unit C1 Renewables and Energy
System Integration Policy, DG ENER

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European Green Deal and REPowerEU in perspective



Role of renewables and CB RES

- New Renewable Energy Directive **increased EU target for renewable energy by 2030 – 42.5%, together with streamlining of permitting procedures**
- **Emergency regulation** from December 2022 to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy sources
- **Rapid roll out of solar and wind energy projects** combined with renewable hydrogen deployment to save around 50 bcm of gas imports – role of CB RES projects



CB RES in the context of the EU objectives

EU target achievement -

Demand for over 1000 GW in 2030 compared to 400 GW today

Uptake of innovative renewables technologies

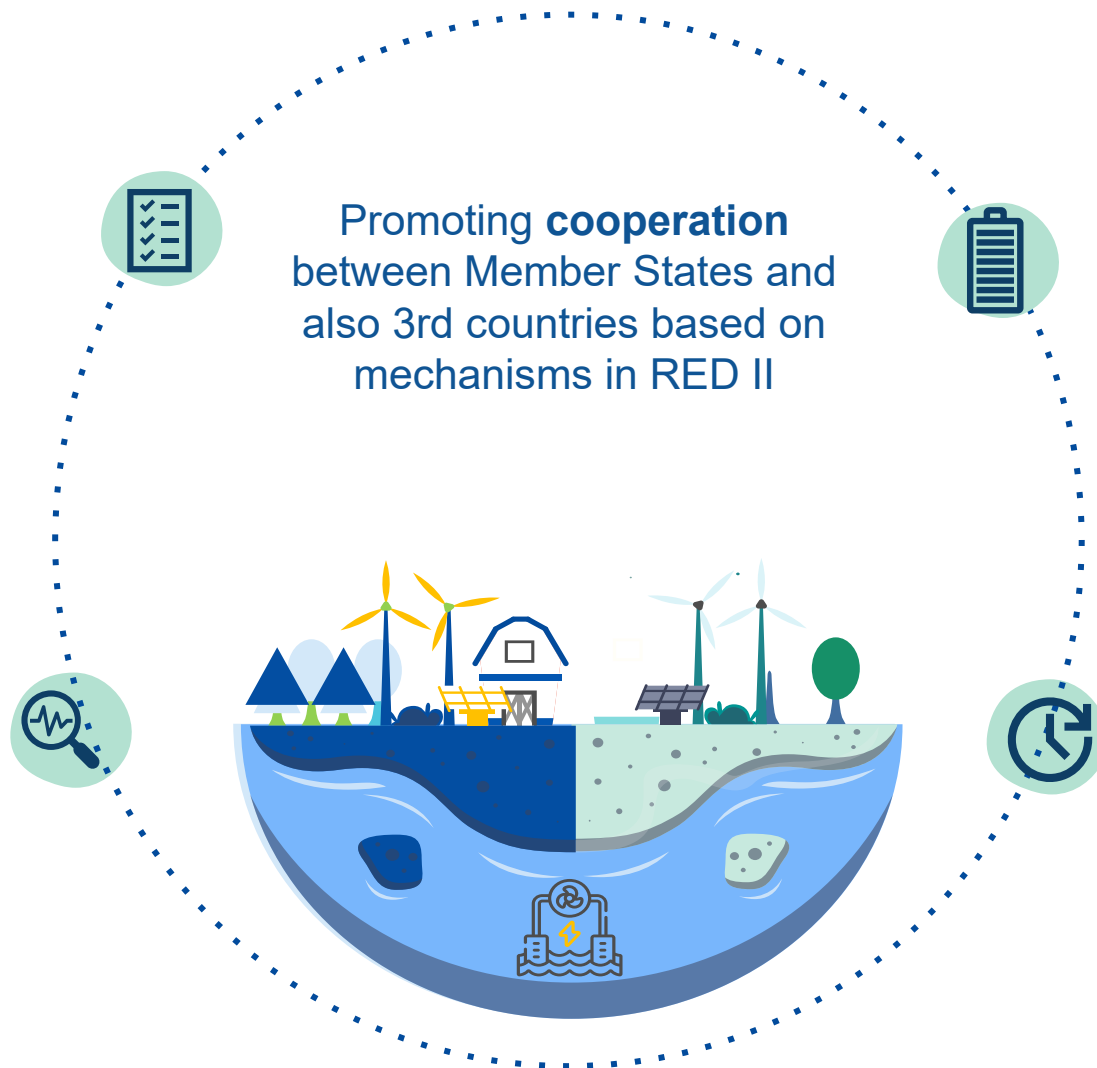
- A new indicative target of 5% for innovative technologies was introduced

Promoting **cooperation** between Member States and also 3rd countries based on mechanisms in RED II

Facilitate RES integration through **energy storage**

- Power to X, batteries, conversion facilities

Contribute to the EU's Long Term **decarbonisation** Strategy



Key policy aspects to be reflected

- **Focus on renewable generation as main objective of the call**
- Different approach between '**RES**' and '**non – RES**' components
- **Studies:** differentiation between 'RES' and 'non – RES' components not relevant for study proposals; 'project as a whole' approach
- **Works:**
 - priority for RES components
 - margin for non-RES components subject to Article 7(4) of CEF Regulation and Article 3 of the Delegated Regulation 2022/342
 - Avoid overlaps with TEN-E and CEF-PCI funding

Evaluation process and award criteria

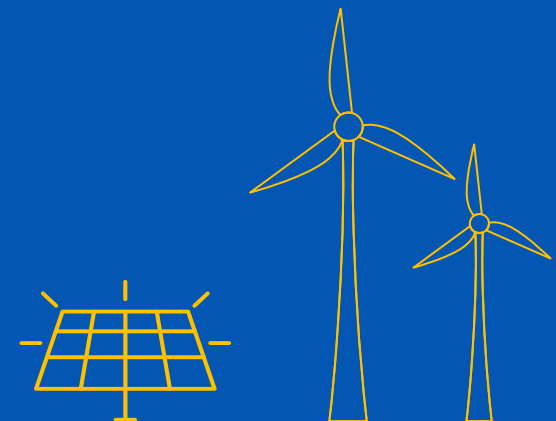


Beatrice CODA

Head of Unit B4, CINEA

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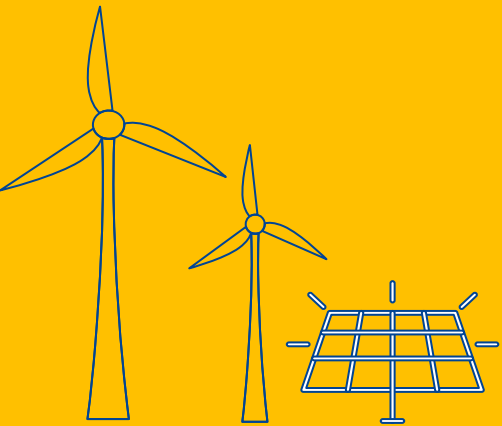
14 November 2023



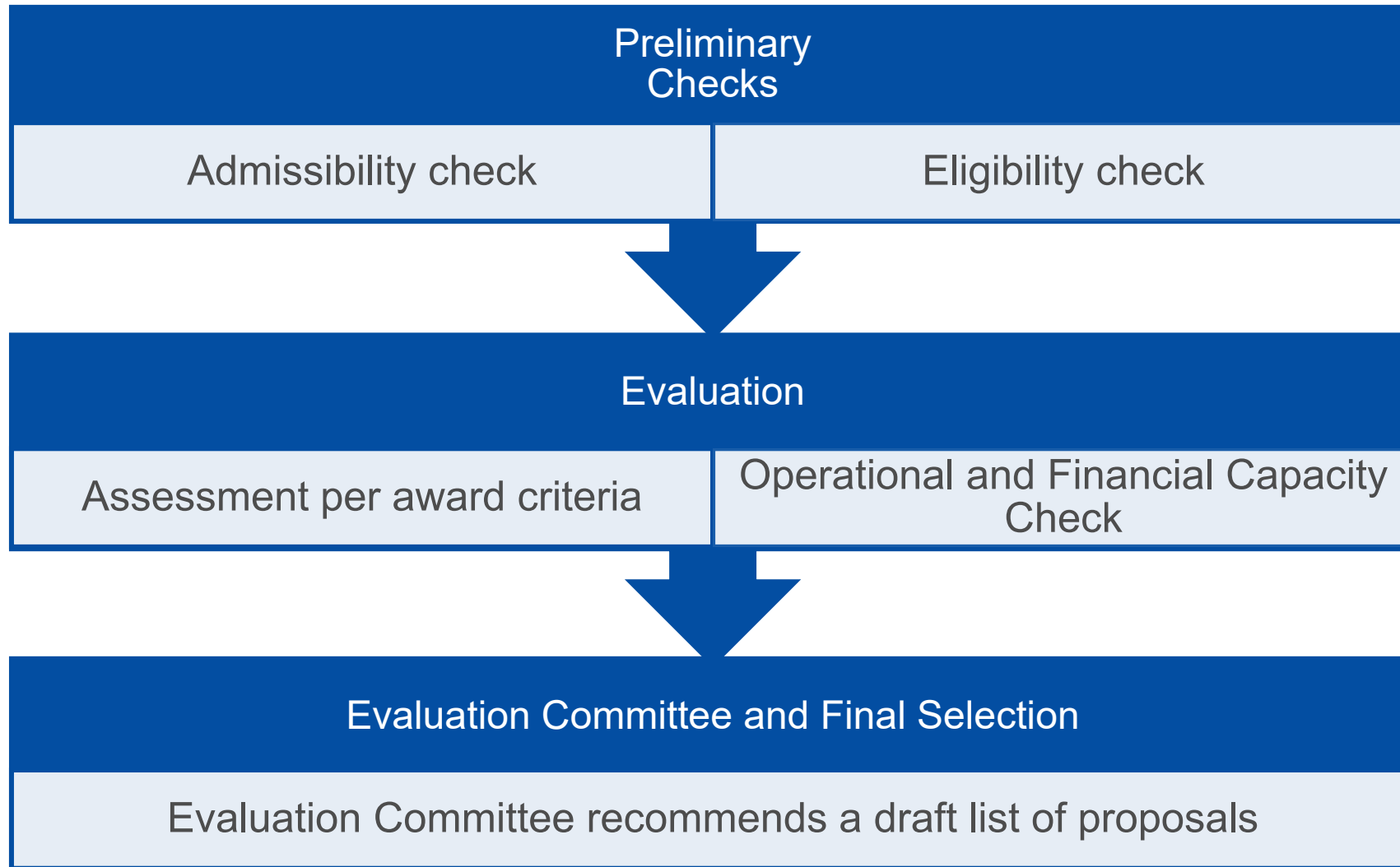
Indicative timeline



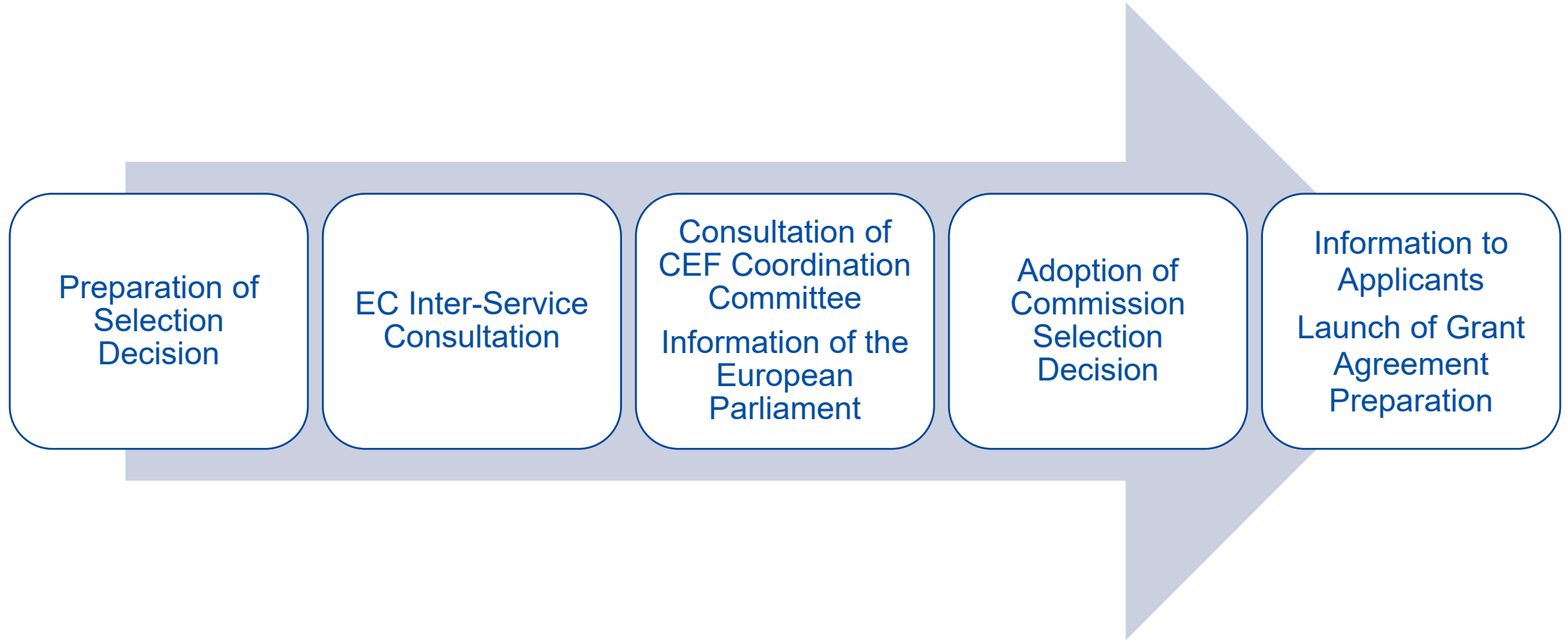
Evaluation process



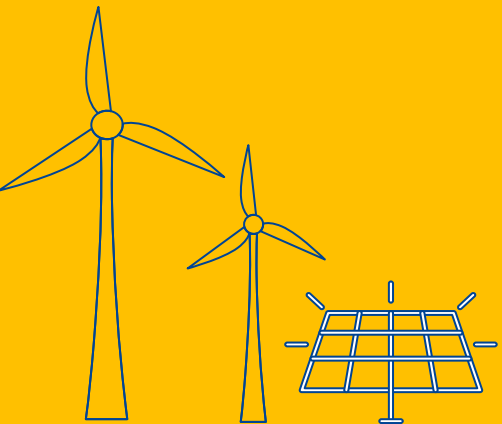
Principles for the evaluation and selection process



Final Selection Process



Admissibility and Eligibility





Admissibility - Proposals must be...

- submitted before **6 February 2024 17.00 CET**
- submitted electronically via [the Funding & Tenders Portal](#).
No paper submissions!
- complete. There will be no follow-up on missing elements.
- readable, accessible and printable.
- limited to maximum 120 pages (Part B).



Eligibility

- Proposed project contributes to CB RES projects as identified in the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/342

Art. 2
CEF
reg.

- **Studies:** activities needed to prepare CB RES project implementation, such as preparatory, mapping, feasibility, evaluation, testing and validation studies, including in the form of software, and any other technical support measure, including prior action to define and develop a CB RES project and decide on its financing, such as exploration of the sites concerned and preparation of the financial package.
- **Works:** purchase, supply and deployment of components, systems and services including software, the development, construction and installation activities relating to a CB RES project, the acceptance of installations and the launching of a project

To note: While CEF Energy does not finance technological development, in justified cases, studies can include also pilot projects, such as pilot plants, that are eventually needed to test technologies that are at TRL 7-8, innovative processes or techniques. Such pilot projects should be strictly related to eligible components of the CB RES project.



CB RES project VS CEF proposed actions



- The CB RES project included on the CB RES list forms the wider picture
 - Ensure coherence of the proposed CEF action with the CB RES project
 - Make explicit when and how the proposed CEF action contributes to the CB RES project



What could be the scope of an action?

RES generation aspects

non-RES components provided that they comply with art.3 of the DA

both the RES generation and non-RES components, including integration aspects



Studies scope: Examples



Feasibility studies aimed at collecting the necessary data needed to choose the best RES technologies according to the project's needs



Technical studies requested to obtain the construction permits for RES and non-RES components



Environmental impact assessments, either for the overall CB RES project or a part of it



On-site studies (e.g. seabed studies)



Front End Engineering and Design (FEED) studies



Works scope: Examples



RES components



Transmission facilities necessary to connect the RES components



Storage and conversion facilities necessary for the RES components



Eligibility of participants

The applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be **legal entities** (public or private bodies)
- be **established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:**





Operational capacity

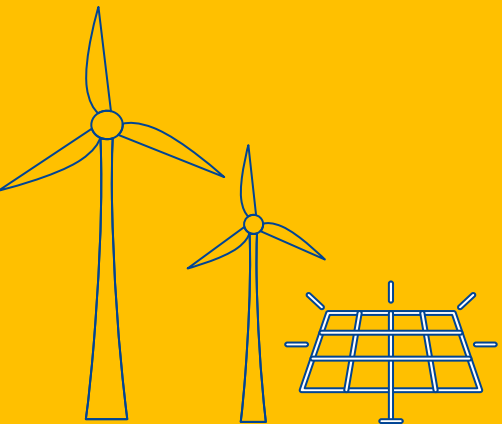
- know-how, qualifications and resources to successfully implement the projects
- demonstrated in:
 - Implementation plan (Application Form B – Section 3.1.)
 - applicants' activity reports of last year
- exemption: Public bodies, Member State organisations, TSOs and international organisations



Financial capacity

- stable and sufficient resources to successfully implement the project.
- checked (if selected) on the basis of the documents you will be requested to upload in the Participant Register during grant preparation
- Exemptions:
 - Public bodies, Member State organisations, TSOs and international organisations
 - if the individual requested grant amount is not more than EUR 60 000.

Award criteria

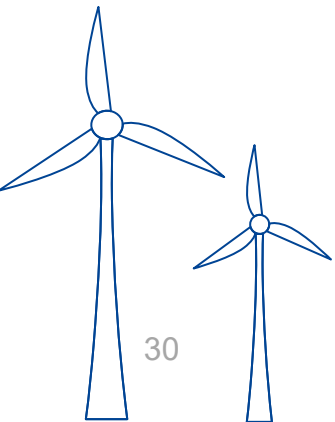


Award criteria

Award criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
Priority and urgency	3	5
Maturity	3	5
Quality	3	5
Impact	3	5
Catalytic Effect	3	5
Total	15	25

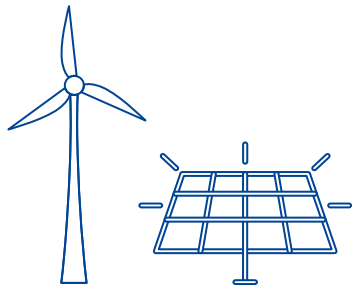
Priority and urgency of the Action

- Demonstrate contribution to **sectoral policy objectives** and explain alignment with the **EU 2030 climate and energy targets, in particular RES**
- Explain advantage of **EU level action** compared to national level action
- **Synergetic elements**, if applicable, need to **significantly improve** the socioeconomic, climate or environmental benefits of envisaged cross-border RES project
- **For Works**: Priority will be given to proposals with proportionally high RES generation component + non-RES component essential for the RES generation



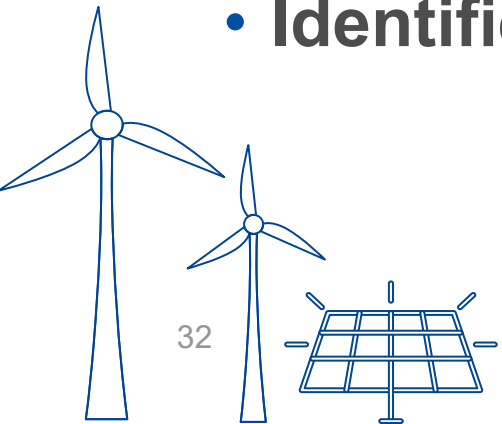
Maturity

- **Steps** completed or envisaged + confirmation that the project can be carried out without delay
- Sufficient **maturity** to be financed under this call, project is the **next logical step** in the CB RES project development
- **Information on cooperation mechanism** (e.g. bilateral meetings, draft Letters of intent or similar, etc.)
- **pending legal, administrative or technical issues**, such as procurement, permits



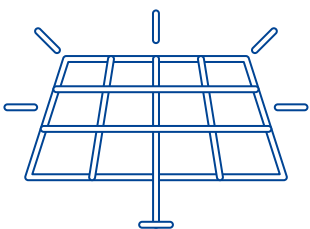
Quality

- **Resources** needed (financial and human) to implement the project
 - *Project management costs should not exceed 10% of total project costs*
- **Organisational structure** and cooperation between applicants
- **Project management**, quality assurance and control procedures
- **Identified risks and mitigation measures**



Impact

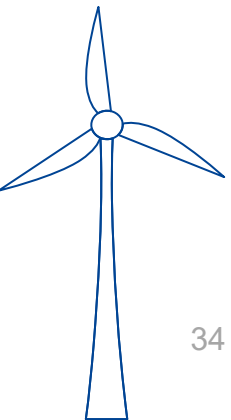
- Assessing the need to **overcome financial obstacles** such as those generated by insufficient commercial viability
- Assessing its cross-border dimension
- For works:
 - assessing, the economic, social and environmental impact, including the climate impact
 - significant costs savings and/or benefits



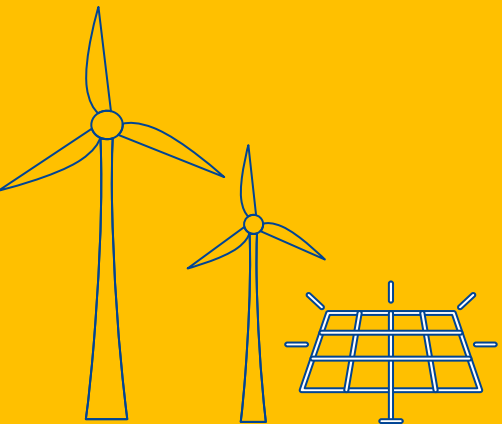
33

Catalytic effect

- Explain how the EU **grant will facilitate or accelerate** the envisaged cross-border RES project
- **Gap in the financing of the project**
- Indicate whether you expect any EU support under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)



Evaluation results





Results of the evaluation

- All proposals will be informed about the **evaluation result**. Successful proposals will be invited for grant preparation.
- Invitation to grant preparation is **NOT a formal commitment** for funding- various legal checks before grant award: legal entity validation, financial capacity, exclusion check, etc.
- If you believe that the evaluation procedure was flawed, you can submit a complaint.



Grant preparation

- Successful applicants will be invited by CINEA to prepare the **Grant Agreement**
- Grant preparation involves a **dialogue** in fine-tuning of technical and financial aspects
- Provisions are defined in the Model Grant Agreement and non-negotiable
- The Model Grant Agreement can be found on Portal Reference Documents



Q&A Session



Coffee break

We'll be back at 15.45

Drafting and submitting your proposal

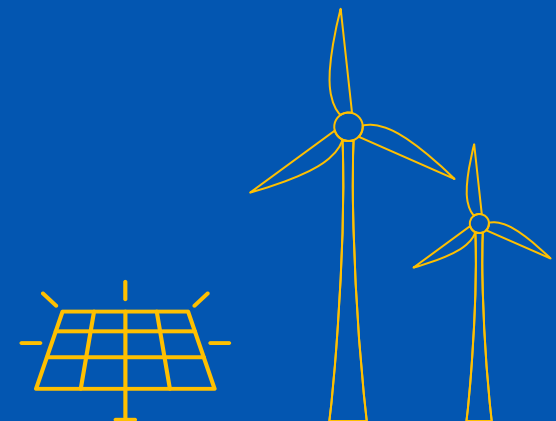


Theresa KOENIG

Project Adviser, Unit B4, CINEA

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Overview

- Terminology: Concepts and examples
- Quality of proposal
- Applicant's Checklist

Terminology (I)

- **Project:** The term ‘project’ is synonymous to the term ‘action’ used in the CEF Regulation (see definition article 2)
 - clearly state whether you are referring to your proposed action or the envisaged CB RES project.
- **Work Package:** a major subdivision of the project
 - Ex: Project Management, Preparation of Memorandum of Understanding, Conceptual design, Preparation of CBA
 - WPs can run in parallel and/or be sequential

Terminology (II)

Task: subdivision of WPs

- Ex: coordination meetings, project monitoring, Meetings with MS authorities, drafting of cooperation agreement, calculation of cost of generation of energy.
- Estimate percentage of subcontracting for each task.
- Do not define sub-tasks.

Work Package 1: [Name, e.g. Project management and coordination]					
Ensure consistence with the detailed budget table per WP/calculator (if applicable) (n/a for pre-fixed Lump Sum Grants)					
Duration:	M \bar{x} - M \bar{x}	Lead Beneficiary:	1-Short name		
Objectives					
. Describe the objective of the work package and how it contributes/relates to the overall and specific objectives of the project. State if there are links to other work packages (or conversely that there are no links to any other work package).					
.					
Activities (WP description)					
Provide a concise overview of the work (planned tasks). Be specific and give a short name and number for each task. Provide quantitative information (dimensions, capacity of infrastructure, etc). Mention for each task links with tasks planned under other work packages. Flag tasks which are on the critical path. Show who is participating in each task: Coordinator (COO), Beneficiaries (BEN), Affiliated Entities (AE), Associated Partners (AP), indicating in bold the task leader. Add information on other participants' involvement in the project e.g. subcontractors. Complete the column on subcontracting. Subcontracts must be awarded using your usual purchasing practices – provided that they ensure best value for money and no conflict of interests. If you are a public procurer ('contracting authority/entity' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement), you must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.*					
Note: The Coordinator remains fully responsible for the coordination tasks, even if they are delegated to someone else. Coordinator tasks cannot be subcontracted.					
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		Subcontracting (Yes/No and Percentage of the task that will be subcontracted).
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T1.1					
T1.2					

Terminology (III)

- **Milestone:** major control point in the project that helps to chart progress
 - Ex: publication of a tender, award of a contract, signature of contract, completion of documentation for permits application,
- **Deliverable:** project output (do not need to be linked to Milestone)
 - Ex: finalised geological study, finalised pre-FEED study of interconnector, completed report of public hearings, Basic Engineering (FEED), procurement management plan



Complementary in content and timing!

Quality of proposal (I)

What is the reader looking for?

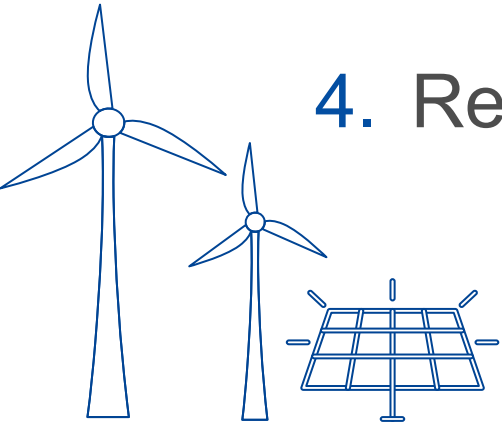
1. Simple language (avoid jargon)

2. Information easy to find

- The evaluation is based on the content provided in the application form. No assumptions or requests for additional information will be made.

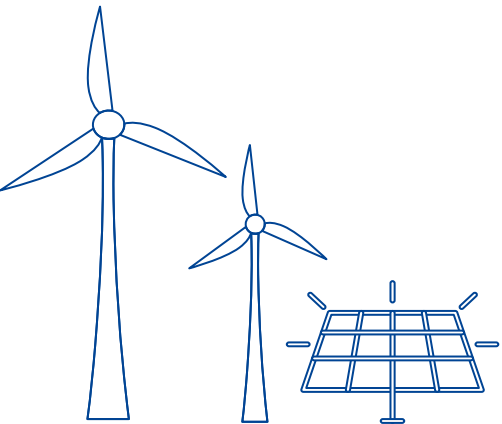
3. Mandatory annexes

4. Relevant maps, graphs etc. (voluntary annexes)



Scope of the project

What is the project about? What are the technical parameters?	Who will carry out the project?
How and when will the project's objectives be reached?	Why are you proposing this action? What are the expected results of the project?



Scope of the project - Examples

What?

- Engineering studies to acquire data needed for the FEED stage
- On site collection of X, Y and Z data; construction of a biomass plant with a capacity of X MW

Who?

- BEN 1 will carry out the study; the construction of the windmills will be carried out by BEN 2 via subcontracting; etc.
- Subcontracting per WP

How and when?

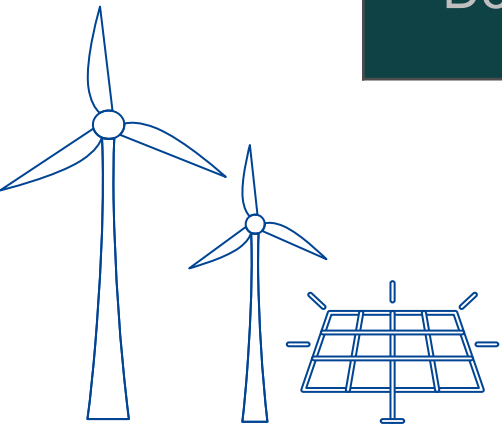
- WPs, Tasks, Milestones, Deliverables

Why?

- Fully functioning RES installation with X MW capacity; approval of permitting documents; etc.



Clearly explain how the project will contribute to the CB RES project



Work Packages

WP & Objectives

- Clear WP name matching its description.
 - E.g.: preparation of the EIA
- What are the objectives of the WP?
 - E.g.: preparing the documentation for the EIA

Tasks, Milestones and Deliverables

- What are the tasks in the WP?
 - E.g.: data collection, drafting of legal documents
- What are the Milestones?
 - E.g.: Subcontractor selected; first set of EIA documents ready for signature
- What are the deliverables?
 - E.g.: finalised EIA documentation

Milestones



3 Rules of thumb

1. Each work package should have at least 2 milestones START → END.
2. Milestones and deliverables should complement each other, not overlap.
3. Work packages lasting >1 year, ideally at least one milestone every 12 months.
4. Means of verification should be reliable and realistic.
 - Ex: Publication of the notice of the tender in the OJEU, Contractor's progress report approved

Milestones (II) - Examples

Work package number	1
Work package name	Project Management
Implementing applicant(s)	X
Work package description	Y
Indicative start date	31/03/2024 START
Indicative end date	31/12/2024 END
Verifying milestone(s)	1, 2

Each work package should have at least 2 milestones START → END.

Milestone No.	Milestone name	Milestone Description	Due date	Means of verification
1	Kick-off Meeting	The beneficiary kick starts the Action with a first meeting of the project team.	31/03/2024 START	Minutes of meeting by beneficiaries
2	Final coordination meeting	The beneficiary organises a final meeting to wrap up the Action.	31/12/2024 END	Minutes of meeting by beneficiaries

Milestones (III) - Examples

Work package number	1
Work package name	EIA
Implementing applicant(s)	X
Work package description	Y
Indicative start date	31/03/2024 START
Indicative end date	31/12/2025 END
Verifying milestone(s)	1, 2, 3

WP lasting >1 year, ideally at least one milestone every 12 months.

Milestone No.	Milestone name	Milestone Description	Due date	Means of verification
1	Signature of contract	Signature of contract with contractor for the environmental assessment.	31/03/2024 START	Signed contract
2	Progress report	The beneficiary reviews and approves the progress report by the contractor.	31/03/2025	Approval of progress report by beneficiary
3	EIA approval	The beneficiary reviews and approves the EIA.	31/12/2025 END	Approval of EIA by beneficiary

Coherent and consistent

Make sure that a "common thread" runs through your proposal combining objectives, WPs, resources and planning in a way that is coherent with achieving the stipulated deliverables

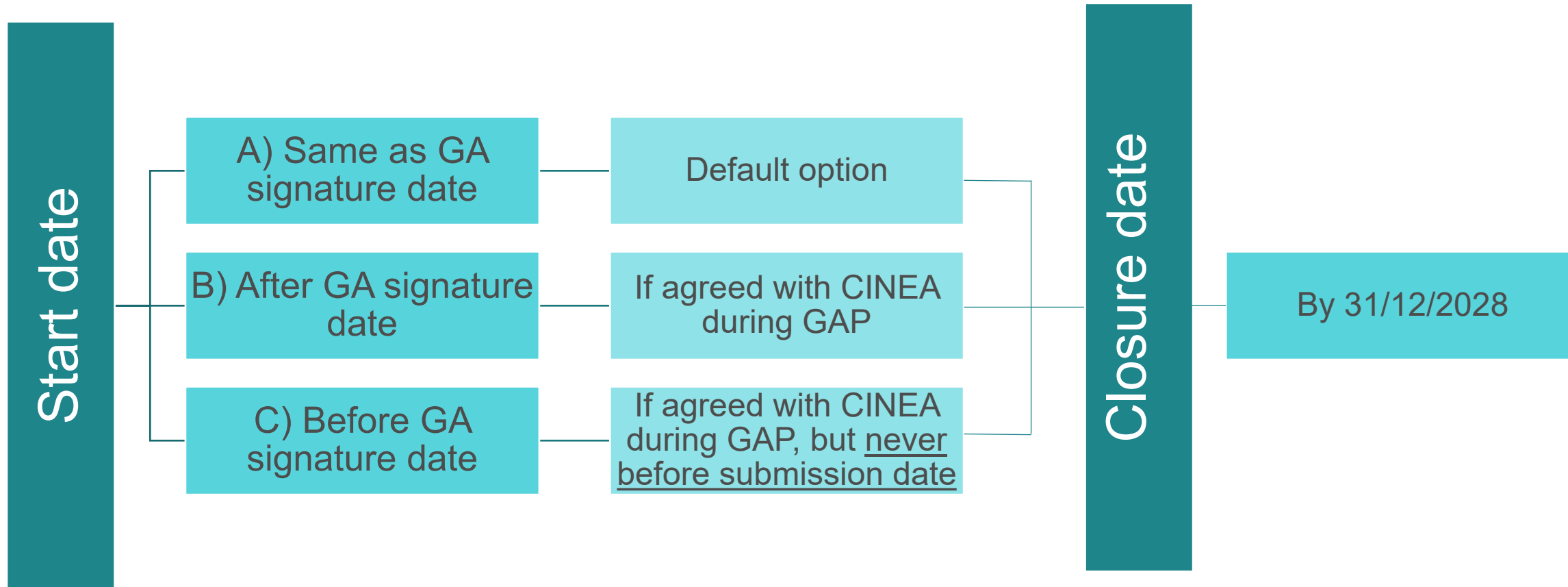
- Information in one part of the application matches the information in another part.
 - E.g: supporting documents do not contradict the info in application form part B, Gantt chart is consistent with the work package dates, milestones, etc.
- Information is presented in a logical way.
 - E.g: administrative procedures are presented in chronological order in the work package table, basic study finalised before design study starts.



To note

- Justification of resources and connection to the project's scope
 - E.g. Human resources: feasibility study, 2 staff members (what for? For coordination of inputs from contractors or for carrying out complex technical analysis).
 - Project management costs should not exceed 10% of total project costs
- Level of detail for the risk assessment and the complexity of the project
 - adequate mitigation measures

Duration of the project



Completeness of documents + Annexes

Checklist studies and works

Application Form Part A — structured data introduced directly on Funding & Tender portal

Application Form Part B — Word document to be filled in and uploaded as pdf (contains the technical description of the project)

Detailed budget table per WP (Excel to be filled in and annexed)

Timetable/Gantt chart

Agreement by the concerned Member States (Letter of support)

Environmental compliance file

(applicable for works and studies with physical intervention, to be completed in full)

(for studies without physical intervention: please only click the relevant option and upload the document)

Annual activity reports (Not needed for public bodies, Member State organisations, certified TSOs and international organisations)

List of previous projects (key projects for the last 4 years)

Completeness of documents + Annexes

Additional checklist for works

Updated full CBA

Business plan and other assessments showing that the project is commercially non-viable (business plan and financial spreadsheet)

Fully-fledged signed **cooperation agreement**

Environmental compliance file

- To be completed in full for works and studies with physical intervention
 - ✓ Filled in for each applicant and for each Member State where the project is implemented
 - ✓ The competent authority in the Member State in question needs to sign the declaration for monitoring of NATURA 2000 sites to certify that there is no impact on NATURA 2000 areas
- For studies without physical intervention: only click the relevant option and upload the document

Project name and acronym:	[project title] — [acronym]
Location:	[country], [region]
Project type:	Works <input type="checkbox"/>
	Study with physical intervention <input type="checkbox"/>
	Study without physical intervention <input type="checkbox"/>

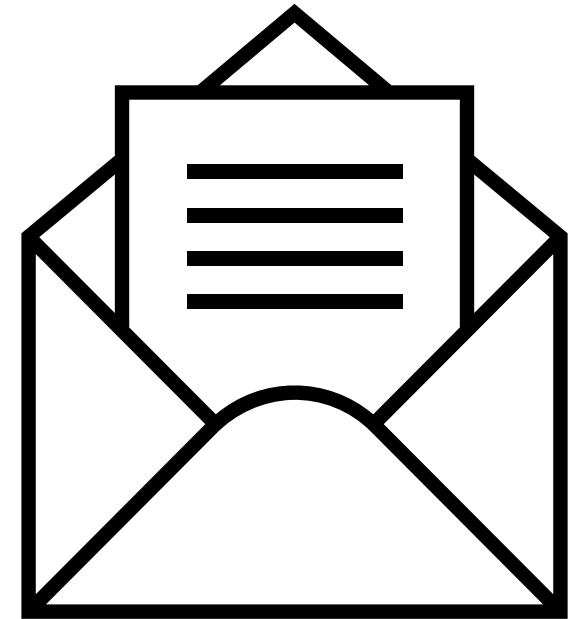
Annual activity report

- Requested in order to verify operational capacity for each applicant/beneficiary
- Should be the regular activity report prepared for the board, shareholders, public etc., not anything specific prepared for this proposal.

Not needed for: Public bodies, Member State organisations, transmission system operators certified under Directives 2009/72 or 2009/73 and international organisations

Agreement by the concerned Member States (Letter of support)

- Signed by the ministries in charge of implementing the (future) cooperation agreement
- “Member State concerned” is the Member State in the territory of which the proposed project is planned to be implemented.
 - In the case of studies without physical intervention, the Member State concerned is the country of the applicant.
- In the case of projects in associated countries, the Letter of support needs to be signed by the competent authorities of the associated country as well as a neighbouring Member State



Note: the letter of support can be signed by the regional level, provided that it has competence on the implementation of the envisaged CB RES project. In that case, provide official evidence of regional competence.

Applicant's checklist (I)



- **Scope:** Does your proposal fit in the scope of the 2023 Work Programme and the call for proposals for which you are applying?
 - *Check that your proposed project indeed addresses the objectives and results expected from the call. Consult the call text and the Work Programme. Remember, your proposal will be evaluated against the criteria specified for the call only based on the information you provide in your application.*



- **Deadline:** Are you on track to submit your proposal by 6 February 2024 at 17:00.00 (Brussels time)?
 - *Don't forget to submit your application before the deadline, verify that your proposal was correctly submitted - the status of the application must be "submitted".*

Applicant's checklist (II)



- ...encode all sections of application form **part A** directly in the F&T platform



- ...read through, complete and upload application form **part B**, available as a Word document



- ...attach all **mandatory annexes**.

Applicant's checklist (III)



- Proofread your proposal

- *Do one last check to ensure that your proposal is clear and easy to follow and explain issues, including local context, that may be evident to you*
- *Evaluators can only assess your proposal on the basis of provided information and no assumptions will be made*
- *Make sure that your proposal is precise, clearly responds to the questions asked, and demonstrates the added value of CEF Energy funding*



- Make sure that you submit the proposal using the application forms and templates provided on the portal – the use of those forms is compulsory

Budget management in proposals & Procurement

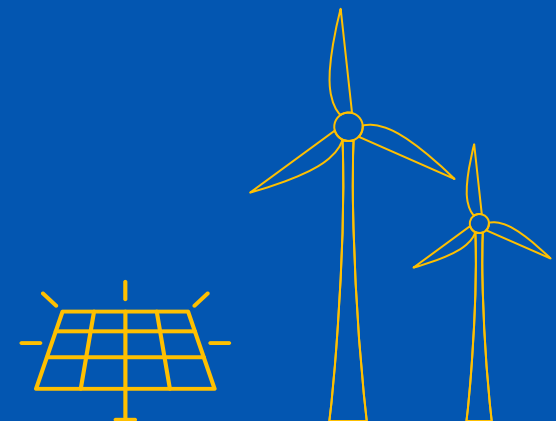


Gianluca FERRERI

Head of Sector, Unit B4, CINEA

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14 November 2023



Budget requirements for proposals

- I. Detailed budget breakdown per cost category
- II. Detailed budget table per work package
- III. Public procurement aspects

NOTE: I and II are mandatory to be encoded/ submitted with each proposal

I) Detailed budget breakdown per cost category

- Structured financial information – encoded directly via the Funding & Tenders portal
- Based on **five cost categories**: A. personnel, B. subcontracting, C. purchase, D. other cost categories and E. indirect costs
- To be encoded **per participant** and affiliated entity

NOTE: cost categories “E. indirect costs” and “D.1 Financial support to third parties” are not applicable under this call and are only listed due to IT system constraints in the eGrant environment

I) Detailed budget breakdown per cost category

- A. Personnel cost
- B. Subcontracting costs: contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the proposed project's tasks
- C. Purchase costs: contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the proposed project (e.g. travel, subsistence, equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the proposed project's tasks

NOTE: project management costs should not exceed 10% of total costs for the project; costs exceeding this limit will be rejected during grant preparation
REMINDER: procurement rules to be respected

I) Detailed budget breakdown per cost category

Application forms

Proposal ID **SEP-210788387**

Acronym **██████████**

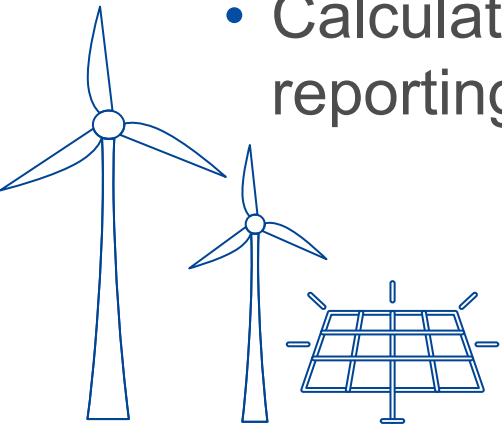
3 - Budget

?

No.	Name of beneficiary	Country	Role	Personnel costs - without volunteers /EUR	Subcontracting costs/EUR	Purchase costs - Travel and subsistence/ EUR	Purchase costs - Equipment/ EUR	Purchase costs - Other goods, works and services/ EUR	Financial support to third parties/ EUR	Indirect costs/EUR	Total eligible costs/EUR	Ineligible costs/EUR	Total estimated project costs and contributions/EUR	Funding rate	Maximum EU contribution to eligible costs/EUR	Requested EU contribution to eligible costs/EUR	Max grant amount/ EUR	Income generated by the project/ EUR	In kind contributions/EUR	Financial contributions/EUR	Own resources/ EUR	Total estimated project income/ EUR	
1	Charalampos Xenogiannis	BE	Coordinator						⊘	⊘ 0,00	0,00		0	Fixed 50	0,00		0,00						0,00
Total				0	0	0	0	0	0	0,00	0,00	0	0		0,00	0,00	0,00	0	0	0	0	0,00	

II) Detailed budget table per work package

- Encoded in an Excel file available for [download](#) and to be uploaded after completion (unstructured financial information)
- Based on costs per work package (several work packages are possible)
- To be encoded as totals per work package, per applicant (several applicants per work package are possible) and per reporting period
- Calculates the totals per work package and per applicant for each reporting period



NOTE: the duration of the proposed project is up to 24 months

II) Detailed budget table per work package

1.

START (BUDGET FORECAST PER WP)	
PROJECT DATA	
Project number:	
Project acronym:	

2.

Work package name	Funding Rate
WP name 1	0%
WP name 2	0%
WP name 3	0%
WP name 4	0%

3.

Participant name
Participant name1
Participant name2

4.

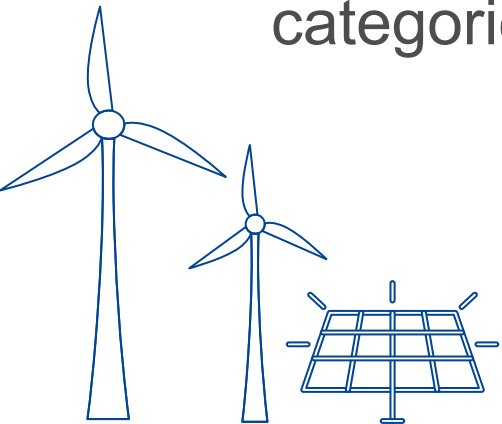
DETAILED BUDGET TABLE PER WP									
PROJECT DATA									
Project number:		0							
Project acronym:		0							
BUDGET BREAKDOWN PER WORK PACKAGE AND PARTICIPANT									
<i>Reporting period can be added/deleted as needed</i>									
Work Package	Participant	Reporting period 1	Reporting period 2	Reporting period 3	Reporting period 4	Reporting period 5	Total costs	Funding rate (for work package)	EU contribution
WP name 1	Participant name1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
WP name 1	Participant name2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
WP name 2	Participant name1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
WP name 3	Participant name1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
WP name 4	Participant name1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%	0.00
Total		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00

5.

#	EU CONTRIBUTION	TOTAL COSTS
ENCODE VALUE FROM EGRANTS	0	0
DIFFERENCE	0	0

Points of attention for budget planning and structure

- **Total costs must match** between the tables per cost category (structured) and per work package (unstructured financial information)
 - In case of divergences the information per cost category in the **structured data will prevail**
- **Plan and prepare your accounting:** any cost foreseen to be claimed for reimbursement must be clearly attributable under both approaches (cost categories and work packages)



Budget categories and cost eligibility conditions as set up in the call text

B. Subcontracting costs : contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks

C. Purchase costs : contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks

- C.1 Travel and subsistence; C.2 Equipment; C.3 Other goods, works and services

Selection of both types of contracts: using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices provided that these ensure subcontracts/purchase contracts with best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interests.

'Contracting authorities/entities' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.

Budget categories and cost eligibility conditions as set up in the call text

- eligible cost country restrictions: only costs for activities carried out in eligible countries are eligible /subcontracted work must be performed in the eligible countries
- Other cost categories (Article 6.2. category D) synergetic elements and works in outermost regions are allowed (*costs for financial support to third parties and land purchases are not allowed*)
- Equipment : full cost
- Indirect costs: CEF Energy : 0% (not eligible)
- VAT: not eligible
- In-kind contributions for free are allowed, but cost-neutral, *i.e they cannot be declared as cost*

Budget categories for this call:

- A. Personnel costs
 - A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
 - A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
 - C.1 Travel and subsistence
 - C.2 Equipment
 - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories
 - D.1 Financial support to third parties
 - D.3 Synergetic elements

18

Call: CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW — CEF 2 Energy - Cross-border renewable energy projects

EU Grants: Call document (CEF): V2.0 – 18.10.2023

- D.4 Works in outermost regions

- E. Indirect costs

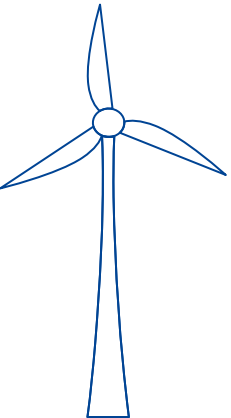
Specific cost eligibility conditions for this call:

- personnel costs:
 - average personnel costs (unit cost according to usual cost accounting practices): Yes
 - SME owner/natural person unit cost²⁶ : Yes
- subcontracting costs:
 - country restrictions for subcontracting costs: Yes, subcontracted work must be performed in the eligible countries or target countries
- travel and subsistence unit cost²⁷: No (only actual costs)
- equipment costs: full cost
- other cost categories:
 - costs for financial support to third parties: not allowed
 - studies: No
 - synergetic elements: Yes
 - works in outermost regions: Yes
 - land purchases: No
- indirect cost flat-rate: 0% of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any)
- VAT: VAT is NOT eligible
- other:
 - in-kind contributions for free are allowed, but cost-neutral, i.e. they cannot be declared as cost
 - project websites: communication costs for presenting the project on the participants' websites or social media accounts are eligible; costs for *separate* project websites are not eligible
 - eligible cost country restrictions: Yes, subcontracted work must be performed in the eligible countries or target countries
 - other ineligible costs: Yes, costs related to purchase of land

Public procurement aspects (I)



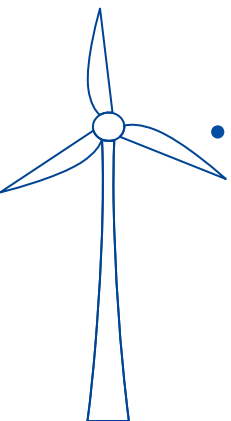
- Depending on applicant's status: to establish whether a proposed project is to be implemented in compliance with EU and national law on public procurement
- In any case, respect sound financial management principles
- During implementation:
 - procurement is verified at payment time
 - non-compliance leads to rejection of costs or reduction of support



Public procurement aspects (II)



- **sound financial management** (principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness)
 - **best value for money** [at least 3 offers] considering the quality of the service, good or work proposed, i.e. the best price-quality ratio or on the lowest price
 - **avoiding conflict of interests**
- **transparency**
 - publication of a sufficiently accessible advertisement prior to the award of the contract. According to the Commission adequate and commonly used means of publication may include the internet (own website, etc.), National Official Journals, national and local means of publication (press, etc.) and the OJEU (see also Commission interpretative communication n° 2006/C179/02).
- **equal treatment and non-discrimination**
 - in line with the principles of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the free movement of goods, freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services



Public procurement aspects (III)



6. WORK PLAN, WORK PACKAGES AND TIMING

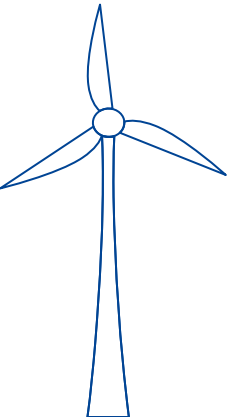
6.2 Work packages and activities

2.2 Status of contracting procedures and authorisations, approvals and permits

Legal, administrative or technical issues

Are there any pending legal/administrative/technical issues, if any, which could prevent the project from being implemented?

Insert text

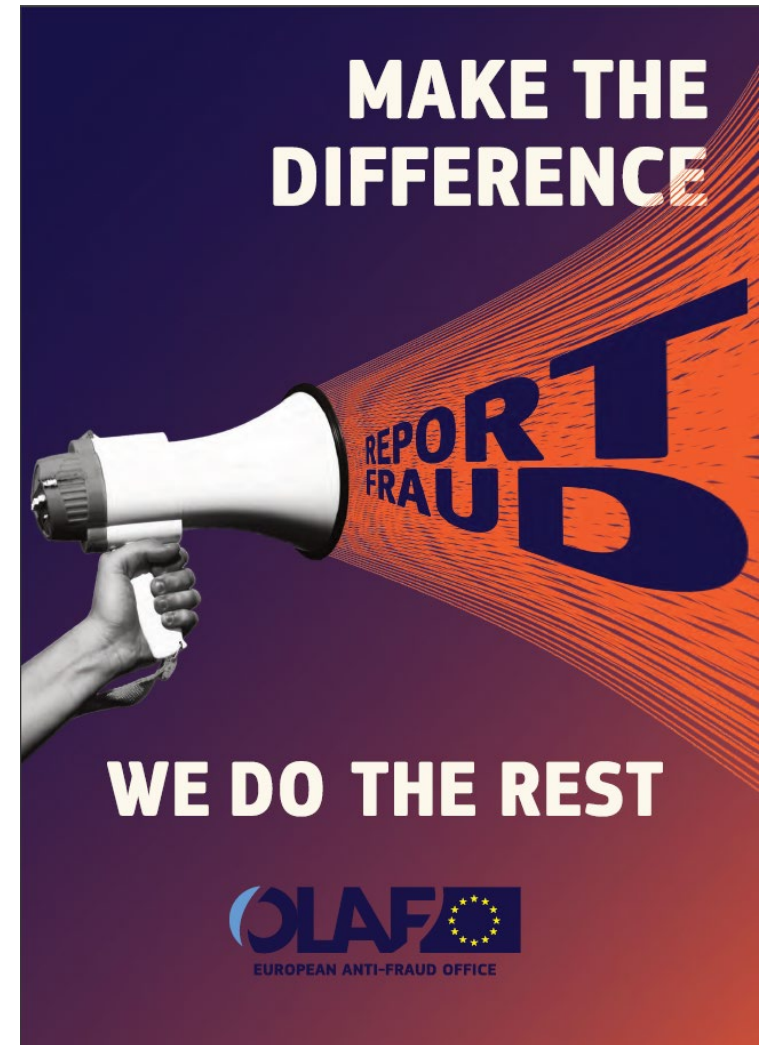
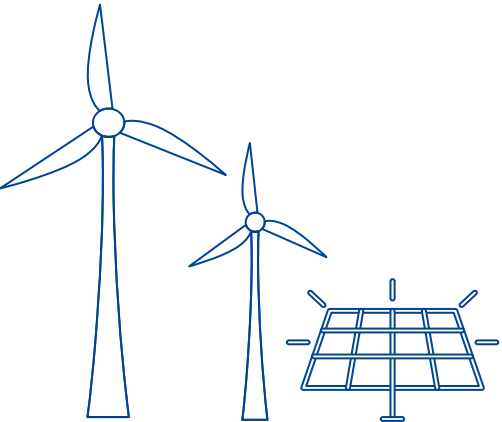


Work Package 1: [Name, e.g. Project management and coordination]					
Ensure consistence with the detailed budget table per WP/calculator (if applicable) (n/a for pre-fixed Lump Sum Grants)					
Duration:	M X - M X	Lead Beneficiary:	1-Short name		
Objectives					
. Describe the objective of the work package and how it contributes/relates to the overall and specific objectives of the project. State if there are links to other work packages (or conversely that there are no links to any other work package).					
.					
Activities (WP description)					
Provide a concise overview of the work (planned tasks). Be specific and give a short name and number for each task. Provide quantitative information (dimensions, capacity of infrastructure, etc). Mention for each task links with tasks planned under other work packages. Flag tasks which are on the critical path. Show who is participating in each task: Coordinator (COO), Beneficiaries (BEN), Affiliated Entities (AE), Associated Partners (AP), indicating in bold the task leader. Add information on other participants' involvement in the project e.g. subcontractors. Complete the column on subcontracting. Subcontracts must be awarded using your usual purchasing practices – provided that they ensure best value for money and no conflict of interests. If you are a public procurer ('contracting authority/entity' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement), you must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement." Note: The Coordinator remains fully responsible for the coordination tasks, even if they are delegated to someone else. Coordinator tasks cannot be subcontracted.					
Task No (continuous numbering linked to WP)	Task Name	Description	Participants		Subcontracting (Yes/No and Percentage of the task that will be subcontracted).
			Name	Role (COO, BEN, AE, AP, OTHER)	
T1.1					
T1.2					

Anti-Fraud Strategy

Useful information:

- the [OLAF Leaflet](#)
- [on- line information](#) on fraud awareness





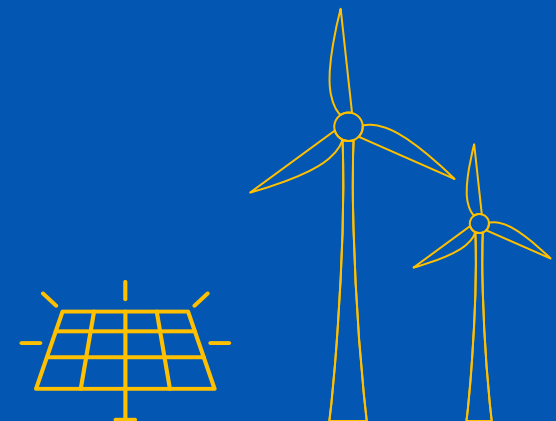
How to submit a proposal in the portal

Gloria BARILARI

Evaluation manager, Unit B4, CINEA

Virtual Info Day

14 November 2023




Before creating a proposal

1) Applicants must have an EU login account (former ECAS) <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/eim/external/register.cgi>

2) All applicants must have a PIC (Participant Identification Code) <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/eim/external/register.cgi>

Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal

← ↻ 🏠 🔒 <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

 **Funding & tender opportunities**
Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)

🏠 HOME SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS ▾ HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▾ PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT ▾

Find calls for proposals and tenders

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW 🔍 Search

EU Programmes

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	Border Management and Visa Policy Instrument (BMVI)	Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)	Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)	Creative Europe Programme (CREA)	Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI)
---	---	--	---	----------------------------------	---

Direct link to the call page

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-search?tenders=false&callIdentifier=CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW>

Cross-border renewable energy works projects

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-WORKS **Call for proposal**

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

Cross-border renewable energy studies projects

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-STUDIES **Call for proposal**

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

Topic page – CB RES works

Cross-border renewable energy works projects

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-WORKS

Topic Call for proposal

Internal navigation



General information

Topic description

Conditions and documents

Partner search announcements

Start submission

Topic related FAQ

Get support

General information

Programme

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

€ Budget overview

Call

CEF 2 Energy - Cross-border renewable energy projects (CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW)

Type of action

CEF-INFRA CEF Infrastructure Projects

Type of MGA

CEF Action Grant Budget-Based [CEF-AG]

Forthcoming

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

19 December 2023

Deadline date

06 February 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

Topic page – CB RES studies

Cross-border renewable energy studies projects

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-STUDIES

Topic Call for proposal

Internal navigation



General information

Topic description

Conditions and documents

Partner search announcements

Start submission

Topic related FAQ

Get support

General information

Programme

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

€ Budget overview

Call

CEF 2 Energy - Cross-border renewable energy projects (CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW)

Type of action

CEF-PJG CEF Project Grants

Type of MGA

CEF Action Grant Budget-Based [CEF-AG]

Forthcoming

Deadline model

single-stage

Planned opening date

19 December 2023

Deadline date

06 February 2024 17:00:00 Brussels time

How to apply – submission service

Cross-border renewable energy works projects

CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-WORKS

Topic Call for proposal

Internal navigation <

General information

Topic description

Conditions and documents

Partner search announcements

Start submission

Topic related FAQ

Get support

Start submission

The submission system is planned to be opened on the date stated on the topic header.

Topic related FAQ

0 item(s) found

There are no FAQ related to this topic.

How to apply - Creating a proposal

European Commission | Funding: Submission Service

Welcome Gloria BARILARI

Progress: Login, Topic selection, **Create proposal**, Participants, Proposal forms, Submit

Create proposal

Deadline
09 January 2024 17:00:00 Brussels Local Time
99 days left until closure

Call data
Call: CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-PREPSTUDIES
Topic: CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW-PREPSTUDIES
Type of action: CEF-PJG
Type of MGA: CEF-AG
Warning: Topic and type of action can only be changed by creating a new proposal.

Download Part B templates
Download part B templates

Support & Helpdesk
Online Manual, IT How To, IT Helpdesk, FAQ
Service Desk:
EC-FUNDING-TENDER-SERVICE-DESK@ec.europa.eu
+32 2 29 92222

Find your organisation
PIC: [input] Short name: [input] Search
Organisations you have been previously associated with. (Click to select)

PIC: 956444445 Baird Consulting SCS Vieille rue du Moulin-Rouge 20 Uccle, BE	PIC: 923131832 Aero LTD MaartStreet 12 Almere, US VAT: 125648321	PIC: 913842918 Test Camelia-Valeria place Rogier Brussels, BE
---	--	--

Your role
Please indicate your role in this proposal *
 Main contact
 Contact person

Your proposal
It will appear also in the "General Information" section of the Application Form Part A and can also be updated there.
Acronym * [input]
Short Summary * [input]

Forgotten PIC → Search by name

Creating a proposal - Participants

Progress bar: Login (✓) - Topic selection (✓) - Create proposal (✎) - Participants (○) - Proposal forms (○) - Submit (○)

Support & Helpdesk

- Online Manual
- IT How To
- IT Helpdesk
- FAQ

Service Desk:

- EC-FUNDING-TENDER-SERVICE-DESK@ec.europa.eu
- +32 2 29 92222

Your role

Please indicate your role in this proposal *

- Main contact
- Contact person

Your proposal

It will appear also in the "General Information" section of the Application Form Part A and can also be updated there.

Acronym * 20

Short Summary * 2000

SAVE AND GO TO NEXT STEP

State the role in the proposal

Fill in the acronym and short summary

Creating a proposal – application forms

The screenshot displays a web interface for creating a proposal. At the top, there is a grey header with the text "Download Part B templates". Below this header is a blue download icon and the text "Download part B templates".

Below this is another grey header labeled "Administrative forms (Part A)". Underneath are four buttons: "Edit forms" (with a pencil icon), "Edit GIS data", "View history", and "Print preview" (with an information icon).

The main section is titled "Part B and Annexes". It contains a sub-header: "In this section you may upload the technical annex of the proposal (in PDF format only) and any other requested attachments." Below this are six rows, each with a label, a text input field, and an "Upload" button with a cloud icon:

- Part B *
- Detailed budget table per WP *
- Annual activity reports
- Timetable/Gantt chart *
- Letters of support (MS Agreement) *
- Other annexes

At the bottom of the form, there are three buttons: "BACK TO PARTICIPANTS LIST" (with a left arrow), "VALIDATE", and "SUBMIT".

The diagram illustrates the structure of the proposal form. It features a grey header "Administrative forms (Part A)" with buttons for "Edit forms", "Edit GIS data", "View history", and "Print preview".

Two large teal boxes with white text provide details:

- Part A** (indicated by a bracket):
 - Administrative form to be filled in online
- Part B and annexes** (indicated by a bracket):
 - Part B: Technical part to be downloaded from the system, filled in offline, uploaded as a PDF
 - Annexes

Part A – Administrative form

Call: CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW- [REDACTED]
(CEF2 Energy - Cross-border renewable energy [REDACTED])

Topic: CEF-E-2023-CBRENEW- [REDACTED]

Type of Action: CEF-PJG
(CEF Project Grants)

Proposal number: SEP-210993142

Proposal acronym: BBB

Type of Model Grant Agreement: CEF Action Grant Budget-Based

Table of contents

Section	Title	Action
1	General information	Show
2	Participants	Show
3	Budget	Show
4	Other questions	Show

Part A includes:

1. General information
 - Proposal acronym and title, duration, and abstract
 - Declarations
2. Participants – Fill in organisational and contact information for each participating organisation
3. Budget (summarised, per partner)
4. Other questions

SAVE + VALIDATE

To be filled in online

Part B – technical description

Call: [\[insert call number\]](#) — [\[insert call name\]](#)

EU Grants: Application form (CEF-E CBRENEW PRESTUDIES): V2.0 – 01.06.2022

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION (PART B)

COVER PAGE

Part B of the Application Form must be downloaded from the Portal Submission System, completed and then assembled and re-uploaded as PDF in the system. Page 1 with the grey IMPORTANT NOTICE box should be deleted before uploading.

Note:

Please read carefully the conditions set out in the Call document (for open calls published on the Portal). Pay particular attention to the award criteria; they explain how the application will be evaluated.

The term 'project' used in this application form and other documents is synonymous to the term 'action' used in the CEF Regulation [2021/1153](#).

PROJECT	
Project name:	[project title]
Project acronym:	[acronym]
Coordinator contact:	[name NAME] , [organisation name]
Starting date:	[date]
Duration:	[number of months]

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1.1.2 Synergies.....	5
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2.1 Readiness and technical maturity.....	6
2.2 Status of contracting procedures and authorisations, approvals and permits.....	6
3. QUALITY.....	6
3.1 Implementation plan.....	7
4. IMPACT.....	7
4.1 Social, environmental and other impacts.....	7
5. CATALYTIC EFFECT.....	7
5.1 Financial gap.....	7
6. WORK PLAN, WORK PACKAGES, ACTIVITIES, RESOURCES AND TIMING.....	8
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6.2 Work packages, activities, resources and timing.....	8
Work Package 1.....	10
Work Package 2.....	12
Timetable.....	12
7. OTHER.....	13
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Part B is the description of the action and the technical content of the proposal

Download the mandatory Word template from the submission system, fill it in and upload it as a PDF, together with the other annexes

Questions

- Topic related FAQs: [Funding & tenders \(europa.eu\)](#); [Funding & tenders \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Question not in FAQs, contact the CBRENEW team in CINEA:
CINEA-CEF-ENERGY-CALLS@ec.europa.eu
- For technical questions: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq> or <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/support>
- [Online manual](#)



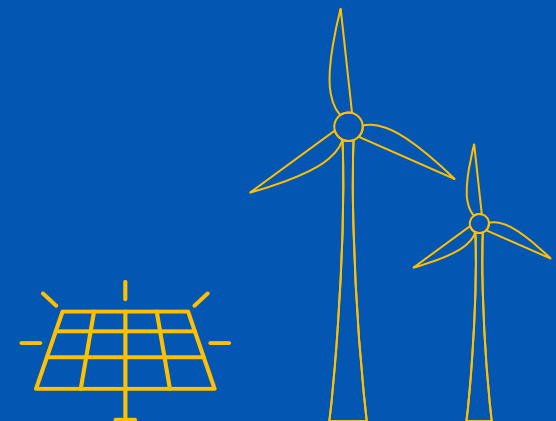
Introduction to the Legal Provisions Model Grant Agreement (MGA)

Giulia FRASCHETTI

Legal adviser, CINEA

Virtual Info Day

14 November 2023



What is the grant agreement & what does it include?



The grant agreement (GA) is the contractual document signed with CINEA



YOUR RIGHTS

Receiving EU funding, under the terms and conditions defined in the GA

Owning the project results

Asking for amendments of the GA, if something needs to be changed



YOUR OBLIGATIONS

Implementing the project in line with the description of the action - Annex 1 of the GA

Submitting reports at the time and for the periods agreed

Displaying the EU emblem and reference to EU funding (e.g. information material, equipment funded by the grant)



HOW MUCH MONEY

Paying never more than the maximum grant amount fixed in the GA

Paying less than the grant amount fixed in the GA in case the costs at the end are less than budgeted

How does the CEF grant agreement look like?



e-GRANT

The CEF grant agreement and its management are **fully electronic**.

This is from the signature of the grant until its end, all actions and communications will flow via the Funding & Tenders Portal ('the Portal').



CORPORATE STRUCTURE

The CEF grant agreement is based on a **Commission-wide model** (so-called '**Corporate Model Grant Agreement**') structured in a core part and several Annexes.



SPECIFIC ANNEX 5

Some important CEF specific rights and obligations are part of Annex 5, i.e:

- Security - Article 13
- Intellectual property rights - Article 16
- Additional communication and dissemination activities - Article 17
- MS information and Durability - Article 18

How can you participate in the grant agreement?



What does it mean if you participate as ...?

Beneficiary

Article 7 of the GA

- Signs the Agreement and has all the **rights** and **obligations**
- If several beneficiaries, **it is mandatory to designate a coordinator**
- The **beneficiaries** which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by **signing the accession form** - Annex 3 - directly in the Portal, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement
- The set-up of a consortium is recommended

Affiliated Entity

Article 8 of the GA

- Satisfies the **eligibility criteria** and does not fall in one of the exclusion criteria
- Implements the **tasks** as described under **Annex I** and declares **costs** under the **same conditions** as the beneficiaries
- Has a **legal or capital link** with the beneficiary ex Article 187 (1) (b) of the FR
- Complies with all the **obligations** applicable to the beneficiaries under the GA

What does it mean if you participate as ...?

Associated Partner

Article 9.1 of the GA

- Implements the action **tasks** as described under **Annex 1**
- May not charge costs to the action and **the costs for their tasks are not eligible** (may not be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2)
- Complies with all the **obligations listed under Article 9.1 of the GA**
- May be linked to a beneficiary or to the consortium

Subcontractor

Article 9.3 of the GA

- Participates in the action in case it is necessary for the implementation
- Implements the action properly
- The eligible costs are the **price charged to the beneficiary** (usually containing a profit margin for the subcontractor, but not for the beneficiary). The costs will be included in the estimated budget in Annex 2

What does it mean subcontracting?

- Subcontracts concern the **implementation of part of the project tasks** that can be outsourced
- Subcontracting may cover only a **limited part** of the action
- The beneficiaries have a **contractual link** with subcontractors
- The **price** for the subcontracts will be declared as "subcontracting costs" in the financial statement
- The beneficiary must award the contracts and subcontracts in compliance with **sound financial management principles**: meaning best value for money (or lowest price) or public procurement rules if applicable, and absence of conflict of interests

Internal roles and responsibilities of the beneficiaries

Role of the coordinator

- **Monitors** that the action is implemented properly
- Acts as the **intermediary** for all **communications**:
 - Submits the pre-financing guarantees
 - Requests and reviews any documents required and verifies the quality and completeness
 - Submits the deliverables and reports
 - Informs CINEA on the payments made
- **Distributes the payments** received to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay

Responsibility of each beneficiary

- Keep information stored in the **Portal Participant Register** up to date - Article 19
- Informs CINEA and the consortium **immediately** of any events/circumstances likely to affect significantly/delay the project implementation
- **Submits to the coordinator in good time** the pre-financing guarantee; financial statement, certificates on the financial statements; the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports; any other documents and information required by CINEA
- **Submits via the Portal** data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities

Which are the reporting requirements?

Article 21 of the GA - Datasheet point 4.2

Reporting Periods - Action duration is divided into one or more reporting periods, which will serve as basis for reporting requirements

Language of the report: **Language of the Agreement** - English

Continuous Reporting:

- Report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones**, etc if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool. Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

Periodic Reports - including for the last reporting period:

- To be submitted **60 days after the end of the reporting period**
- Include a technical and financial part (i.e. financial statements, use of resources, certificate on the financial statement if required)

Member States information - Annex 5: providing the reports to the Member States that support the action

Which are the payment arrangements?

Call text - Article 22 of the GA - Datasheet point 4.2

All payments will be made to the coordinator

1. Prefinancing payment

- Paid within **30 days** upon the entry into force of the agreement/ receipt of the financial guarantee if required

2. Interim payments - Interim payment ceiling **90%** of the maximum grant amount

- Reimburses the eligible costs claimed for the reporting period and it is subject to the approval of the period report
- Paid within **90 days** from receiving the periodic report

3. Payment of the balance/ Calculation of the grant amount (no-profit rule)

- Reimburses the remaining part of the eligible costs claimed for the implementation of the action
- Paid within **90 days** from receiving the periodic report

Amendment - Article 39 of the GA

- The party requesting an amendment **must submit a request for amendment** signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool and must include the reasons why and the appropriate supporting documents
- The request should **not** have the purpose or the effect of **making changes which would call into question the award of the grant** or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- Amendment must be signed **within 45 days** of receiving the request or additional information requested - Disagreement must be formally notified within the same deadline
- An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party. An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.
- The GA may **only be modified while it is in force** and so **before the payment of the balance**. If a modification is requested for exceptional reasons (e.g. change of bank account, etc.) after the completion date of the action and before the payment of the balance, such request must be duly justified by the beneficiary

Communication, dissemination and visibility

Article 17 of the GA - Annex 5

The beneficiaries must engage in the **communication and dissemination activities** such as:

- Present the project (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and project results) on the beneficiaries' websites or social media accounts
- Upload the public project results to the CEF Project Results platform, available through the Funding & Tenders Portal.

Visibility: the beneficiaries must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate)

Reduction of the grant amount **Article 28 of the GA**

Suspension **Article 31 of the GA**

Termination **Article 32 of the GA**

- Beneficiaries **may suspend the action** in exceptional circumstances that make implementation impossible or excessively difficult. (e.g. force majeure) or **terminate the action** in duly justified cases - **new procedure: via a request for amendment** - see Article 39
- The Agency **may suspend, terminate the grant agreement or reduce the grant amount** for instance for:
 - Substantial errors, irregularities or fraud
 - Serious breach of obligations under the grant agreement or during its award ((including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information)
 - **Additional grounds: due to major delays, the objectives of the action risk to no longer be achieved**



Q&A Session

Thank you

Disclaimer

This presentation is for information only and does not provide an exhaustive list of contractual obligations of beneficiaries nor of the mechanisms in place for monitoring the co-financed actions. It has no legal value and shall not bind on either the CINEA or the Commission under any circumstances. The terms and conditions of signed grant agreements shall prevail on any different information.