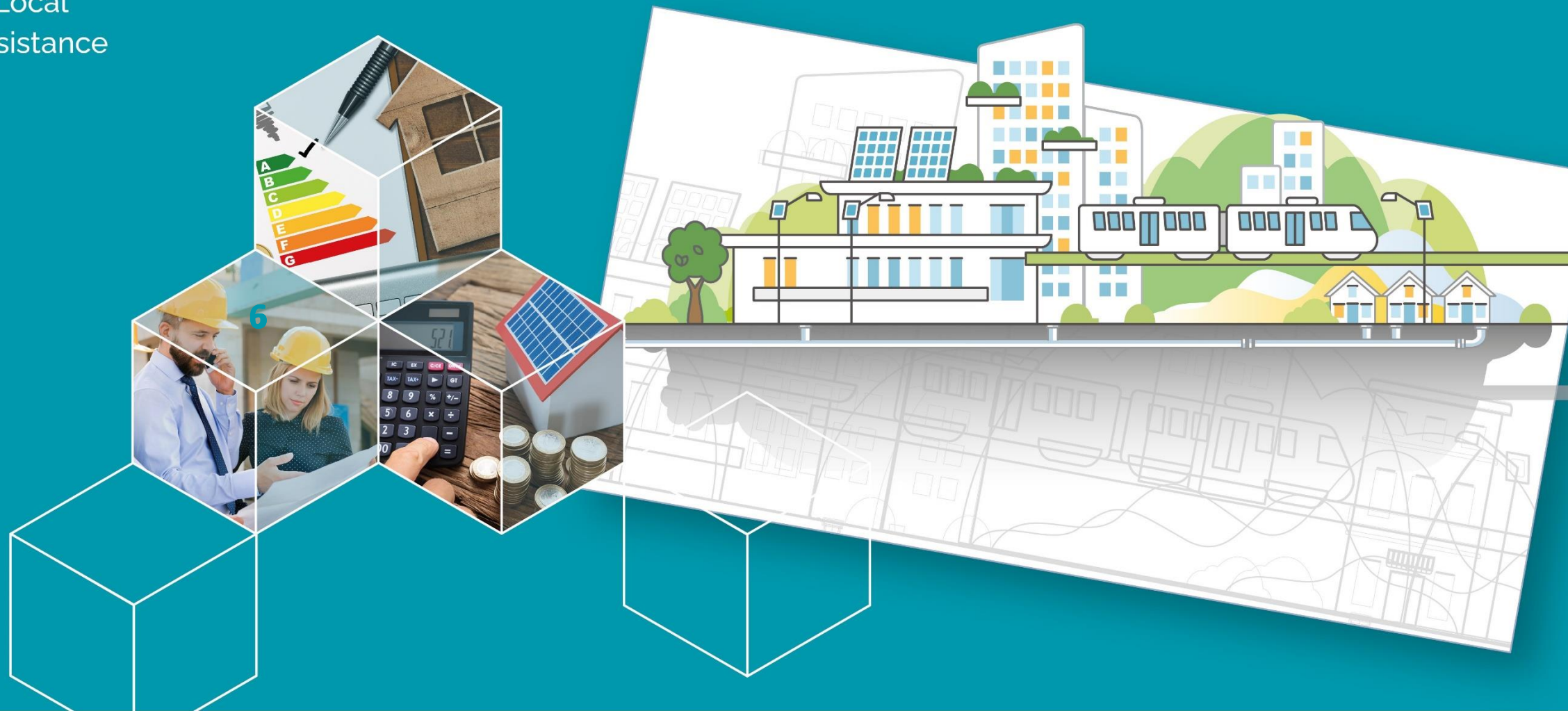


ELENA

European Local
ENergy Assistance

Making investments happen





Sustainable Energy

- Building renovation (public & private)
- Renewables in buildings:
 - Solar PV+WH
 - Biomass boilers
- Street lighting
- District/cooling heating networks



Residential

- Housing renovation (private & social)
- Integrated Renewables:
 - Solar PV
 - Solar WH
 - Biomass boilers
 - Heat pumps



Urban transport

- Improved public transport and mobility
- Electric buses
- Charging stations
- Alternative fuel vehicles
- IT for model shift



Leveraged investment

ELENA funds up to 90% of preparation costs, typically grants of € 1-3 million



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

20x



TRANSPORT

10x



RESIDENTIAL

10x



**Internal
staff**

**External
experts**

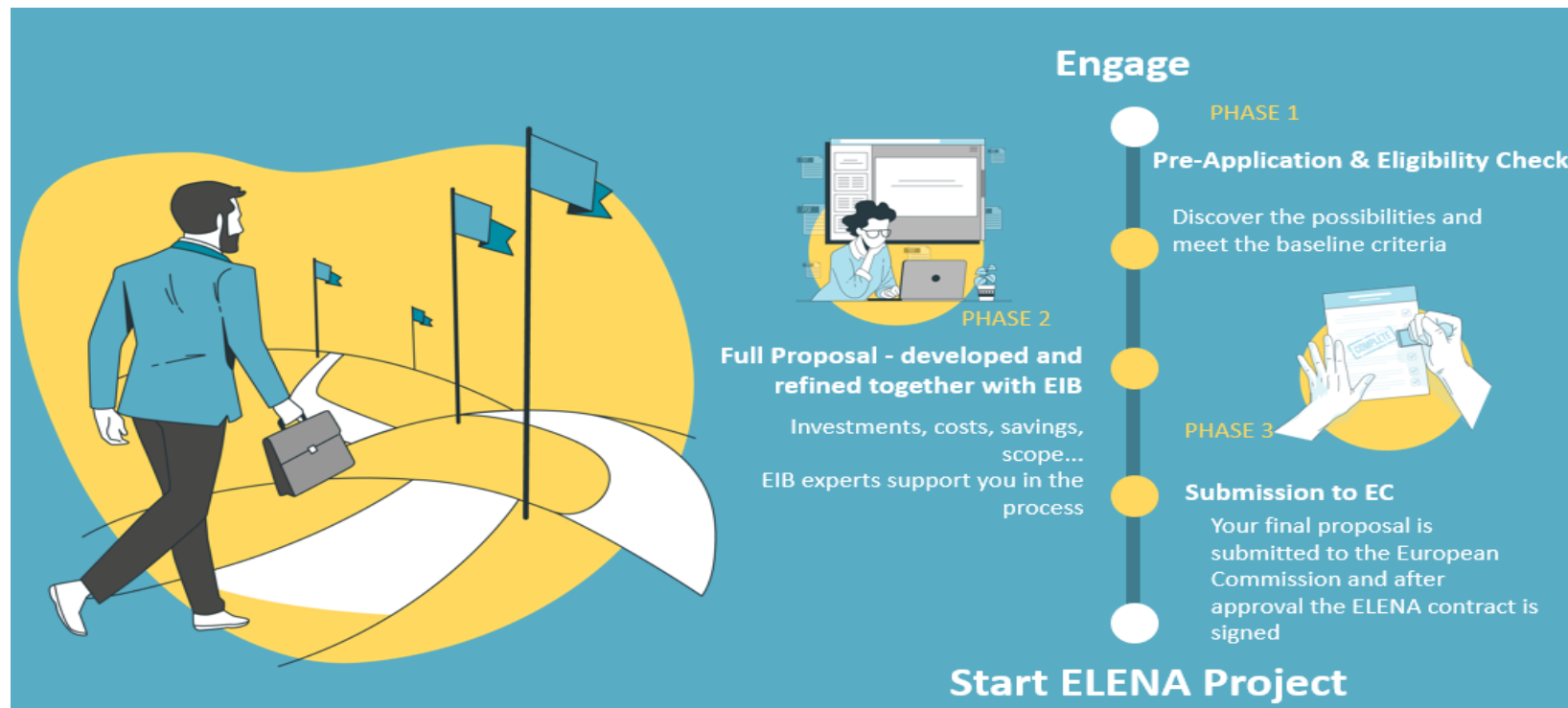
- Stakeholder engagement & co-ordination
- Promotion & marketing
- Feasibility & technical studies
- Energy audits
- Structuring, bundling & business plans
- Tendering procedures & documentation
- Legal/financial advisory
- Project management

Above are examples, lists not exhaustive



ELENA process

- **First come, first served** basis - No calls or competitions
- Applicants will receive **direct EIB support** to prepare the ELENA application for Commission approval
- ELENA will fund up to **90%** of the investment preparation costs (with 10% provided by applicant)
- Eligible activities are those necessary to develop and mobilise finance for a clearly identified investment programme



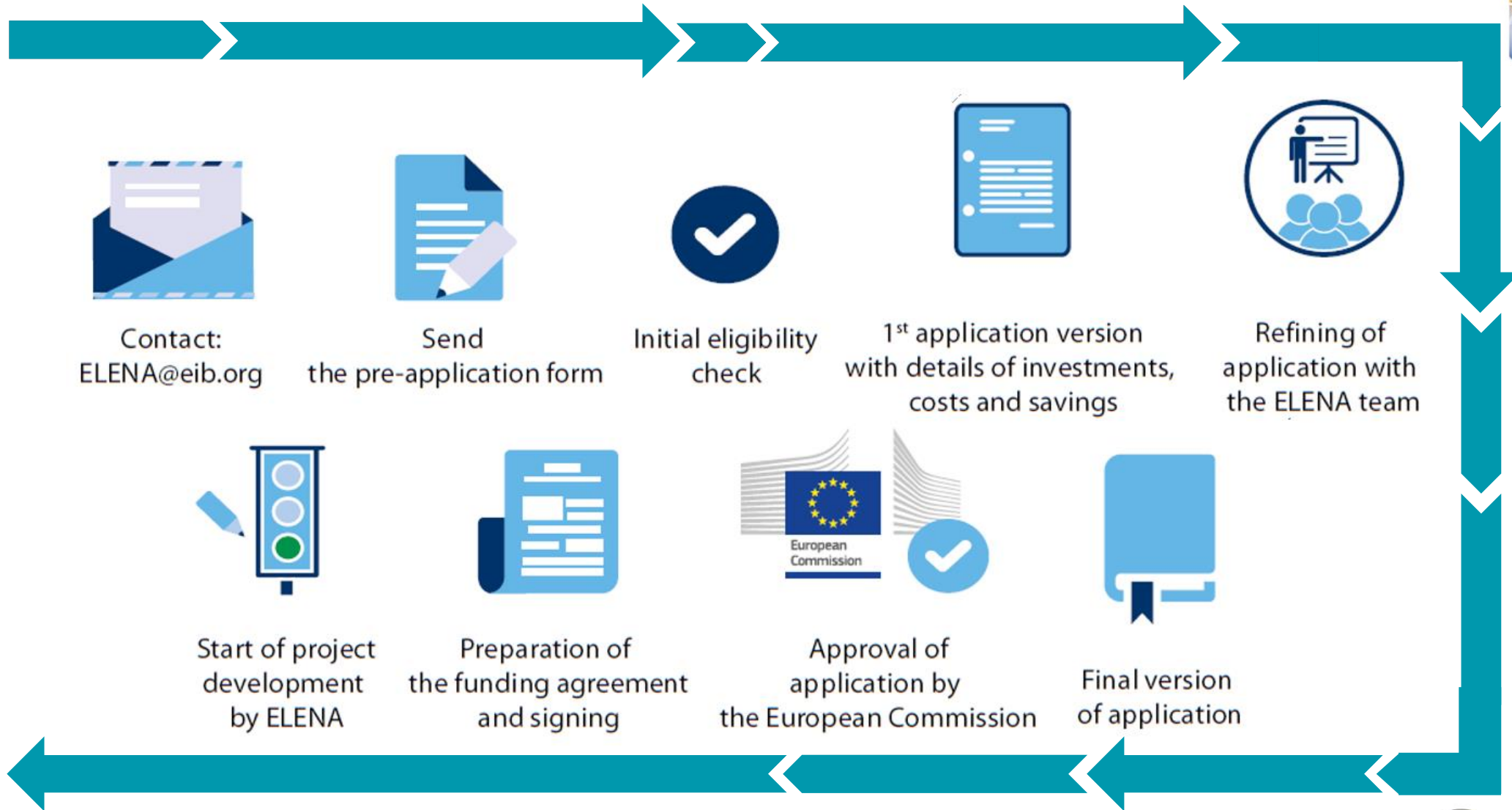


Public sector

- Central government
- Government agencies
- Regional authorities
- Local authorities (municipalities)
- Public corporations
- Financial institutions

Private entities

- Energy agencies
- One-stop-shops
- Associations
 - Social housing
 - Home owners
 - Business/Industry
- Public/private entities
- Banks & financial intermediaries

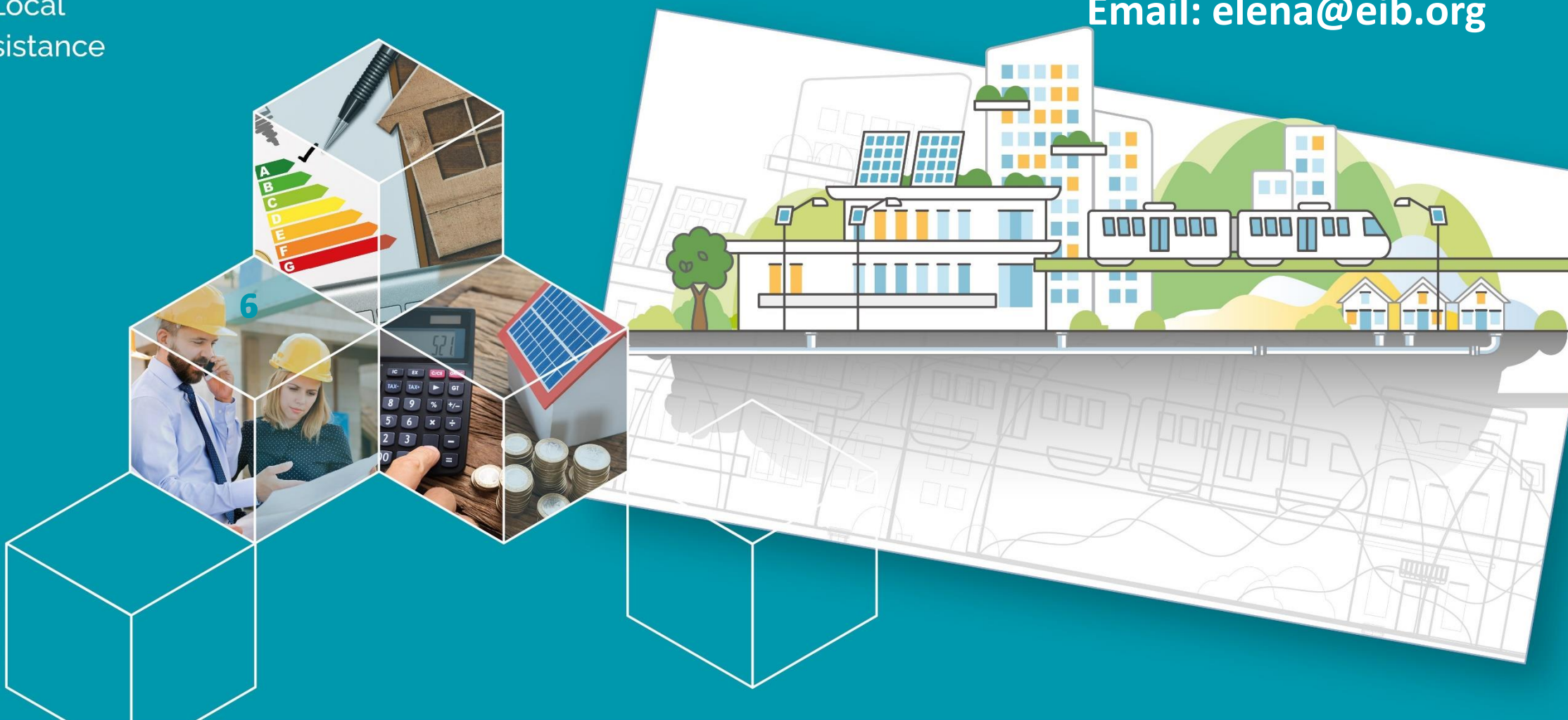


ELENA

European Local
ENergy Assistance

For more details :
www.eib.org/elena

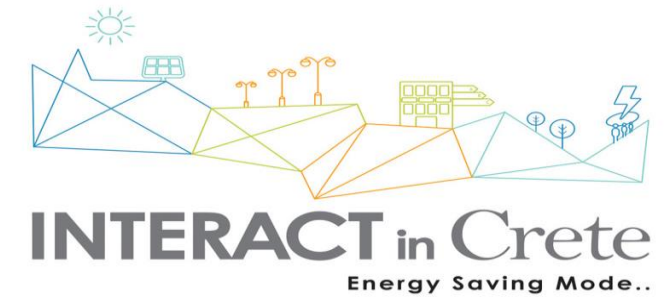
Email: elena@eib.org





Crete (INTERACT) – “Integrated Sustainable Energy Actions and Projects In Crete”





“INTEgrated sustainable enERgy ACTions and projects in Crete” (INTERACT in Crete)

Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum •
Energy efficiency finance marketplace
25 October 2023, Brussels

Region of Crete Overview

- Insular region
- Southeast part of Europe
- Largest island in Greece the 5th largest in the Mediterranean Sea
- It covers an area of 8,303 Km²



- Permanent population: 635,000
- Visitors: 5,000,000 per year
- **4** Regional Units
- **24** Municipalities

Region of Crete-Energy status



- **Interconnection Progress:**

The mainland connection is now halfway completed, with an expected full integration by 2024.
- **Energy Security:**

This integration will secure Crete's energy supply.
- **Energy Transition Priorities:**

Crete's top priorities include energy transition, improved energy efficiency, and enhanced resilience to climate change.



Region of Crete

Energy status

- Challenges Ahead:

The biggest challenge is mobilizing and aligning all public entities towards these goals.



- The ELENA Mechanism:

We utilize the ELENA Mechanism as a mean to unite public entities and drive collective efforts towards a sustainable future.

ELENA Contract in the Region of Crete

INTERACT in Crete Project

Total PDS budget 1,496,000€

Approved ELENA grant: 1,346,400 € (90%)

669,000 €

- TA Category A

812,000 €

- TA Category B

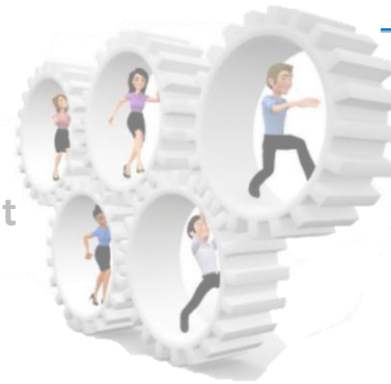
15,000€

- Financial Audit

TA Category A

Umbrella services and co-ordination

- Project Coordination and Management
- Financial, Legal and Administrative Support
- Tendering Procedures for all 3 investment subprojects
- Reporting (internal & external)



TA Category B

Vertical Technical Assistance – specialized per project specific services

- Energy Audits
- Feasibility Studies
- Financial Modelling

ELENA Contract in the Region of Crete



Sub project 1 - EE in Street light network

Sub project 2 - EE in public buildings

Sub project 3 - RES development through Energy Communities

Initial Targets: approx. 40m € investments over 3 years

EE in Street light network	EE in public buildings	RES development through Energy Communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streetlighting 40.000Units <p>➤ Approx. 20m €</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buildings 190.000m2 <p>➤ Approx. 10m €</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PV 31.400 Units <p>➤ Approx. 10m €</p>

Implementation Approach

Category B Technical Assistance

Road/Street Lighting Network EE Upgrade



- Preparation of studies for inventory & lighting calculations
- Preparation of the financing model
- Tendering procedure for construction
- Through EPC/PPP contracts

EE improvements of Public Buildings



- Preparation of studies for energy audits
- Preparation of the financing model
- Tendering procedure for construction
- Through NSRF funds (*), ELECTRA programme (**), possibly blended with private funding

PV panels in buildings & LRLAs (Irrigation Organizations)



- Update of the pre studies
- Region, municipalities & LRLAs to set up Energy Communities
- Preparation of the financing model
- Through State Funding

The Project - Expected Results



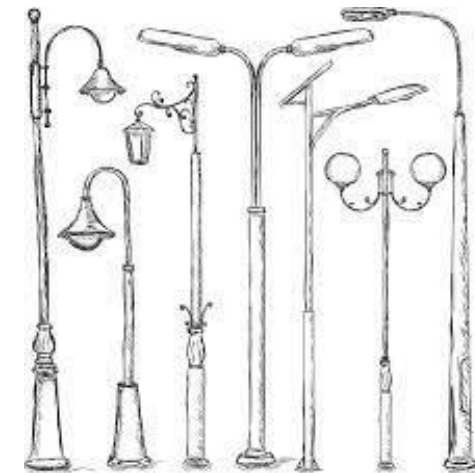
Sub project 1 - EE in Street light network

Importance of Street Lighting Upgrade:

- Significant energy and financial consumption.
- Mandate to reduce energy usage and carbon footprint.
- Opportunity to achieve energy and climatic goals (SECAPs).
- Enhanced lighting quality.
- Allocation of financial resources for citizen-centric projects.

Stakeholders targeted:

Municipalities of Crete



Sub project 1 - EE in Street light network

Stakeholders Involved: 10 Municipalities

Number of lighting points: 48,530

Estimated Budget: 16M €

Funding Scheme: EPC (*) - DLF (**) - Own recourses

Expected Results: (+) 73% Energy Savings

(-) 5.163 tn Co2/ per year



Sub project 1 - EE in Street light network



Current Status:

- All the technical studies have been completed.
- Election period in Greece in 2023 delayed political decisions.
- With elections concluded, new local councils will be in place.
- Ready to proceed with final decisions and tender procedures.
- One-year extension granted for INTERACT project.

Stakeholders committed: 6 Municipalities

Stakeholders in the process: 2 Municipalities

Stakeholders abandoned the project: 2 Municipalities

(due to low estimated energy savings)

RISKS - Mitigations

Gathering required data and information from stakeholders.

- Alternative data collection methods.

Lack of expertise required to assess funding tools.

- Organize informative meetings at all levels to ensure understanding and strengthen commitment.

Municipalities hesitate to commit for the project implementation within its timeline.

- Ensure final participants are strongly committed to completing the investment program.

Delays in consultation and decision making.

- Extend project timeline to accommodate delays.



Sub project 2 - EE in Public Buildings

Stakeholders targeted:

Municipalities,
Hospitals and Health Centers,
University of Crete



Energy-Intensive Buildings:

- Targeted energy-intensive facilities: hospitals, health centres (24/7 operation), and Universities (extended hours).

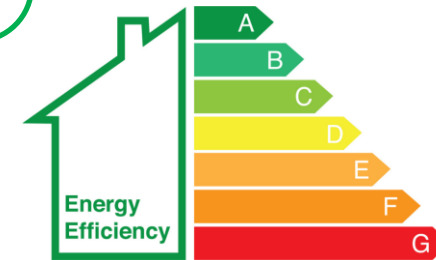
Public Buildings Involved (24): 2 regional buildings, 3 municipal buildings, 14 Health Centers, 3 hospitals, University facilities- School of Philosophy and Students building

Sub project 2 - EE in Public Buildings

Average Energy Saving: 77,5%

Estimated Budget: 26M €

Funding Scheme: RRF (*),
Regional Operational Programme of Crete (ROP)



Current Status:

All the technical studies have been completed

Under funding procedure: 16 buildings

In the process: 2 buildings

Out of the project: 5 buildings

- 3 Health Centres under tendering procedure.
- 9 Health Centres in the tender preparation phase.
- Municipal/regional/university buildings to be financed by ROP Crete (call expected end 2023).

RISKS - Mitigations



Identifying eligible buildings for energy upgrades.

- Set specific criteria for selecting the eligible buildings.

Limited utilization of specific financial tools in Greece, such as ESCOs, due to low adoption.

Long decision-making and consultation processes, particularly among municipalities.

- Organize informative meetings to strengthen understanding.

Delays in funding application calls.

- Extend project timeline to accommodate delays.

Studies often lack full maturity for applying to specific funding instruments.

- Preparation of additional studies.

Sub project 3 - RES Development through Energy Communities

Focus on renewable energy projects through energy communities.

- Complex and challenging due to the novelty of energy communities in Greece and legal changes.
- Contribution to sustainable development, energy transition and environmental protection in urban and rural regions.

Energy Community Concept:

- Collaboration of similar entities to install renewable energy projects and reduce energy costs.

Stakeholders targeted: Municipalities of Crete, Irrigation Organizations

Stakeholders Involved: 3 Municipalities, 30 Irrigation Organizations



Sub project 3 - RES Development through Energy Communities

Current Status:

All the technical studies have been completed

Energy Communities established: 7

Expected Results: 1,5MW installed in rooftops of municipal buildings

Expected investments: 2M €

Funding Scheme: Own resources,
Just Transition Fund



Sub project 3 - Involvement of Irrigation Organizations



Collaboration with all 30 irrigation organizations in Crete, establishment of four Energy Communities, one in each regional unit.

Energy Needs Assessment:

- Recorded energy needs of irrigation organizations.
- Estimation of RES project sizes to meet these needs.

Challenges with ELENA Mechanism:

- Irrigation organizations lacked suitable buildings for project installation under the ELENA mechanism.
- Region of Crete continues implementation with its own resources.

Achieving Energy Transition:

- Through these Energy Communities, complete coverage of irrigation energy needs by renewables.
- Optimization of energy consumption in irrigation systems by upgrading equipment and installing telemetry systems.
- Contribution of the agricultural sector to the energy transition.

RISKS - Mitigations

Changes in the law (Energy Communities)

- Adapt the form of the energy communities

Lack of suitable space for installation of RES projects

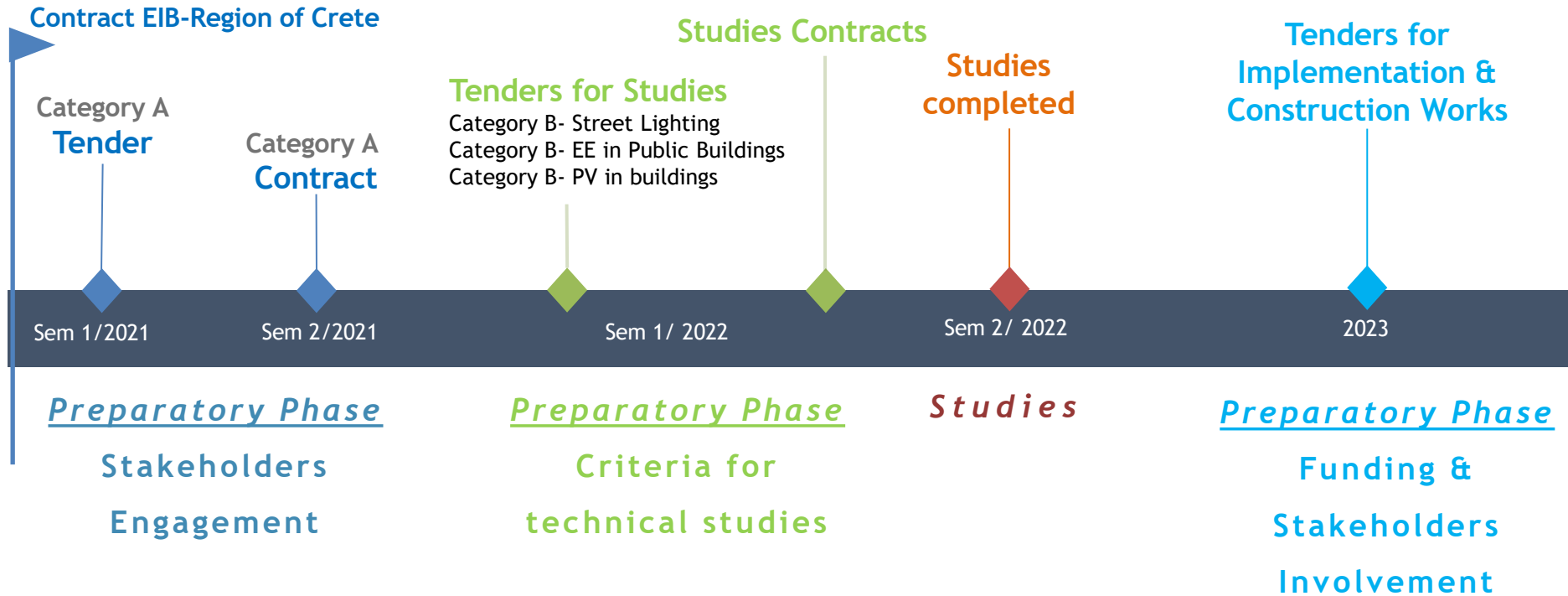
- Set specific criteria

Delays in launching the calls for funding

- Extend project timeline to accommodate delays.



Project Timeline



Project Extension Timeline

<p><u>Funding procedures</u> DLF for Street Lighting ROP for Public Buildings JTF for PVs</p> <p><u>Tendering procedures</u> For Street Lighting For Health Centres</p>	<p><u>Funding procedures</u> Own resources and EPC for Street Lighting</p> <p><u>Tendering procedures</u> For Public Buildings using ROP funds</p>	<p><u>Tendering procedures</u> For Street Lighting using EPC, DLF and own resources</p>	<p><u>Tendering procedures</u> PVs using JTF and own resources</p> <p>Project Closure</p>
<p>Q1 2024</p>	<p>Q2 2024</p>	<p>Q3 2024</p>	<p>Q4 2024</p>

Stakeholders Involvement - Funding - Tenders for Construction

Good practices for future use

Enhanced Knowledge of Processes and Procedures	Access to Funding Pools	Sustainable Development	Economic Growth	Enhanced Reputation	Knowledge Sharing
<p>Technical Expertise</p> <p>Streamlined Procedures</p> <p>Sustainable Practices</p>	<p>Expanded Funding Networks</p> <p>Effective Funding Strategies</p> <p>Improved Financial Planning</p>	<p>Long-term sustainable development goals</p>	<p>Through:</p> <p>reduced energy costs</p> <p>increased investments in sustainable infrastructure</p>	<p>Forward-thinking and environmentally responsible entity</p> <p>Potentially attracting further investment and partnerships</p>	<p>Collaboration and promotion of best practices in energy efficiency and environmental sustainability</p>

ELENA Mechanism Advancing Energy Efficiency Goals and Energy Resilience

The ELENA mechanism plays an important role:

- In achieving energy efficiency objectives and goals at **Municipal**, **Regional**, **National**, and **European** level
- In achieving **energy resilience** for the stakeholders involved



Thank You!

If you need any further information, don't hesitate to contact us.



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