



# LIFE-2024-CET- DHC

TOPIC TITLE:

Supporting district heating and cooling



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# 1. Objectives



# Objectives

- Still, very often, **fossil fuels** are the main source of the energy in district heating and cooling systems,
- There is an urgent need to reduce fossil fuels consumption in the sector and **rolled out renewable and waste energy sources**,
- **District heating** has been identified as a key option for the decarbonisation of the heating sector,
- The revised Renewable Energy Directive (RED) set out **ambitious measures**, and district heating and/or cooling operators/owners **need to prepare and implement plans** so that existing systems fulfil the criteria for 'efficient district heating and cooling'



# Objectives

- Guidance, recommendations and technical advisory services have already been developed and tested at the national and local levels,
- The switch to **low-temperature** renewable energy and waste heat and **the development of new low-temperature systems** in emerging markets is limited by different factors: e.g. limited human, technical and financial capacities of network/installation owners,
- **Technical support are needed to help DHC sector prepare modernisation and development projects.**



# 2. Scope



# Scope

Proposals are expected to work:

- with operators/owners of **existing district heating systems** and provide them with the required technical support for the preparation of investment plans for the fuel switch of existing district heating systems **to fulfil the criteria for 'efficient district heating and cooling'** as defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive,

or

- with municipalities or relevant key stakeholders **in the development of investment plans for new district heating and/or cooling networks**, provided that they are fully based on **low-temperature renewable energy or waste heat**, and with particular attention to **existing buildings**,



# Scope

- The focus should be on the **integration of low-temperature renewable energy or waste heat**
- The investment plans to be prepared should enable the targeted district heating system to fulfil the criteria for “efficient district heating and cooling” as specified in the Energy Efficiency Directive Recast within a timeline of 10 years and include:
  - Technical part and detailed identification of the investments
  - Financial planning and pre-feasibility studies
  - Timing
  - internal and external resources required
  - Indication of public and private funding sources





# Scope

Proposals should:

- support the development of a substantial number of investment plans in at least 3 eligible countries.
- demonstrate, in a clear and convincing way, the commitment of operators/owners of the district heating networks that will be targeted for the collaboration.
- engage and involve required stakeholders, in particular potential waste heat suppliers, work closely with the potential customers etc.
- promote replication through other district heating operators/owners.



# Scope

- Proposals under this topic are **not expected to finance the equipment or development of new tools** (e.g. software, or the upgrade of existing ones, platforms, applicants are encouraged to make use of existing commercial software, as needed).
- Proposals must be submitted by **at least 3 applicants** (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) from **3 different eligible countries**.
- The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1,75 million would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately.
  - Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.



# 3. Expected Impacts



# Topic Specific Impacts

Expected impact, the indicators for this topic include:

- **Number of investment plans** for existing or new district heating and/or cooling systems, allowing them to fulfil the criteria for 'efficient district heating and cooling' defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- **Number of follower cases** (DH companies) selected during the project life for which transfer of knowledge was effectively provided.
- **Number of local and regional authorities integrating the outcomes** of the project in their energy planning.
- **Investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources triggered by the implementation** of the investment plans developed thanks to the project (cumulative, in million Euro).



# Topic Specific Impacts

Expected impact, the indicators for this topic include:

- Proposals should also propose other indicators which are specific to the proposed activities.
- Proposals are not expected to address all the listed impacts and indicators.
- **! The results and impacts should be quantified for the end of the project and for 5 years after the end of the project.**



# General Impacts - LIFE CET

Proposals should also quantify their impacts related to the following common indicators for the LIFE Clean Energy Transition subprogramme:

- Primary energy savings triggered by the project in GWh/year.
- Final energy savings triggered by the project in GWh/year.
- Renewable energy generation triggered by the project (in GWh/year).
- Reduction of greenhouse gases emissions (in tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq/year).
- Investments in sustainable energy (energy efficiency and renewable energy) triggered by the project (cumulative, in million Euro).



# 4. Additional information



# Additional information

- The whole topic description is available on the portal “Funding & tender opportunities“

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

**search under:** Find calls for proposals

**Programme:** the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

- Questions related to topic?      **CINEA-LIFE-CET@ec.europa.eu**





# 5. Question and Answers



# Thank you



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