

European City Facility - Third Call for Applications: Support local authorities in developing investment concepts for sustainable energy

The third call for applications will be open from the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 00:00 (Brussels time) to the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 17:00 (Brussels time)

#### / OBJECTIVE

The European City Facility (EUCF) aims to support municipalities and local authorities in developing Investment Concepts related to the implementation of actions identified in their climate and energy action plans. The **ultimate objective** of the EUCF is to build a substantial pipeline of sustainable energy investment projects across municipalities in Europe.

#### / FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The EUCF finances the development of an Investment Concept with a fixed grant of 60 000 EUR.

#### /ELIGIBILITY

The EUCF is open to all municipalities/local authorities, their groupings, and local public entities aggregating municipalities/local authorities from the EU Member States, EEA-EFTA States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and the United Kingdom. Applicants require a politically approved climate and energy plan. This includes SEAPs (Sustainable Energy Action Plans)/SECAPs (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans), developed within the Covenant of Mayors initiative, or plans of similar ambition with climate and energy targets at least for the year 2020.

Moreover, applicants have to demonstrate political commitment to the development of the Investment Concept through a letter of support, signed by the Mayor or other relevant political representative.

The applicant must commit to the EUCF monitoring period of two years.

Link to Eligibility Check.





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#### / WHAT CAN BE FINANCED

The EUCF finances activities, such as (technical) feasibility studies, market analyses, stakeholder analyses, legal, economic and financial analyses, risk analyses, etc., that are required to develop the investment concept. These activities can be delivered by in-house staff or subcontracted external experts.

The grant cannot directly finance the actual investments, but it covers costs to mobilise resources and access services to develop an investment concept.

/ CRITERIA

Applications are evaluated based on **5** evaluation criteria:

- 1. Investment size;
- 2. Energy savings;
- 3. Governance structure;
- 4. Stakeholder engagement;
- **5.** Alignment with EUCF objectives.

Please find the full details of the evaluation process in the **Guidelines for applicants**.

#### **ADVANTAGES OF JOINT APPLICATIONS**

In line with the EUCF objectives, local authorities/municipalities are strongly encouraged to join forces and resources and submit joint applications, to increase the ambition of the application and increase the chances of success.

Do you want to apply as a grouping? Check our website and see what you should consider when applying as a grouping.

Local public entities aggregating municipalities/local authorities are also eligible. A non-exhaustive list, of potential eligible applicants included in this category can be found on the EUCF website <a href="https://www.eucityfacility.eu/apply-for-eucf-support/application-process.html">https://www.eucityfacility.eu/apply-for-eucf-support/application-process.html</a>.

/ TIMELINE

The third EUCF call will open on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2021, 00:00 (Brussels time). The deadline for submitting your application is on the **17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021, 17:00 (Brussels time).** 



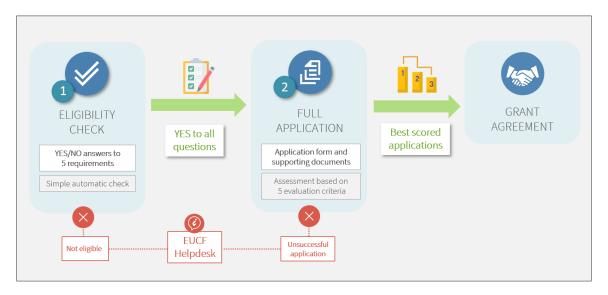


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/ HOW TO APPLY

The overall application process consists of two main steps: the eligibility check and the full application.



The application form will be accessible online as of the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2021, 00:00 (Brussels time) via the EUCF website under "Online Application".

For more information on the Application Process, click <u>here</u>.





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### / REGIONAL CALLS

The EUCF calls are organised in parallel for three geographic regions including all eligible countries (EU Member States, EEA-EFTA States of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and the United Kingdom) as displayed in the map below:



### / BUDGET

This 3<sup>rd</sup> call will support the development of 69 investment concepts, with a total budget of 4,14 M EUR allocated to the 3 regions according to the table below:

	Region	Countries	Budget available for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> call (in M EUR)	Number of Investment Concepts financed
	Central and Eastern Europe	Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia.	1,56	26
	Nordic countries & Western Europe	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom.	1,44	24
	Southern Europe	Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain.	1,14	19
		Total available for this call	4,14	69





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### / EXPECTED IMPACT

The expected impact is the developed investment concept, e.g., a document providing investors and financial institutions with necessary information to assess an investment project.

### / FURTHER INFORMATION, SUPPORT and FAQs

Please read the **Guidelines for Applicants** and the **FAQs** on the EUCF website, before applying.

For specific queries, please contact the <u>EUCF Helpdesk</u> or the <u>Country Expert</u>, responsible for your country.

