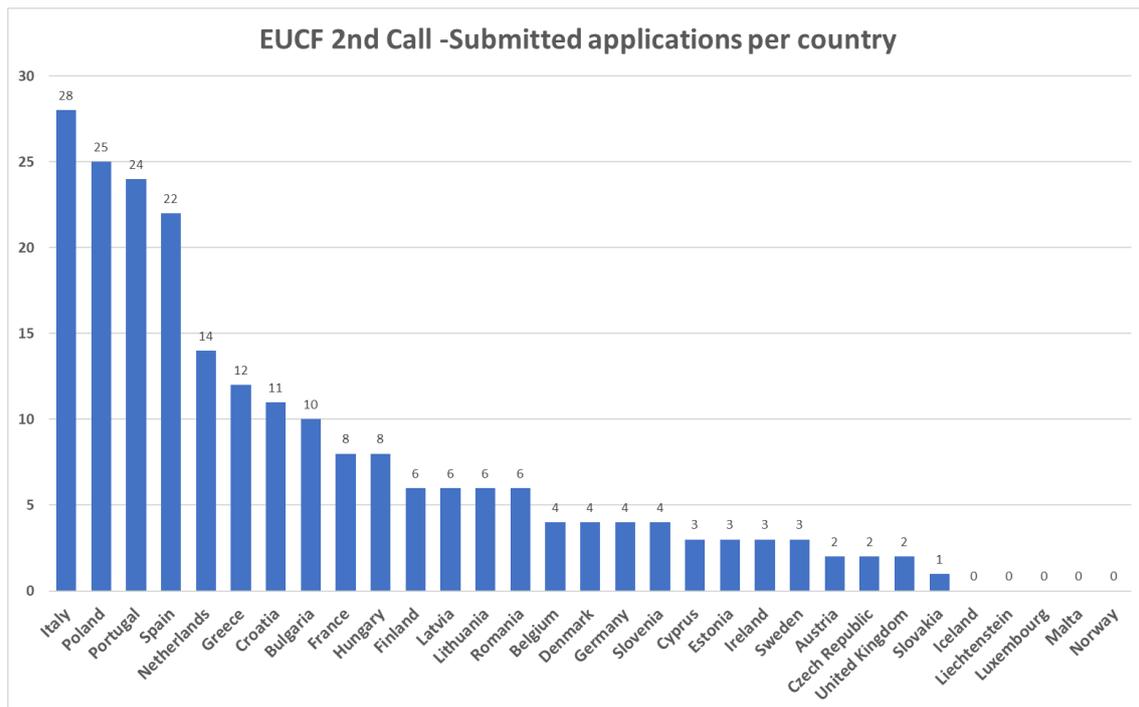


EU City Facility closes its 2nd round with more than 200 applications

June 3, 2021 09:00 AM CET

Brussels, Belgium-- EU City Facility (EUCF), an EU-funded project that supports municipalities/local authorities to accelerate investments in sustainable energy, announced today that it has closed its 2nd call with 221 applications.

The highest number of applications in the 2nd call came from Southern Europe (40%) followed by Central and Eastern Europe (37%) and Nordic countries & Western Europe (23%). Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain were the countries with the highest number of applications.



Out of the 221 applications, 69 projects will be selected as *EUCF beneficiary*, to receive a lump sum of EUR 60.000 for the development of an investment concept for their local sustainable energy project. Successful EUCF beneficiaries will then use the grant to create investment concepts, including (technical) feasibility studies and a variety of key analyses focusing on their projects and the overall market, stakeholders, legal, economic and financial aspects. The grant is not meant to directly finance



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 864212. The sole responsibility of this publication lies with the author. The European Union or EASME are not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.



investments and is rather used to access services and develop an investment concept, which may open doors for follow-up investments.

Allocation of EU City Facility funds

Overall, EUCF provides more than **EUR 12 million** to support its beneficiaries selected through four open calls. The 1st call organized in 2020 allocated EUR 1.8 million to [30 beneficiaries](#). The 2nd call will distribute **EUR 4.14 million**. The allocation of funding is divided by three macro regions, covering the EU-27 Member States, the UK and the EEA-EFTA States of Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein. The funds are allocated following a criterion based on a combination of the Cohesion Policy (2014-2020) rational and the population of each macro region.

Next steps

The EUCF evaluation team will now evaluate the submitted applications and select the 69 beneficiaries. Evaluation is based on five criteria: investment size, energy savings, governance structure, stakeholder engagement and alignment with EUCF objectives. The results will be communicated to the selected applicants in August and will be published in October 2021.

Next EUCF Call (3rd edition) is foreseen to open in late October 2021 with a closing deadline at the end of December 2021.

EUCF also announced that it is participating at the [Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum](#), which is being held virtually on June 15- 16th. The initiative will be presented to interested investors and future applicants at the forum.

Notes to the editor

Set up under the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation of the European Union, the EU City facility supports municipalities, local authorities, their groupings and local public entities aggregating municipalities/local authorities in Europe with tailor-made, fast and simplified financial support (in the form of EUR 60.000 lump sums) and related services to enable them to develop relevant investment concepts related to the implementation of actions identified in their climate and energy action plans.

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