Title
Fostering sustainable energy uptake along the whole value chain in industry and services
Funding Instrument
LIFE PROGRAMME
Code
LIFE-2021-CET-VALUECHAIN
General information

Objective

In 2018, the industry and services sectors made up about 40% of the total EU-27 final energy consumption (respectively accounting for 26% and 14%). As highlighted in the European Green Deal, the achievement of climate-neutrality by 2050 will require a full mobilisation and deeper cooperation among all players operating across the different value chains. Companies tend to focus their efforts on energy consumptions related to their own activities, which excludes those of their value chain (i.e. all delivery technologies, products and services contributing to the final product).

The objective of this topic is to engage companies to embrace a more holistic approach in order to better take into account the risks associated to high energy intensity in the supply chain (e.g. exposure to energy prices, image, litigation, etc.), and to make it more sustainable and resilient. This paradigm shift can further unlock the market potential for sustainable solutions while enabling to benchmark the entire lifecycle impacts (e.g. water consumption, CO2 emissions, soil impacts, etc.) of industrial and service processes. In this regard, large companies can play a crucial role to support SMEs, which operate in their supply chain, to invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions.

Scope

The scope of this topic is to establish collaborations between SMEs and larger companies, operating in the same value chain, in order to ensure that energy efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy sources are maximised at each step of the process, in line with the EU strategy on energy system integration and more in general with the EU Green Deal and the EU industrial strategy. Proposals are expected to develop, test and validate innovative business models and approaches fostering collaboration among companies within one or several specific value chains in the industry and service sectors.

Proposals should clearly describe these models and approaches, their relevance and added value for the targeted value chains. Business cases should be produced based on the real interaction and experiences gained among the relevant actors during the timeframe of the project. A detailed exploitation strategy should be provided in order to effectively roll out the project results to the relevant value chains across the EU.

Additionally, benchmarking mechanisms and monitoring systems focusing on the energy use at value chain level could be developed, in order to avoid shifting carbon emissions from one level to another of the value chain; such benchmarks should focus specifically on energy and not on a broader GHG approach. In this regard, proposals are expected to provide policy recommendations to further improve the collection, transparency and accessibility of companies' energy use data in order to support the development of reporting standards to monitor progress towards the EU's 2030 and 2050 climate and energy objectives.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 2 million would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Objectives

Proposals are expected to demonstrate the impacts listed below:

- Development and implementation of economically viable business models at value chain level, ready to be rolled out on the market
- Number of companies and value chains involved in the implementation of the business models and business cases
- Data evidence on value chain energy use made available to relevant market actors
- Development of innovative benchmarking and monitoring systems for whole energy use at value chain level
- Improvement of standards, governance and regulatory frameworks to support the integration of energy efficiency and renewable energy at value chain level
- Replicable use cases demonstrating value chain solutions implementing energy efficiency measures and integrating renewable energy
- Primary energy savings/Renewable energy generation triggered by the project (in GWh/year)
- Investments in sustainable energy triggered by the project (cumulative, in million Euro)

Link with CMA Goals

Goal II: A competitive, innovative and sustainable blue economy for the Black Sea/**Priority 1:** Foster innovative business models, stimulate research and innovation, and sustainable growth and up-to-date jobs

Deadline for submission

12 January 2022

Project duration

18 months

Financial allocation

Topic Budget: EUR 4 000 000
Funding rate, Other Actions (Coordination and Support Actions) — 95%

Partnership

Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Ukraine

Eligible partners/key conditions

Conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in section 5 of the call document

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. Eligible countries: described in section 6 of of the call document

3. Other eligibility conditions: described in section 6 of the call document

4. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion: described in section 7 of the call document

5. Evaluation and award:

- **Award criteria, scoring and thresholds:** described in section 9 of the call document
- **Submission and evaluation processes:** described section 8 of the call document and the Online Manual
- **Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement:** described in section 4 of the call document

6. Legal and financial set-up of the grants: described in section 10 of the call document

Documents

Call documents:

Call document

Standard application form — *call-specific application form is available in the Submission System*

Detailed budget table

Participant information

LIFE General MGA v1.0

LIFE Work Programme 2021-2024

LIFE Regulation 2021/783

EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046 Info session recordings and presentations
Sector of activity
Renewable Energy, Green Transition
Further Info
Call for tender's page