



# Energy infrastructure - RES in LDS - Call I

The aim of the call is to strengthen distribution networks and increase the RES capacity connectable to them by supporting the development of smart grids and reinforcement of conventional grids in connection with the development of renewable energy sources in the Czech Republic.

## TIMETABLE

### Receipt of grant applications:

- 02.04.2024 - 30.12.2024

## SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Modernisation of power (conventional) infrastructure
- Installation of smart elements in distribution networks

## TARGET GROUP

- The main target group is licensed entities operating in the energy sector - distribution system operators.

## THE APPLICANT

- is a natural person or legal entity pursuing business, that has been assigned a Czech ID number and is authorized to do business<sup>1</sup>;
- is authorized to conduct business corresponding to the supported economic activity<sup>2</sup>, in which the project is implemented, no later than on the date of submission of the last request for payment.
- If it is a legal entity, it provided the data to the extent required in Section 14, paragraph 3, letter e) of Act No 218/2000 Coll., the Act on Budgetary Rules and amending certain related acts, as amended:

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<sup>1</sup> This is a trade license or license to do business according to other legal regulations (unless otherwise stated in the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries of OP TAC - specific part).

<sup>2</sup> The CZ-NACE in which the project is implemented, indicated by the applicant in the application in ISKP21+, corresponds to the activity recorded in the public registers. The registered CZ-NACE must not be listed in the Call Annex titled "Unsupported CZ-NACE categories".

- in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of persons acting on behalf of the applicant, indicating whether they act as its statutory body or whether these persons act on the basis of a granted power of attorney,
  - has registered the real owners of the legal entity in accordance with Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the registration of real owners (fulfilment of the condition will be verified by IB);
  - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of the entities in which it has a share and the amount of this share.
- According to its sworn statement, it is not in liquidation.
  - According to its sworn statement, it has been registered as an income tax payer in the Czech Republic, continuously for at least two tax periods<sup>3</sup> preceding the date of submission of the grant application.

## TERRITORIAL FOCUS

- **Target territory:** The territory of the Czech Republic, except NUTS 2 Prague
- The territorial eligibility is not assessed based on the registered office of the applicant (beneficiary) but based on the actual place of project implementation, i.e. the territory where the physical implementation takes place and the project expenses are incurred.

## MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must not violate horizontal EU policies and their basic principles. In particular, the project must comply:
  - with principles of non-discrimination (primarily non-discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation);
  - with the principles of sustainable development;
  - with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.
- The project objectives shall be in line with the objectives of the operational programme and the Call.
- For projects whose total eligible expenses are equal to/higher than CZK 5 million, the score obtained in the simplified economic evaluation, which expresses the financial health of the applicant, must not be lower than 5 points.
- The project does not significantly harm the environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2021/2139.
- Investments in infrastructure meet the requirement for climate resilience in the sense of Article 2(42) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- Grant applications of applicants who have submitted a similar active project (in any PP status) under OP EIC will not be approved in the phase of appraisal of formal requirements and eligibility, unless the applicant has withdrawn from the project. A similar project is a project that has the same place of implementation (up to the level of the municipality), similar activities and a similar amount of budget and its structure. The aim of the above-mentioned measure is to prevent blocking of budget funds by the fact that the still unfinished project proposals from OP EIC are submitted again in an identical wording, or slightly modified, in OP TAC. The applicant

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<sup>3</sup> This is a tax period according to Section 16b for natural persons / Section 21a for legal entities of Act No 586/1992 Coll., on income taxes.

must choose whether it can realistically complete the project in OP EIC, or whether it will end the administration of this project and submit the project proposal in OP TAC.

## ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Tangible fixed assets
- Intangible fixed assets (if necessary for the proper operation of the tangible fixed assets).

## FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The grant for a project is provided in the minimum amount of CZK 1.5 million and up to a <sup>4</sup>maximum of CZK 100 million. Projects requesting less than the minimum aid according to the aid intensity are unacceptable and will not be accepted in the appraisal process. The maximum aid level is unsurpassable.
- The aid will be paid in accordance with the "Rules for the co-financing of the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for financial support for border management and visas for the 2021- 2027 programming period" and will be reimbursed **retrospectively after the end of the project** or its stage (if the project is staged in accordance with the Rules for applicants and beneficiaries of OP TAC - general part) provided that the conditions of the Decision are met.
- The beneficiary is obliged to ensure the financing of expenses for the implementation of the project, including VAT.
- The aid may not be provided for the same project expenses for which other aid from public sources has already been or will be provided, including an aid from Union funds that are centrally managed by bodies, agencies, joint ventures and other Union entities and that are not directly or indirectly under control of member states.
- The aid may not be provided to a beneficiary who has an unpaid obligation arising from a recovery order issued after a previous decision of the Commission declaring that the aid received from a provider from the Czech Republic is illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

<sup>5</sup> Funding sources (% shares of documented eligible expenditure)	
Type of entity	EU share
Small enterprise, Medium-sized enterprise, Large	50%

<sup>4</sup> Valid at the stage of approval by the selection committee.

<sup>5</sup> The chapter shows the EU share. The remaining part of the funding will be covered from the beneficiary's resources.