

Indicative¹ Fact Sheet and **Timeline** for launching the calls *Energy Programme in Romania* EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021

www.innovationnorway.no/RoEnergy

– Last update: 15 November 2018 –

NOTE: the information presented in this Fact Sheet and Timeline may be subject to further modifications and is not legally binding for the Programme / Fund Operator.

Background and general information

The programme “**Energy Programme in Romania**” shall contribute to the general objectives of EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021, respectively to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area (EEA) and to strengthening bilateral relations between the EEA States and EU Beneficiary States. The Programme objective is “*Less carbon intensive energy and increased security of supply*”. The Programme seeks to stimulate and develop long-term cooperation between Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway (“the Donor States”) and Romania (“Beneficiary State”) and is encouraging **bilateral** Donor Partnership Projects.

The target group for the Programme is defined as *any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organizations, established as a legal person in Romania*. Partnerships are not mandatory, but Donor Partnership Projects are strongly encouraged and will be awarded extra points during the project assessment process.

A **Donor Partnership Project** is defined as cooperation between a Project Promoter in Romania and at least one legal entity in the eligible Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway), implementing a project where all entities are independent of each other and perform substantial and relevant tasks in the completion of the project. Such projects will be awarded additional points during project assessment. To qualify for such points, the Donor State Partner should be actively involved in, and effectively contributing to, the implementation of the project, and it should share with the Project Promoter a common economic or social goal which is to be realized through the implementation of the project. The simple provision of services does not qualify as a Project Partnership.

¹ The information in this Fact Sheet and Timeline has been published by the Fund Operator - Innovation Norway, in order to facilitate the timely preparation of projects and creation of bilateral project partnerships.

Fund Operator:

- [Innovation Norway](#), a state-owned company under the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries and the Norwegian County Municipalities. Innovation Norway is the Norwegian Government's main instrument for innovation and development of Norwegian enterprises and industry, both in Norway and abroad. Currently, Innovation Norway, is responsible for three [EEA and Norway Grants programmes in Romania](#), for the financial period 2014-2021, as follows: “Energy Programme in Romania”, “SMEs Growth Romania” and “Decent Work and Social Dialogue”.

Beneficiary State Programme Partners:

- [Ministry of Energy](#), Romania;
- [Ministry of Environment](#), Romania.

Donor Programme Partners:

- [Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate \(NVE\)](#), Norway;
- [National Energy Authority \(OS\)](#), Iceland.

National Focal Point for EEA and Norway Grants:

- [Ministry of European Funds](#), Romania

Programme Budget:

- EUR 62.826.500

Eligible economic sectors: with few limitations, all economic sectors are eligible for the Programme. The **limitations** are set by the following EU Regulations:

- Commission Regulation (EU) No. 651/2014 (e.g. Regional aid, Aid to SMEs, Aid for research and development and innovation, Innovation aid for SMEs, Training aid, Aid for environmental protection);
- Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 (i.e. *de minimis* state aid).

Grant rate and co-financing:

The financial contribution from this Programme will be determined on a case-by-case basis, taking all relevant factors into account. The applicable rules on public procurement and on state aid, procedural and substantive, shall be complied with.

The Applicant (Project Promoter) shall secure the full financing of the project. The Project Promoter (and/or the Project Partner(s)) shall provide or obtain the remaining co-financing in the form of cash. All eligible expenditures of a project can form the basis of the required co-financing. In-kind contribution is not accepted as co-financing.

For undertakings (economic operators), the grant rate will be determined based on the applicable provisions of Commission Regulation 651/2014² declaring certain categories of aid as compatible with the Internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended by Commission Regulation 2017/1084.

Grant rate for non-economic operators:

- For public entities, proposing projects which do not fall under state aid provisions (Regulation 651/2014) the grant rate will be maximum 85% of the total eligible expenses for the project, without exceeding the maximum amount that may be granted to a project.
- For NGO's, proposing projects which do not fall under state aid provisions (Regulation 651/2014) the grant rate will be maximum 90% of the total eligible expenses for the project, without exceeding the maximum amount that may be granted to a project. For NGOs proposing investment projects related to economic activity, the grant rate will be less than 90%.

Exceptionally, financial support will be awarded as *de minimis* support in line with the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1407/2013 (max. EUR 200,000 over three fiscal years).

Min. and max. grant amounts for each project:

For all Individual Project Schemes:

The minimum amount of grant assistance applied for shall be EUR 200.000.

The maximum amount of grant assistance applied for shall be EUR 2.000.000.

For the Small Grants Scheme:

The minimum amount of grant assistance applied for shall be EUR 50.000.

The maximum amount of grant assistance applied for shall be EUR 200.000.

Programme outcomes:

Outcome 1 - Increased Renewable Energy production

Outcome 2 - Reduced CO2 emissions in all sectors (Energy Efficiency)

Outcome 3 - Increased knowledge on renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security in all sectors of society

Outcome 4 - Enhanced research and development capacity on renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security

Outcome 5 - Increased access to electricity for households in areas where connection to the electricity network is not feasible

Bilateral Outcome - Enhanced collaboration between Beneficiary and Donor States entities involved in the programme

Programme area specifics:

- projects targeting greenhouse gas reductions and/or avoidance through **energy efficiency measures** shall deliver considerable reductions at a reasonable cost; a maximum of 150 EUR grant per tonne CO2 equivalent per year reduced/ avoided should be aimed for;
- Priority shall be given to bilateral partnerships offering added value.

The funding will be made available through open calls and competition.

Further inquiries may be done at the programme official e-mail address: ro.energy@innovationnorway.no

Indicative Timeline for launching the calls
Energy Programme in Romania
EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms 2014-2021

www.innovationnorway.no/RoEnergy

– Last update: 15 November 2018 –

Outcome	Modality	Indicative timing	Total available amount (€)	Maximum/Minimum grant applied for (€)	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
<i>Outcome 1 - Increased Renewable Energy production</i>	Call 1: 'Increased capacity to deliver renewable energy' – Hydropower (Output 1.1) EEA Grants	Launched - October 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€7,500,000	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 1 - Increased Renewable Energy production</i>	Call 2: 'Increased capacity to deliver renewable energy' –	Launched - October 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further	€6,600,000	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal

Outcome	Modality	Indicative timing	Total available amount (€)	Maximum/Minimum grant applied for (€)	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
	Geothermal (Output 1.2) EEA Grants	to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.			governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 1 - Increased Renewable Energy production</i>	Call 3: 'Increased capacity to deliver renewable energy' – Other RES (Output 1.3) Norway Grants	Launched - October 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€11,000,000	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 1 - Increased Renewable Energy production</i>	SGS Call 1: Hydropower, geothermal and other renewables for SMEs and NGOs (Output 1.3) Norway Grants	Launched - October 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€2,000,000	€50,000 / €200,000	SMEs and NGOs (including social enterprises with economic activities) SMEs shall be understood as defined within the EC Recommendation (2003/361/EC).	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 2 - Reduced CO2 emissions in all sectors (Energy Efficiency)</i>	SGS Call 2: Initial energy audits/energy balance (Output 2.1) Norway Grants	Tentatively planned - December 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€300,000	€5,000 / €10,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in Norway or in Romania.
<i>Outcome 2 - Reduced CO2 emissions in all</i>	Call 4(a) (EEA Grants) and 4(b) (Norway Grants)	Tentatively planned - May 2019	€9,985,175	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial	Call 4 (a): Any public or private entity,

Outcome	Modality	Indicative timing	Total available amount (€)	Maximum/Minimum grant applied for (€)	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
sectors (Energy Efficiency)	Grants: 'Increased energy efficiency in place' (Output 2.1) Norway Grants	In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	4(a): €3,279,806 (EEA Grants) 4(b): €6,705,369 (Norway Grants)		or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein or in Romania.</u> Call 4 (b): Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 2</i> - Reduced CO2 emissions in all sectors (Energy Efficiency)	SGS Call 3: 'Increased energy efficiency' (Output 2.1) EEA Grants	<i>Tentatively planned - May 2019</i> In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€3,000,000	€50,000 / €200,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein or in Romania.</u>
<i>Outcome 3</i> - Increased knowledge on renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security in all sectors of society	SGS Call 4: Increased knowledge on renewable energy, energy efficiency – Awareness raising general public and Training/ Competence (Output 3.1)	<i>Tentatively planned - 2020</i> In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€3,000,000	€50,000 / €200,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in Norway or in Romania.

Outcome	Modality	Indicative timing	Total available amount (€)	Maximum/Minimum grant applied for (€)	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
	Norway Grants					
Outcome 4 - Enhanced research and development capacity on renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security	Call 5(a) (EEA Grants) and 5(b) (Norway Grants): Enhanced research and development capacity (Output 4.1)	Tentatively planned - April 2019 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€3,000,000 5(a): €1,500,000 (EEA Grants) 5(b): €1,500,000 (Norway Grants)	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in <u>Norway</u> , <u>Iceland</u> , <u>Lichtenstein</u> or in <u>Romania</u>	Call 5 (a): Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway</u> , <u>Iceland</u> , <u>Lichtenstein</u> or in <u>Romania</u> . Call 5 (b): Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway</u> or in <u>Romania</u> .
Outcome 4 - Enhanced research and development capacity on renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security	SGS Call 5: Enhanced research and development capacity (Output 4.1) Norway Grants	Tentatively planned - April 2019 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.	€1,100,000	€50,000 / €200,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway</u> or in <u>Romania</u> .
Outcome 5 - Increased access to electricity for households in areas where connection to	Call 6(a) (EEA Grants) and 6(b) (Norway Grants): Electrification of households	Tentatively planned - December 2018 In case funds remain uncommitted further to the selection of	€10,000,000 6(a): €5,000,000 (EEA Grants) 6(b): €5,000,000 (Norway Grants)	€200,000 / €2,000,000	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental	Call 6 (a): Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal

Outcome	Modality	Indicative timing	Total available amount (€)	Maximum/Minimum grant applied for (€)	Eligible applicants (Project Promoters)	Eligible partners
the electricity network is not feasible	(Output 5.1)	projects, the Fund Operator may launch additional calls.			organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or in Romania.</u> Call 6 (b): Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway or in Romania.</u>
<i>Bilateral Outcome - Enhanced collaboration between Beneficiary and Donor States entities involved in the programme</i>	Call for Travel Support	Launched - November 2017 Until depletion of the budget.	€100,000	Lump sum of: - EUR 1,500 (Iceland-Romania/Romania-Iceland), or - EUR 1,000 (Liechtenstein-Romania/Romania-Liechtenstein), or - EUR 1,200 (Norway-Romania/Norway-Romania) per entity	Any entity, public or private, commercial or non-commercial and non-governmental organisations, established as a legal person in Romania	Any public or private entity, commercial or non-commercial, established as a legal person in <u>Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or in Romania.</u>