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To:

**Potential Project Promoters**Opening date for submission: **22/07/2020, 14:00:00**Deadline for submission: **22/10/2020, 17:00:00**

**CALL FOR PROJECT PROPOSALS**  
**PROGRAMME OF EEA FM 2014-2021**  
**(EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA FINANCIAL MECHANISM)**  
**“GR-ENERGY”**

**Programme Area:****Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security****FINANCED BY:**

- **EEA-EFTA STATES: ICELAND, LICHTENSTEIN, NORWAY UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM FOR THE PERIOD 2014 -2021 (75%)**
- **THE PUBLIC INVESTMENT PROGRAMME OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC (25%)**

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**Programme Operator CRES, legally represented by**

**Dr.Nikolaos Karapanagiotis**

**INVITES**

Entities that fall into the category of **Potential Project Promoters** (as described in Article 4) and are eligible to submit a project proposal, in order to be included and funded under the [Programme GR-Energy of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism for the period 2014-2021](#) (<https://eeagrants.org/news/programme-agreement-signed-for-the-energy-programme-in-greece>).

## **Article 1: Legislative and Regulatory Framework of the EEA FM**

1. Article 90 of “Legislation Code for the Government and Government Bodies” ratified by article one of Presidential Decree (PD) 63/2005 (OGG 98/A/22.4.2005).
2. Provisions of P.D. of the C.R.E.S constitution 375/87, as amended and in force with Article 30 Law 3734/2009.
3. The Joint Ministerial Decision 2325/1989 (OGG A’ 314/ 27.04.1989) “Regulation on the Operation of CRES”.
4. Ministerial Decision no. 79213/9269 (OGG Issue of Employees of special positions and Administrative bodies of Public bodies and the wider Public sector 725/ 12-09-2019).
5. Ministerial Decision no.63052/6028 (OGG Issue of Employees of special positions and Administrative bodies of Public bodies and the wider Public sector 490/2.7.2020) of the Minister of Environment and Energy Mr. K. Hatzidakis, on "Establishment of the Board of Directors of the Center for Renewable Sources and Energy Saving (C.R.E.S) ».
6. The Decision of the General Director of the C.R.E.S p.n. 859/29-5-2020, on “Assignment of responsibilities to Dr. Nikolaos Karapanagiotis” (OPN: 9ΛΘM469HKM-ΜΑΝ).
7. The law 4314/2014 on the “management, control and implementation of development interventions for the programming period 2014-2020” (OGG 265/A/23.12.2014), as amended and in force, particularly articles 11 και 12 appointing the Financial Audit Committee (EDEL) as the Audit Authority for the co-financed programmes of the EEA FM 2014-2021.
8. The law 4412/2016 (OGG 147/A/08.08.2106) “Procurement of Works, Supplies and Services (adapted to the Guidelines 2014/24/EE και 2014/25/EE)”, as it applies.

9. The amendment 28876/SSSPE 498/2018(OGG B/938/16.03.2018) of the 23451/SSSPE493/24.02.2017 Ministerial Decision on “Procedures for the preparation, approval and implementation of technical assistance programmes, procedures for establishing and maintaining supplier lists for the assignment and implementation of technical assistance actions” (OJ B’ 677), as amended and in force.
10. The replacement 137675/SSIS 1016, (OGG 5968/B/31.12.18) of the Ministerial Decision 10427/SSIS/1020/20.10.2016 (OGG B’3521) “Amendment and replacement of the Ministerial Decision 81986/SSIS712/31.07.2015 (OGG B’1822) on National expenditure eligibility rules for NSRF 2014-2020 programmes - Legal audits of public procurements of NSRF 2014-2020 co-financed projects by Managing Authorities and Intermediate Bodies - Appeal procedure on project evaluation results”,
11. The Agreement of 14 October 2003 on the participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area, in force since 1 May 2004.
12. Protocol 38c of the EEA Agreement which creates the EEA Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 through which donor countries shall contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area (hereinafter “Protocol 38c”).
13. Decision 5/2010/SC of 03-05-2016 of the Standing Committee of the EFTA States, establishing an EEA Financial Mechanism Committee, for the management of the EEA Financial Mechanism (EEA FM) 2014-2021.
14. The Memorandum of Understanding of 31.10.2017 for the implementation of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 between the Republic of Ireland, the Principality of Lichtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Hellenic Republic (hereinafter “Memorandum of Understanding”).

15. The Regulation of 23.09.2016 on the implementation of the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism 2014-2021, as adopted by the Financial Mechanism Committee pursuant to article 10.5 of protocol 38c of the EEA Agreement (hereinafter “Regulation”)<sup>1</sup>.
16. The guidelines that have been set out and adopted by the EEA Financial Mechanism Committee 2014-2021 as in force (hereinafter “Guidelines of the EEA FM Committee”).
17. The law 4270/2014 (OGG 143/A/28.06/2014) on the “Principles of financial management and supervision (integration of guideline 2011/85/EE) - public accounting and other provisions”, particularly Article 123.
18. The announcement of the Commission on the concept of State aid as referred to in Article 107 (1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (2016 / C 262/01).
19. Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 of the Commission declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market pursuant to Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (“General Block Exemption Regulation”), as amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1084 of the Commission.
20. Regulation (EU) 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 of the Commission on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid.
21. The document of the Special State Aid Service of the National Coordination Authority with prot.nr. 92415/SSSA6282/28.08.2017 entitled: “Guidelines and Encouragement of Bodies Involved in Granting State Aid for Compliance with Procedures”.
22. The Programme Agreement of 26.06.2019 between the EEA FM Committee 2014-2021 and the Ministry of Economy & Development (hereinafter “Programme Agreement”).
23. The Joint Ministerial Decision on the Management and Control System for the implementation of the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism (FM) 2014-2021 (OGG B 526/13249/19-02-2020) (hereinafter “Management and Control System”).

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<sup>1</sup> Please find more information regarding the EEA FM Regulation (11) on the following hyperlink: <https://eeagrants.org/Results-data/Documents/Legal-documents/Regulations-with-annexes/EEA-Grants-2014-2021>

24. Ministerial Decision (OGG 974 – Decision 22869/21-3-2020) to co-finance the program, “Renewable Energy Sources, Energy Efficiency (GR-Energy)” with Program Operator the “Centre of Renewable energy Sources and Saving (CRES)”, with its resources of the "EEA 2014-2021" and Public Investments Program.
25. The decision of the Board of the C.R.E.S. received in the meeting No. 411 / 27.5.2020 on “Adoption of the" Management and Control System at the Level of the GR-Energy Program "by the Board of CRES and its Signing by the Legal Representative at the suggestion of the ERC in accordance with the institutional framework of the EEA FM 2014-2021”.
26. The decision of the Board of the C.R.E.S. received in the meeting No. 413 / 17.7.2020 on “Approval of the Open Invitation Documents of the GR-Energy Program of the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area (EEA XM) 2014-2021. Authorization of legal representative for the signing of the Call for Project Proposals (Greek and English version)”.

## **Article 2: General Objectives of the Programme**

**The European Economic Area Financial Mechanism (EEA FM) 2014-2021**, Programme Area “Renewable Energy Sources, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security”, of total budget amounting to €10,000,000, is co-financed by EEA-EFTA countries (Donor States: Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway) by 75% (€ 7,500,000) and the Hellenic Republic's Public Investment Programme by 25% (€ 2,500,000).

The Project proposals of the Programme should contribute to the overall objectives of the EEA FM 2014-2021, which are the following:

- to reduce economic and social disparities within the EEA,
- to strengthen bilateral relations between the donor and the beneficiary countries.

The Programme contributes to the implementation of **demonstrative Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and Energy Efficiency (EE) projects** in Greece, as a pillar of green development, in the context of the country's European and national obligations. It also seeks to alleviate social and economic inequalities and to strengthen the bilateral cooperation of Member States in the field of RES and EE.

The objective of the “GR-Energy” Programme is “less carbon-intensive energy and increased security of supply” for Greece and will be achieved through the short and medium-term impact of the programme results on stakeholders and target groups. The main outcome of the programme is “improved energy efficiency”. In particular, the “GR-Energy” projects will contribute to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the reduction of energy consumption, the increase of renewable energy production, increase jobs and improve the dynamics of local communities. The proposals to be submitted should support innovative solutions for increasing RES production and EE interventions in public social infrastructure.

The programme’s ultimate goal is to promote and substantially contribute to the implementation of a balanced development framework that creates high added value and prospects for the local economy, while familiarising residents with sustainable development practices and improving their quality of life.

### **Article 3: Scope of the Call and Indicators of the Programme**

The present Call aims to support projects that propose innovative solutions to increase renewable energy production and energy efficiency in public social infrastructure.

The target groups of the programme will be the users and visitors of buildings/infrastructures. The “GR-Energy” projects will serve as demonstrative projects aiming to increase energy-efficient buildings and infrastructure in Greece. Buildings and infrastructure of the public and wider public sector should cover educational, health, social needs etc. In addition, regarding “innovation”, it should be noted that eligible applicants should use and apply modern equipment in their buildings and infrastructures.

*(Innovation: Implementation of a new or significantly improved product (goods or services), or a process, a new marketing method, or a new organizational method in business practices, work place organization or an external relation. Innovation can be on enterprise level, sector level, national level or international level.)*

The programme will support all three pillars of sustainability, namely the economic, social and environmental pillar, thereby increasing the overall well-being of the local communities in which buildings/infrastructures of the projects are integrated. In principle, it is estimated that all selected projects will boost the local economy by providing employment in local markets.



The present call can fund project proposals that entail the integration of RES technologies and Energy Efficiency (EE) improvement in buildings and infrastructure of the public and wider public sector. Indicative activities are the following:

- EE interventions, such as interventions to be applied at the building envelope, *insulation installation, installation of new certified, energy-efficient replacement windows and panels, replacement of the burner/boiler/piping system with a system that allows the use of RES, replacement of the old air-conditioning system, installation of solar thermal systems or other solutions and technologies applicable to the outcomes and outputs of the programme and which will lead to the building attaining an energy efficiency standard equivalent nearly zero-energy Building (nZEB)-status.*
- Renewable Energy Actions, such as: *installation of high efficiency electricity and thermal energy co-generation systems, construction of a CHP and /or RES-produced thermal energy exploitation system for cooling generation, or other solutions and technologies applicable to the outcomes and outputs of the programme and which will lead to the building attaining an energy efficiency standard equivalent nearly zero-energy Building (nZEB)-status.*

**Interventions in a building or buildings should mandatorily upgrade their energy efficiency to Class B+, A', A+', or in nearly zero energy buildings,, according to KENAK (Regulation on the Energy Performance of Buildings). Their current classification should be evidenced by the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) submitted along with the proposal. The immediate target groups of the new programme are the following:**

- *Building and Infrastructure Users:* Includes all employees working in the buildings and users of the buildings supported. Emphasis will be given to young users (children, pupils, young people aged 18-30), as the Programme will give the “active community” the opportunity to become familiar with modern RES-EE technologies and create environmental awareness. The Programme will also demonstrate to new users the ways in which modern technologies can substantially improve living standards and help protect the environment.
- *Building and Infrastructure Visitors / Trainees:*
  - Visitors of the buildings / infrastructure are a target group that will also experience the benefits of RES / EE applications.
  - *People trained in energy efficiency and renewable energy:* Project Promoters will conduct training in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

- People reached by awareness campaigns: Project Promoters will launch awareness campaigns in the context of their communication actions that are expected to reach a number of people.

It is noted that all selected projects will have to present a detailed communication plan (Part 6 of Annex 10) in which the proposed activities will be analyzed and prove how they will contribute to the project results. The building / infrastructure visitors are a target group that will experience the benefits from EE and RES applications in real time.

Proposals concerning interventions that contribute to the general objectives and indicators of the “GR –Energy” Programme presented below, may be submitted (by eligible bodies, in accordance with Article 4 of the present call). All projects are expected to contribute to all outcomes and outputs, to a differing degree. The project application must contain documentation that it will contribute to meeting the target values in table below:

**Table 1:** Output Indicators for the “GR-Energy” programme.

Categories	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Target value
<b>1.1 Renewable energy capacity installed</b>	Installed capacity for production of renewable energy (in MW)	MW	0,95
<b>1.2 Public entities supported to deploy innovative green technologies, processes, solutions, products and services</b>	Number of implemented projects with innovative EE/RE technologies/processes/solutions applied	Number	7
	Number of public entities supported to apply EE/RE technologies/processes/solutions	Number	7
<b>1.3 Systems for monitoring of energy consumption implemented</b>	Number of implemented projects with systems for monitoring of energy consumption	Number	7



Categories	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Target value
<b>1.4. Strengthened expert capacity for energy efficiency and renewable energy</b>	Number of people trained in energy efficiency and renewable energy (disaggregated by Gender)	Number	200
<b>1.5. Awareness campaigns on energy efficient technologies/solutions and renewable energy conducted</b>	Guidance document developed for Energy Efficiency Buildings and Infrastructures	Binary	YES
	Number of awareness raising campaigns carried out	Number	7
	Number of conferences / workshops held related to results from projects	Number	21
	Number of people reached by awareness campaigns	Number	33,000
<b>2.1. Exchange of knowledge between Greece and Donor States</b>	Number of projects involving cooperation with a donor project partner (disaggregated by Donor State)	Number	7

**Table 2:** Outcome Indicators for the “GR-Energy” programme.

Categories	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Target value
<b><u>Outcome 1. Improved energy efficiency</u></b>	Estimated annual CO <sub>2</sub> -emissions reductions (in tonnes)	Annual number	2,250
	Estimated energy savings (in MWh/year)	Annual number	1,900
	Estimated increase in renewable energy production (in MWh/year)	Annual number	1,250
	Estimated monetary savings in EUR/year	Annual number	250,000



Categories	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Target value
	Number of jobs created (disaggregated by gender, age)	Number	10
	Number of people who declare that they benefited from improved public social infrastructure	Number	33,200

The criteria to be applied for evaluating and scoring projects and their contribution to the outcome and output targets are provided in Annex 11.

## **Article 4: Eligible applicants and partners**

- 4.1.** Eligible applicants are entities that act towards public interest (e.g. research and educational institutions, regional and local authorities, municipal companies, etc.) within the Greek geographical borders.
- 4.2.** Eligible partners may be domestic partners (Partners from Greece: public entities that act towards the public interest) or partners from the Donor States in accordance with Article 7.2.2 of the Regulation ( any public or private entities, commercial or non-commercial, as well as non-governmental organisations established as a legal person in the Donor States), provided that each partner is actively involved in and effectively contributing to the implementation of a project.
- 4.3.** In case of partnership, the Project Promoter signs the Application and submits it along with Partnership Agreement signed by the contracting parties (template of Annex A.4), as well as the required enclosed documents mentioned in Annex 1 of the present call for both/all contracting parties.
- 4.4.** EU and national regulations on public procurement, competition and state aid shall be complied with at all levels of the programme. For this purpose, the project grant rate shall be defined based on the assessment of compliance with state aid rules.

## **Article 5: Budget Available for the “GR-Energy” Projects**

The total available budget for projects is € 9,000,000.

The maximum grant applied for per project is **€1,300,000** and the minimum grant applied for per project is **€500,000**.

**Grants to all projects from the programme may be up to 100% of total eligible expenditure of the project.**

The eligible expenditure categories and expenditure limits per category are presented in the following table.

**Table 3:** Budget breakdown per expenditure category.

Nr.	Expenditure category	Maximum eligible percentage (%)
1	Interventions (procurement, contracting)	<b>91.5 – 95.5</b>
2	Metering and monitoring equipment	<b>1.5</b>
3	Communication actions	<b>3.0</b>
4	Consulting services	<b>5.0 – 10.0</b>

According to the article 8.7 par. 2 of the Regulation, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- interest on debt, debt service charges and late payment charges;
- charges for financial transactions and other purely financial costs, except costs related to accounts required by the FMC, the National Focal Point or the applicable law and costs of financial services imposed by the project contract;
- provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- exchange losses;
- recoverable VAT;
- costs that are covered by other sources;
- fines, penalties and costs of litigation, except where litigation is an integral and necessary component for achieving the outcomes of the project; and
- excessive or reckless expenditure.

It should be noted that the inclusion of an expenditure item in a project budget template approved by the Programme Operator, cannot be considered as confirmation of eligibility of that expenditure item.

## **Article 6: Expenditure eligibility period**

The initial and final date of eligibility of each project / action is set out in the respective project contract (Decision of Project Inclusion). The final date of eligibility shall be the **30/04/2024**. Expenditure incurred after 30 April 2024 will not be eligible.

## **Article 7: Preparation and submission of proposals**

Proposals shall be submitted through EEA – MIS at <http://logon.ops.gr/> from 22/07/2020 14:00:00 (start date of submission) until 22/10/2020 17:00:00 (Deadline for submission).

Applicants shall submit their Proposals exclusively electronically through the EEA - MIS. For this purpose, they must have an individual user account (ID and password) to access the EEA - MIS:

- On the one hand, for filling in forms as the Project Promoter
- On the other hand, the legal representative of the (main) Applicant Project Promoter (in case of multiple project beneficiaries implementing the project proposal), should have a user account for submitting proposals and authorising a system user for this purpose.

Instructions for creating a user account on the EEA MIS can be found at <http://logon.ops.gr/>.

If the Beneficiary does not already have a “body code” on the MIS, should apply for a body code according to the instructions that can be found at <http://logon.ops.gr/> before submitting the Proposal.

Please note that the proposal is submitted to the EEA MIS by the legal representative of the Beneficiary or the Principal Beneficiary [in the case of multiple project partners implementing the project proposal] (individual legal representative user account). The Beneficiary will be informed via email by the Programme Operator, after the successful submission of the proposal on the EEA MIS.

Proposals submitted beyond the aforementioned deadlines **will not be accepted. No more than one project proposal can be submitted under the same call by a Project Promoter or Partner.**

A proposal may be resubmitted prior to the submission deadline after the original proposal has been cancelled. The proposal is evaluated on the basis of the last successful / valid submission.

The disclosure of any consultant involved in the preparation of the project proposal is required.

The proposal consists of the digital form of the following files which should be submitted on the EEA MIS:

- The Technical Annex of the Project along with all necessary attachments is submitted electronically through the EEA-MIS.

- All standard forms/templates of the Proposed Project to be completed accordingly, as well as any accompanying documents. These documents - where appropriate - must be sealed and signed (electronically or not) by the Legal Representative of the Project Promoter.

In case of documents for which it is not technically possible to attach electronically (such as maps, plans, etc.), the applicant is obliged to send them as hardcopies to CRES **within 10 business days** of the proposal submission on the EEA-MIS at the following address:

Center for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving - Division of Development Programmes

Programme Operator of "GR-Energy"

19<sup>th</sup> km Marathonos Avenue,

19009 Pikermi

Attica, Greece

For more information on the submission of proposals and further clarifications, please contact the Information Officer of the Programme Operator, the Coordinator (Dr. Konstantinos Patlitzianas, tel. No. +302106603300). CRES will respond to all questions no later than 15 days before the submission deadline.

Applicants who want to submit a complaint can visit the following link on the website of the National Focal Point: <http://eeagrants.gr/el/>

Acting General Director

Dr. Nikolaos Karapanagiotis

## **ANNEXES**

**A.1: Guide for Submitting Project Proposals**

**A.2: Instructions for Electronic Submission of the Technical Annex of the Project**

**A.3: Technical Annex of the Project Template**

**A.4: Partnership Agreement/ Programme Agreement for the Implementation of the Proposed Project Template**

**A.5: Documenting the Project Promoter's Capability Template**

**A.6: Declaration of Non-Generation of Revenue Template**

**A.7: Declaration of Non-Double Financing Template**

**A.8. Legal Entity Template**

**A.9: State Aid Declaration Material**

**A.10. Technical Data Sheet of the Proposed Project**

**A.11: Project Evaluation Sheet of the Proposed Project**

### **Notification:**

- Ministry of Development and Investments
- Ministry of Environment and Energy