



Frequently Asked Questions

(FAQs)



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1. About the European Energy Communities Facility

1.1. What is the European Energy Communities Facility?

The European Energy Communities Facility (ENERCOM Facility) is an EU-funded project that aims to empower and support the development of energy communities across Europe. It will support at least 140 energy communities in developing viable business plans through providing lump-sum grants and a tailored capacity building programme. The project covers the 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Moldova, North Macedonia and Ukraine.

Managed by an international consortium of [experienced organisations](#), the European Energy Communities Facility is supported by a network of [29 national experts](#). These experts actively promote the initiative and guide energy communities through the various stages of the project in their respective countries.

The European Energy Communities Facility contributes to the ambitious EU climate goals by fostering local and collective action towards a fair, inclusive and sustainable energy transition.

This initiative, co-funded by the European Union under the [Life Programme](#), was launched in September 2024 and will last until February 2028.

1.2. Why was the European Energy Communities Facility created?

The context for energy communities (ECs) has significantly changed since the beginning of this decade. Recognising the role of citizens and other local actors in the energy transition, the EU created definitions for energy communities in various legal frameworks, which required national governments to set up supporting frameworks to promote the creation and growth of such initiatives.

Despite this opportunity, energy communities across the EU continue to face significant challenges. These include for instance complex administrative procedures and a lack of

understanding or compliance from key system players such as public administrations, financing institutions, distribution system operators, and utilities. These obstacles often lead to delays in the implementation of community-led energy projects.

One of the biggest hurdles for energy communities across the EU is securing financing. Many rely on volunteer efforts until they generate revenue from their first project, making it difficult for them to access funding or develop robust business plans due to a lack of expertise and financial resources. Developing a viable business model is a crucial step in defining a community's vision and attracting financial support. The European Energy Communities Facility was created to help close this gap.

1.3. What are the objectives of the European Energy Communities Facility?

The overall objective of the European Energy Communities Facility is to reduce the financial risk associated with the pre-development phase of energy community projects by distributing lump-sum grants to at least 140 energy communities. These grants will enable beneficiaries to develop sound business plans that strengthen their financial and operational sustainability.

In addition, the Facility will create a capacity building programme to accompany beneficiaries in their journey to setting up a viable business plan. Part of the Facility's capacity building activities include mapping, assessing and showcasing successful and replicable community energy initiatives and best practices across the EU, and mapping national legal frameworks, financial opportunities, and one-stop shops in target countries.

1.4. What types of support does the European Energy Communities Facility provide?

The ENERCOM Facility will support at least 140 communities. It will do so by two means:

- **Financial support:** Each beneficiary will receive a lump-sum grant of 45,000€ to develop a business plan and receive professional support.
- **Capacity building programme:** Beneficiaries will participate in a capacity building programme designed to help them mature and improve their readiness for market uptake. The programme is a mandatory element as part of the

Facility's support. It includes a complete set of training modules as well as a business management guide to support the development and implementation of business plans. Additionally, beneficiaries will be able to participate in national peer-to-peer exchanges to facilitate knowledge-sharing, overcoming common challenges, and fostering collaboration and synergies.

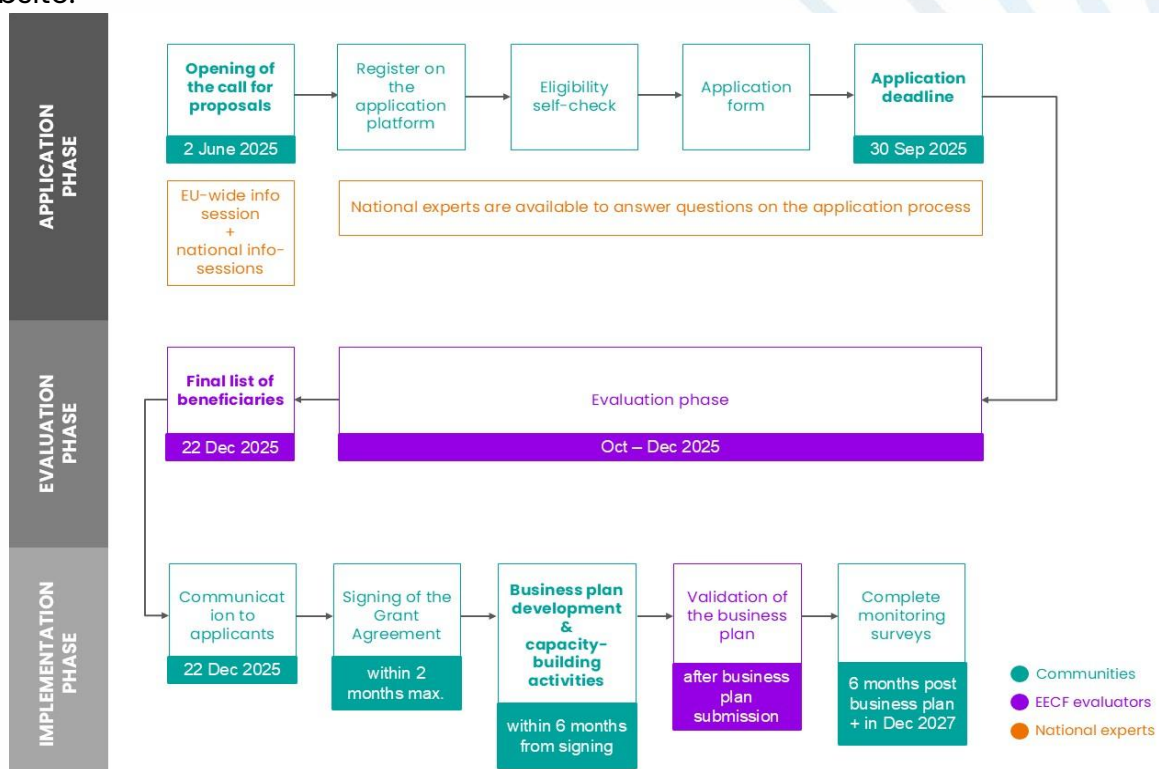
1.5. What activities can be funded with the European Energy Communities Facility grant?

The financial support provided by the European Energy Communities Facility is specifically intended to fund activities required for the development of a business plan for projects planned by energy communities. This includes assessing the technical and financial aspects of the project as well as supporting essential pre-development work such as feasibility studies, obtaining permits, legal agreements, and other preparatory activities necessary to structure a solid and bankable business plan.

2. Calls for proposals

2.1. What does the ENERCOM Facility journey look like?

The below visual outlines the journey of energy communities under the ENERCOM Facility. You can find further information about the [application process](#) on the Facility website.



2.2. How many calls will the ENERCOM Facility organise?

The ENERCOM Facility will organise **two calls for proposals**, one in 2025 and one in 2026.

2.3. When is the application period for each of the calls?

	Call opens	Submission deadline
1 st call	2 June 2025	30 September 2025
2 nd call	First semester 2026 (the exact date will be communicated soon)	To be announced, depending on call opening date

2.4. Can applicants apply several times and/or resubmit rejected applications?

Each energy community can only submit one single application per call for proposals. Eligible applicants whose proposals were not selected for a grant under the ENERCOM Facility's first call for proposals may resubmit their proposal or submit a different one in the second call.

Applicants who have already been awarded a grant in the first call are not eligible to submit new proposals in the second call.

2.5. Whom can I contact in case I have questions about the application process?

You can find all the relevant information on the application process in the [ENERCOM Facility's website](#). The guidelines include a detailed description of the process, required documents, eligibility criteria, as well as an annotated application form. We invite you to carefully review both documents to make sure you have a clear understanding of the process and requirements.

Should you have any questions beyond these documents, you can [contact your national expert via the ENERCOM Facility's Helpdesk](#).

3. Eligibility criteria

3.1. Who is eligible to receive support from the ENERCOM Facility?

Any energy community that complies with all of the following criteria can apply for support from the ENERCOM Facility. To help you understand whether you are eligible to apply for ENERCOM Facility support, we have developed an eligibility self-check that applicants will be asked to complete before being able to access the application form. This check takes the form of a few, simple questions. [You can find more information about the eligibility self-check on the Facility's website.](#)

Eligibility criteria

1. Your community is established as a legal entity.
2. The legal entity is based and operates in one of the EU's 27 Member States, as well as communities from Iceland, Ukraine, Moldova and North Macedonia.
3. Your community complies with the European definitions of Citizen Energy Community or Renewable Energy Community. You will find detailed questions in our eligibility self-check to help you assess whether or not you are aligned with the EU definitions.
4. Your community commits to completing the monitoring and impact assessment questionnaires and to follow the mandatory capacity building programme during your collaboration with the ENERCOM Facility.

Note: Your community does not need to have been established as an energy community (the ENERCOM Facility accepts applicants that were set up with a different purpose and want to expand their activities to include energy). Applicants must however comply with the EU definitions for energy communities.

3.2. Can my energy community apply if we already have a business plan for an existing activity but would like to develop a business plan for a new/additional activity?

Yes. The ENERCOM Facility supports the development of business plans both for energy communities that are setting up their first activity, as well as for communities that already have an activity and would like to develop a business plan for a new activity.

3.3. Can my energy community apply if we already have a business plan, but we feel it is insufficient and would like to improve it?

Yes. If you have in the past developed a business plan, but your feeling or experience is that this plan lacks specific elements to move to the financing and implementation stages and you would like to review and improve it, you can apply to the Facility.

3.4. How will the ENERCOM Facility confirm the eligibility of candidates?

Your eligibility will be checked in two stages:

- **Application phase:** Communities are asked to complete a self-assessment questionnaire to establish whether they comply with the eligibility criteria (see question 3.1 in this document for further information on the eligibility criteria). If the responses provided by the community meet the eligibility criteria, the community will be able to move to the application form.
- **Evaluation phase:** During the application process, applicants will be required to submit supporting documents or explanations to allow the Facility's independent evaluators to verify the information provided in the eligibility self-check. Should the evaluators find that, based on the information provided in the application form, a community does not meet the eligibility criteria, the application may be rejected at the evaluation stage.

3.5. Where can I find the eligibility self-check and how does it work?

The questions that will be asked in the eligibility self-check are available in the Facility's [guidelines for applicants](#) and on the [eligibility self-check page](#).

During the application phase, the results of the [eligibility self-check](#) will be automatically and immediately displayed on the ENERCOM Facility's application platform based on the responses provided by the applicant in the self-assessment tool. **If you pass the eligibility self-check**, you will be able to proceed to the application form. **If you do not pass the eligibility self-check**, the platform will inform you immediately, and you will not be able to proceed to the application form. This way, we aim to save communities time in case they are not (yet) eligible.

As explained in question 3.3 of this document: Should an applicant pass the eligibility self-check, but the ENERCOM Facility's team of independent evaluators realises during the evaluation phase that the self-assessment was not entirely correct, the application will be rejected.

3.6. Do we need to upload any supporting documents during the eligibility self-check?

No supporting documents are required at this stage; the eligibility self-check contains a series of questions with the answer options "yes" and "no". However, during the application phase, applicants will be required to submit supporting documents, so that the ENERCOM Facility's evaluators can verify the eligibility of each applicant during the evaluation phase.

3.7. How does the ENERCOM Facility define a legal entity?

For the purpose of the ENERCOM Facility, a legal entity means that the energy community is formally registered under national law and recognized as an organization with legal rights and obligations. This legal status ensures that the energy community can operate in compliance with regulatory frameworks, engage in energy-related activities, and access relevant markets and funding opportunities.

It is crucial to note that the legal entity applying for the Facility grant must be the actual energy community. You cannot apply on behalf of an energy community and later become a member of said community, nor is it possible for a legal entity to apply on behalf of an energy community they are in the process of setting up.

Example from a national context:

Ireland created the concept of Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs) several years ago, and set up a national support scheme for SECs. These communities are organised groups with a certain structure (including for instance a bank account), however not all of them are set up as legal entities. For the purpose of the ENERCOM Facility, only those groups that have set up a legal entity are eligible for the calls for proposals.

3.8. Can municipalities apply to the ENERCOM Facility?

Only energy communities (or legal entities that comply with the EU energy community definitions) are eligible for the ENERCOM Facility's grants and capacity building programme. If a municipality is a member of an existing energy community, this

community is welcome to apply. The Facility does however not accept applications submitted or led by a municipality.

3.9. What does it mean to be compliant with the EU definition of an energy community?

Part of the ENERCOM Facility's eligibility criteria is for the legal entity that applies for the grant to comply with the EU definitions for energy communities. This can mean either the definition of Renewable Energy Community or the definition of Citizen Energy Community.

To help communities assess whether their legal entity complies with either of the EU energy community definition, the Facility lists the requirements for each sub-criterion clearly in the eligibility self-check (see [guidelines for applicants](#) for further information).

The following table outlines the questions and information relating to the EU energy community definitions in the eligibility self-check:

<p>3. The legal entity complies with one of the EU energy community definitions</p> <p>Note: Any legal entity that complies with the EU energy community definitions can apply, even if it was not originally set up to be an energy community.</p>	<p>Activities</p> <p>Are the activities you are currently undertaking or planning to undertake aligned with the types of activities that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an Energy Community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <p>RECs: Operate in renewable energy across electricity and heating, enabling production, consumption, storage, and sales.</p> <p>CECs: Operate within the electricity sector, covering renewable energy, with activities including generation, distribution, supply, aggregation, storage, energy efficiency, and EV charging.</p>
	<p>Membership structure</p> <p>Are your membership criteria aligned with the membership rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an Energy Community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions consider as eligible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For RECs: natural persons, micro, small, and medium enterprises (SMEs), and local authorities in proximity to the community, provided energy is not their primary economic activity. • For CECs: all types of entities, including public companies and large enterprises, as long as energy is not their main economic activity.
	<p>Open and voluntary participation</p>

	<p>Is your participation structure aligned with the participation rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REC: Participation is open based on open and voluntary participation. • CEC: Follow voluntary and open participation principles but restrict decision-making power to members not engaged in large-scale commercial energy activities.
	<p>Governance and effective control</p> <p>Is your governance structure aligned with the governance rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an Energy Community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REC: Controlled by participants located near renewable energy projects owned by the community, ensuring the energy sector is not their primary economic activity. • CEC: Controlled by natural persons, local authorities, or small enterprises.
	<p>Primary purpose</p> <p>Is your primary purpose aligned with the purpose rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an Energy Community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions state that the main purpose of energy communities should be to provide environmental, economic, or social community benefits to its shareholders, members, and/or the local areas where the community operates rather than financial profits.</p>

4. Application form and required documents

4.1. Where can I find the application form?

In order to access the ENERCOM Facility's application form, your community will need to pass the eligibility self-check (see section 3 in this document for further information). You can find an annotated application form in the Facility's [guidelines for applicants](#).

To start the application process, [click here](#).

4.2. Which documents must be submitted with the proposal?

Applicants are requested to upload the following supporting documents to their proposals:

1. A **legal document** proving that the energy community is an established legal entity.
2. A duly **signed letter of commitment**, following the provided template (see the Facility's [guidelines for applicants](#) to view the template), confirming participation and agreement to complete all monitoring and impact questionnaires, as well as participate in the Facility's mandatory capacity building programme. The letter must be signed by the community's legal representative.

In addition, applicants will have the possibility to upload an **organisational chart**. While we strongly encourage communities to include such a chart in their application to help evaluators get a clear picture of their internal organization, this document is optional.

4.3. In which language must the documents be uploaded?

The legal document proving that the energy community established as a legal entity can be submitted in the applicant's national language. The letter of commitment must be completed using the template provided by the [ENERCOM Facility in the guidelines for applicants](#), which will be in English.

4.4. What happens if an application is submitted without the supporting documents?

Proposals submitted without the required supporting documents will be rejected as without these documents, evaluators will not be able to verify two of the eligibility criteria.

4.5. Can the supporting documents be submitted after the closing of the call for applications?

No. All required and optional documents need to be submitted with the application. **Please note that applications that do not include the required documents will be disqualified from further evaluation.** Applications that do not include the optional document (organisational chart) but that do provide the required documents will move to the evaluation stage – however, please note that all documents must be submitted

together with the application. **The Facility will not consider any documents submitted after the application has been received.**

4.6. What information is requested in the application?

The [guidelines for applicants](#) published on the ENERCOM Facility's website contain an annotated application form to help you understand what information the Facility is looking for in your application.

4.7. In which language must the application be completed?

The application must be completed in English.

4.8. What is an emerging energy community according to the ENERCOM Facility?

For the purpose of the Facility, an 'emerging energy community' is defined as a community that has not yet undertaken an energy-related project in the past.

To support the Facility's objective of helping young energy communities overcome traditional challenges linked to the development of a first economically viable activity, emerging energy communities (as defined by the Facility) receive additional points in the evaluation.

To understand whether a community is an emerging energy community, the application form contains a question asking whether the project for which the community is applying for the grant is the energy community's first energy-related project.

4.9. Is there a minimum number of members that the energy community needs to have to be able to apply to the ENERCOM Facility?

No, there is no minimum number of members required for energy communities to apply to the ENERCOM Facility.

4.10. Are there any technological measures that are not eligible under the ENERCOM Facility ?

The ENERCOM Facility supports a wide range of energy-related activities, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, heating and cooling, and electric mobility among others. However, **technologies based on fossil fuels, nuclear energy, or other non-renewable energy sources are not eligible** for support under this Facility. The focus is on sustainable and community-driven energy solutions that contribute to the clean energy transition.

4.11. How is the expected investment defined? How should it be calculated?

The expected investment refers to the estimated total amount of financial resources required to implement the energy-related project being presented. This includes all costs necessary to put the project into operation, such as infrastructure, equipment, permits, and other relevant expenses.

It is important to note that the expected investment is separate from the 45,000€ grant provided by the ENERCOM Facility. The grant is specifically intended to support the development of a business plan, not the direct implementation of the energy project itself. Therefore, applicants should carefully estimate and report the full investment needed to realize their proposed energy initiative.

4.12. How should energy and climate impacts be measured?

Energy and climate impacts should be measured using quantifiable indicators that assess the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy savings, and the shift towards renewable energy sources. Common measurement methods include:

- CO₂ emission reductions: Measuring the decrease in carbon dioxide emissions compared to a baseline scenario.
- Energy savings: Calculating improvements in energy efficiency through reduced consumption (e.g., kWh saved per year).
- Renewable energy generation: Assessing the share of renewable energy in the total energy mix of the project.

The application form provides answer fields for each of these elements. Applicants may fill in any and all of these fields, depending on which apply to their specific proposal.

Make sure to avoid double-counting in your estimated impacts.

4.13. What happens if the expected investment and/or impacts cannot be exactly determined yet?

If the expected investment and/or impacts cannot yet be precisely determined, applicants should provide the best estimate based on available data. The evaluation process acknowledges that projects in the early stages may not have all figures finalized. However, applicants should demonstrate a clear methodology for refining these estimates as they develop their business plan.

5. Evaluation process and selection of beneficiaries

5.1. What is the overall evaluation procedure for applications submitted to the ENERCOM Facility?

The evaluation process consists of four main steps:

1. **Verification of eligibility** – Evaluators will corroborate the information provided during the eligibility self-check and ensure that all required information and supporting documents have been submitted.
2. **Evaluation and scoring** – Proposals will be assessed based on pre-defined evaluation criteria, with each proposal receiving scores from two independent evaluators (see section 3 of this document for more information)
3. **Feasibility check** – National experts will review pre-selected proposals for their expected feasibility in the national context. If any concerns arise, they will be flagged for evaluators, who may reassess and adjust scores where necessary. National experts will not be shown the applicant identification to avoid potential conflicts of interest. Evaluators may decide to revise their scores based on the feasibility check.
4. **Re-evaluation and final selection** – Following a final review of the scores by the Facility's independent evaluators, the final list of selected applicants will be determined and communicated.

5.2. How are applications scored?

Each proposal is reviewed by two independent evaluators who assess its contents based on pre-defined evaluation criteria. Each evaluator assigns a score to the proposal, and the final score is determined as the average of the two individual scores. More information on the evaluation process can be found in the [guidelines for applicants](#).

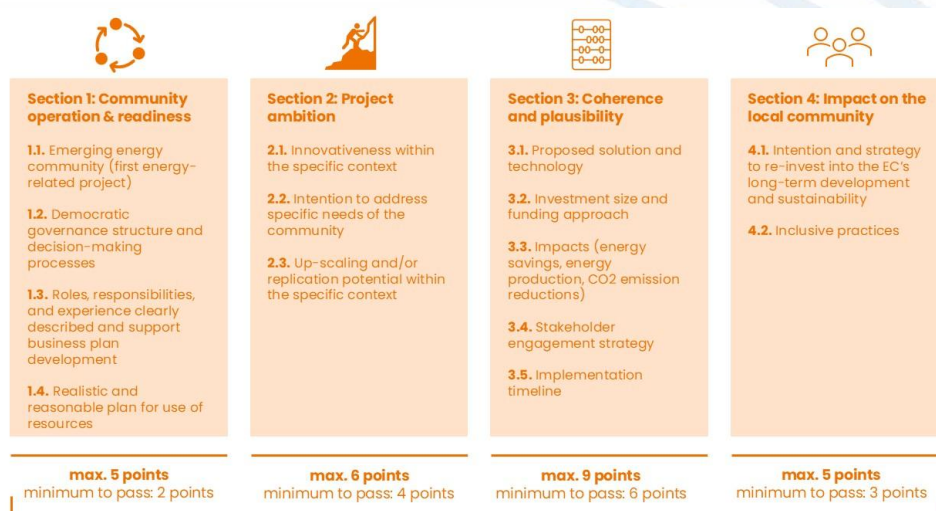
5.3. What is the purpose of the feasibility check?

The feasibility check ensures that selected proposals can be effectively implemented within their local context. National experts only assess whether any local conditions could pose challenges to the implementation of the project. If concerns arise, these are flagged for evaluators, who may review and adjust scores as necessary.

5.4. How are applications selected?

In order to be among the final beneficiaries, applicants need to

- **Pass the eligibility check:** The ENERCOM Facility's independent evaluators will check the applications for the eligibility criteria. If the information provided by the community matches their self-assessment of eligibility, the application moves forward. If the information provided in the application shows that a community is not eligible, the application will be rejected. A community whose application has been rejected during the first call can reapply for the Facility's second call, provided it has remedied the elements that made the community not eligible.
- **Reach the minimum pass threshold (overall and per criterion):** In order for the Facility to consider a community ready for the grant, the application must receive the overall minimum score of 15 points, as well as the minimum score per category (see visual below).



Total possible points: 25 (minimum pass threshold: 15 points)

- **Pass the feasibility check:** After a preliminary scoring by the ENERCOM Facility's independent experts, the Facility's national experts will confirm whether the ambition and proposal outlined by the community is feasible, taking into consideration the national context. National experts will provide their feedback to the ENERCOM Facility's evaluators, who may reconsider their ranking based on the feedback provided by the national expert.
- **Rank among the top 73 proposals (for the first call):** Even if the Facility would like to support as many communities as possible, we operate within a limited budget. For this reason, during the first call, 73 communities will be selected for the grant. If your community ranks among the 73 applications with the highest score in the first call for proposals, your application will be successful.

5.5. How long does it take to receive the final results?

The Facility will communicate the final results of the evaluation by 22 December 2025.

5.6. How are applicants informed about the final results?

Applicants will receive an email notification with their results. The results of the first call for proposals will be communicated by 22 December 2025 at the latest. In case your application has been successful, you will need to provide the Facility with additional information through a so-called Beneficiary Identification Form by 9 January 2026 at the latest. Please make sure that the contact person is available during this period to send back the Beneficiary Identification Form.

5.7. What happens in case an application is unsuccessful?

Unsuccessful applicants will receive a feedback report outlining areas for improvement. If they choose to, they are encouraged to revise and resubmit their proposal in the second call.

5.8. Can the decision of the evaluation team be appealed so they reconsider their decision?

Appeals may be submitted to the [Facility's Helpdesk](#) within 5 working days of receiving notification of the evaluation result. The Facility will not consider appeals after this period.

6. Grant agreement

6.1. What information will be requested to sign the grant agreement?

Once your application has been approved, your main point of contact will receive an invitation to fill in a Beneficiary Identification Form (BIF). The information provided in this form will serve to complete the grant agreement. You will need to provide the following information in the Beneficiary Identification Form:

- Contact details of the legal representative who will be in charge of signing the grant agreement
- Legal address of the energy community
- Name and address of the bank where to issue the payment
- IBAN
- BIC/SWIFT code.

6.2. What will be the process to sign the grant agreement?

Once your application has been approved, your main point of contact will receive an invitation to fill in a Beneficiary Identification Form (see question 6.1 in this document). You will have 2 weeks from receiving the confirmation that your proposal has been accepted to complete this form. Once you have completed and submitted this form, the grant agreement will be generated by the platform and you will receive an invitation to sign it via DocuSign via email from the European Energy Communities Facility's Coordinator ([REScoop.eu](https://rescoop.eu)). This will be done within 2-4 weeks of receiving your completed Beneficiary Identification Form. The Facility's Coordinator will upload your final grant agreement countersigned on the platform, where you will be able to download it.

6.3. What is the payment schedule for the ENERCOM Facility grant?

The first payment (50% of the total amount, 22,500€) will be made within 60 days of signing the grant agreement. The second payment (50% of the total amount, 22,500€) will be made by the end of November 2027 for the first call for proposals, and by summer 2028 for the second call for proposals.

6.4. Where can I find a template of the ENERCOM Facility grant agreement?

The grant agreement will be generated automatically by the platform: If your project is selected you will be asked to fill in the Beneficiary Identification Form via the platform. Its data will be automatically filled out in the grant agreement template. You won't have to do anything. REScoop.eu will send you a request to sign the document via DocuSign. Once the grant agreement is countersigned by REScoop.eu, it will be uploaded on the platform and you will be able to download it.

7. Business plan development

7.1. What is a business plan?

A business plan for an energy community is a strategic tool that helps define the community's vision, objectives, governance structure, and operational approach to developing and sustaining its energy-related activities. Beyond serving as a roadmap for implementation, a well-prepared business plan plays a crucial role in analysing the financial viability of the initiative. It provides a structured assessment of the resources required for the project, including infrastructure, operational costs, and administrative needs, while also identifying potential revenue streams that can sustain the community's activities in the long term. By detailing cost structures, estimating investment needs, and exploring various financing mechanisms such as grants, loans, and member contributions, the business plan enables your energy community to determine the most suitable approach to funding your activities. Additionally, it evaluates financial risks and outlines strategies to mitigate them, strengthening the project's credibility for potential investors and financial institutions.

7.2. What are the key elements of a final business plan?

The final business plan will follow a standardized template, requiring beneficiaries to elaborate on a predefined set of criteria, including technical, financial, social, and legal aspects of their project. The technical and financial sections will incorporate key project due diligence components to validate the technical and economic viability of both the project and the energy community. Beneficiaries will be expected to detail their funding strategy, including potential funding sources and financing mechanisms.

- A key component of the **financial analysis** will be the assessment of the project's investment needs, revenue streams, and operational costs to ensure long-term

sustainability. This will include a breakdown of capital expenditures, expected returns, and cash flow projections, allowing for a clear understanding of the financial feasibility of the initiative. Beneficiaries will also be required to outline risk mitigation strategies to address financial uncertainties and demonstrate how the energy community can remain financially resilient over time.

- The **technical analysis** will assess the feasibility, design, and implementation strategy of the energy project. This will include details on the selected technology, system design, expected energy output, and performance indicators. Beneficiaries must demonstrate the technical soundness of their approach by considering factors such as site conditions, grid connection requirements, energy storage solutions, and operational efficiency. The analysis will also need to cover maintenance strategies and long-term operational requirements to ensure the project's reliability and sustainability.
- The **market section** will assess and reflect on the current market conditions for energy communities in the applicant's country, providing insight into opportunities and challenges.
- The **social and community section** will focus on aspects such as open participation, citizen engagement, social inclusion, and the expected social benefits for the broader community.
- The **legal section** will outline how the initiative complies with EU and national definitions for energy communities and will include an analysis of the legal provisions and enabling frameworks established by national programs. Beneficiaries will also be required to explain and justify their governance model, ensuring transparency and accountability.

Any additional studies or supporting materials necessary to complete these sections may be provided as annexes.

7.3. In what language must the business plan be developed?

The business plan may be prepared by the beneficiaries or their service providers in the local language to ensure its relevance to the community and stakeholders. However, to facilitate validation and review, beneficiaries will be required to submit an English summary of the final business plan.

7.4. Where can I find a template of the ENERCOM Facility's business plan?

The ENERCOM Facility's business plan template will be published on the Facility's website soon.

7.5. Can an energy community hire an external consultant to develop the business plan?

Yes, external consultants can be hired to develop the business plan or to support energy communities in preparing specific sections. However, the energy community remains responsible for overseeing the process, ensuring alignment with its objectives, and maintaining ownership of the final business plan.

7.6. What support activities are provided to beneficiaries during the development of the business plan?

Beneficiaries will receive support through a structured capacity building programme designed to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to develop their business plans. This programme is mandatory for beneficiaries and will include a series of online learning modules and training sessions aimed at accelerating the development and implementation of the business plans. National Experts may be consulted for advice on the development of the business plan.

7.7. Can the project included in the business plan be different from the one presented in the application form?

Your business plan should refer to the same project included in your initial application, as your initiative was selected based on the evaluators' assessment of that specific project. However, minor modifications may be introduced if they are justified by the findings of analysis and studies conducted during the development of the business plan. Any deviations or changes must be clearly explained, and their necessity must be justified. These modifications will be reviewed and verified during the validation process once the business plan is submitted.



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