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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Implementing Decision

amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2024)482 on the financing of the energy sector under the Connecting Europe Facility and on the adoption of the multiannual work programme for the period 2021-2027

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amending Commission Implementing Decision C(2024)482 on the financing of the energy sector under the Connecting Europe Facility and on the adoption of the multiannual work programme for the period 2021-2027

‘ANNEX II

Work programme for 2024-2027 for Connecting Europe Facility

(1) Introduction

On the basis of the objectives laid down in Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 of the European Parliament and the Council, establishing the Connecting Europe Facility and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1316/2013 and (EU) 283/2014¹ (hereinafter the ‘CEF Regulation’), this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for years 2024-2027 as follows:

for grants (implemented under direct management) (point 2);

for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 3);

for other actions or expenditure (point 4)

Legal basis

Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 of the European Parliament and of the Council, establishing the Connecting Europe Facility and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1316/2013 and (EU) No 283/2014 (hereinafter the ‘CEF Regulation’);

Regulation (EU) 2022/869 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure, amending Regulations (EC) No 715/2009, (EU) 2019/942 and (EU) 2019/943, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 347/2013² (hereinafter the ‘TEN-E Regulation’);

Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast)³, and in particular Article 56 thereof (hereinafter the ‘Financial Regulation’).

Budget line

02 03 02 Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) – Energy

The total amount to be allocated on the basis of this multiannual work programme to projects of common interest (PCIs) and, by extension, projects of mutual interest (PMIs) in the field of trans-European energy infrastructure and cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy for the period of 2024-2027 is EUR 3 885 240 210. 15% of the total amount for the period of 2024-2027, subject to market uptake, should be allocated to cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy. If the 15% threshold is reached, the European Commission shall increase this amount up to 20%, subject to market uptake. In the absence of sufficient

¹ OJ L 249, 14.07.2021, p. 383.

² OJ L 152, 3.6.2022, p. 45.

³ OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024

market uptake of cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy, the unused budget envisaged for cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy shall be used to finance projects of common interest in the field of trans-European energy infrastructure and can as of 2024 also be used to co-fund the Union renewable energy financing mechanism.

A transfer of EUR 430 million in commitment appropriations between CEF2 Energy and CEF2 Transport was authorised for the year 2023. This amount will be transferred back to CEF2 Energy during the years 2025-2027. This return has been reflected in the technical update of the financial programming⁴ and in the breakdown of annual instalments included at the end of this Annex.

Objectives pursued

This multiannual work programme aims to enable PCIs and PMIs to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the trans-European networks policy in the energy sector (TEN-E), as well as cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy.

In accordance with Recital 3 of the CEF Regulation, this multiannual work programme aims at financing actions contributing to achieving the goals and objectives of the Paris Agreement as well as the 2030 climate and energy targets and long-term decarbonisation objective. The European Green Deal has further emphasised the key enabling role of energy infrastructure in the transition to a climate neutral economy. Financial assistance provided under this multiannual work programme should therefore maximise its added value towards decarbonisation.

In accordance with Recital 29 of the CEF Regulation, this multiannual work programme puts priority on technologies and projects contributing to the transition to a low emission economy.

CEF 2021-2027 will target a contribution of 60% of its overall financial envelope to co-financing actions supporting climate objectives. A methodology to track climate expenditures against the targets set will be applied to all actions under CEF.

Expected results

Actions supported by calls under this multiannual work programme pursue the goals and objectives of the European Green Deal, as well as the Paris Agreement and the 2030 climate and energy targets and long-term decarbonisation objectives, also considering the energy efficiency first principle. The new category of cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy contributes specifically to a cost-effective target achievement for renewables by 2030 and is an integral element of the enabling framework for cooperation on renewables.

It is expected that the financial assistance contributes to further the development and the implementation of PCIs and PMIs as well as cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy, helping to achieve the broader CEF energy policy objectives of further integration of an efficient and competitive internal energy market, interoperability of networks across borders and sectors, facilitating decarbonisation of the economy, promoting energy efficiency

⁴ [Financial programming](#)

and ensuring security of supply; and cross-border cooperation in the area of energy, including renewable energy.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming

In line with the Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement, the commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted by the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15), this work programme is expected to contribute to the achievement of 60% of the overall financial envelope of the CEF Programme supporting climate objectives, actions under this work programme will contribute to climate objectives in line with the coefficients identified under Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation and consistently with Annex 1 of the CPR Regulation (EU 2021/1060), where applicable. For the infrastructure categories newly introduced by the revised TEN-E Regulation and not listed in Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation, namely smart gas grids, hydrogen infrastructure and electrolyser facilities, the coefficient for the calculation of support to climate change objectives should be 100%.

As indicated under point 5.5 below, and in line with Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation, this work programme also supports activities relating to climate proofing of energy infrastructure.

(2) Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 3,869,302,926.

2.1. Actions related to PCIs and PMIs to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the trans-European networks policy (calls for proposals)

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

PCIs and, by extension, PMIs under Article 18 of the TEN-E Regulation and Article 9(3)(a) of the CEF Regulation.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

CEF Energy will support the implementation of PCIs and PMIs within the framework of the deployment of trans-European networks in the energy sector. In particular, it shall contribute to supporting energy infrastructure PCIs and PMIs that have significant socio-economic benefits and ensure greater solidarity among Member States, but which do not receive adequate financing from the market.

In accordance with Article 9(3) a) of the CEF Regulation, financial support may be provided to actions contributing to the implementation of PCIs and, by extension, PMIs in the form of grants for studies or works. An application shall relate to only one of these actions, no mixed proposals will be allowed.

2.1.1. Studies contributing to the preparation of the implementation of a PCI or a PMI

Studies in the meaning of CEF Energy include activities needed to prepare project implementation, such as preparatory, mapping, feasibility, evaluation, testing and validation studies, including in the form of software, and any other technical support measure, including prior action to define and develop a project and decide on its financing, site/route

identification and preparation of the financial package. Applications related to studies must comply with the general conditions to apply for CEF Energy funding established in the TEN-E Regulation and the CEF Regulation and with the specific conditions laid down in the relevant calls.

The objective of studies is to support and contribute to the implementation of PCIs or PMIs.

2.1.2. Works contributing to the implementation of a PCI or a PMI

Works in the meaning of CEF Energy include the purchase, supply and deployment of components, systems and services including software, the development, construction and installation activities relating to the eligible infrastructure items of a given PCI or PMI, the acceptance of installations and the launching of a project. Applications related to construction works must comply with the conditions to apply for CEF financial assistance as established in the TEN-E Regulation and the CEF Regulation and with the specific conditions laid down in the relevant calls.

2.1.3. Expected impact

It is expected that the financial assistance contributes to further the development and the implementation of PCIs and PMIs, helping to achieve the broader TEN-E energy policy objectives.

2.1.4 Eligibility conditions

Pursuant to Article 18(1) of the TEN-E Regulation, PCIs falling under the categories set out in Article 24 and Annex II of that Regulation are eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for studies and financial instruments.

Pursuant to Article 18(2) and (3) of the TEN-E Regulation, PCIs falling under the categories set out in Article 24 (derogation for gas interconnections in Cyprus and Malta) and in Annex II, point (1)(a), (b), (c), (d) and (f) (electricity projects, except for smart electricity grids) and point (3) (hydrogen projects), are also eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works if they fulfil all of criteria laid down in Article 18(2) of the TEN-E Regulation

Pursuant to Article 18(4) of the TEN-E Regulation, PCIs falling under the energy infrastructure categories set out in Annex II, point (1)(e) (smart electricity grids) and points (2) (smart gas grids) and (5) (carbon dioxide projects), are also eligible for Union financial assistance in the form of grants for works if they fulfil the criteria laid down in Article 18(4) of the TEN-E Regulation.

Implementation

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

Actions under this work programme will contribute to climate objectives in line with the coefficients determined under Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation and consistently with Annex 1 of the CPR Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, where applicable, namely 100% for expenditure relating to electricity transmission, electricity storage, smart grids and CO2 transport, and

40% for gas infrastructure, provided that it enables the use of renewable hydrogen or biomethane to be increased.

For the infrastructure categories newly introduced in the TEN-E Regulation and not listed in Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation, namely smart gas grids, hydrogen infrastructure and electrolyser facilities, the coefficient for the calculation of support to climate change objectives should be 100%.

Indicative timetable and budget for the calls for proposals 2024-2027

Forms of assistance	Indicative timetable and amounts ⁵				Implementation
	2024	2025	2026	2027	
	Grants: EUR				
	Actions related to PCIs and PMIs to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the trans-European networks for energy policy				
Studies and works	1 call for proposals Q1/Q2	1 call for proposals Q1/Q2	1 call for proposals Q1/Q2	1 call for proposals Q1/Q2	
	1,249,956,741.76 (awarded)	600 000 000	600 389 520	603 027 265	DG ENER / CINEA

2.2. Actions related to cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy under Articles 7(4) and 9(3)(b) of the CEF Regulation

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

In accordance with Article 9(3)(b) of the CEF Regulation, financial support may be provided to actions contributing to the implementation of cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy (hereafter “CB RES projects”) in the form of grants for studies and works.

CB RES projects should always include a renewables generation facility as an integral part of the project. Additional components that form an integral part of the project, effectively enable the integration of and are ancillary to a renewables generation facility, can also be eligible for funding if they comply with the conditions of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/342⁶. The Commission further publishes a technical documentation which clarifies the eligible components for the projects selected in the Delegated Regulation establishing the list of CB RES projects.

⁵ Timing, design, and budget are dependent on the degree of maturity and the funding needs of eligible projects.

⁶ OJ L 62, 1.3.2022, p. 1.

CB RES projects are not limited to the electricity sector and can cover other energy carriers and potential coupling with other sectors.

In line with Article 7(6), (7) and (8) of CEF Regulation, CEF Energy may also co-fund the Union renewable energy financing mechanism referred to in Article 33 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 pursuant to specific rules to be developed by the Commission, namely in that the unused budget envisaged for CB-RES projects shall be used to meet the objectives of the trans-European energy networks for eligible actions referred in Article 9(3) point (a), of the CEF Regulation and, from 2024, may also be used to co-fund the Union renewable energy financing mechanism established under Regulation (EU) 2018/1999.

2.2.1. Studies for cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy

When submitting an application for studies, the CB RES project promoter(s) must clarify the cooperation mechanism which underpins the project and elaborate a project concept where at least the choice of the site is taken or narrowed down significantly.

Studies typically cover in-depth investigation and exploration of the risk factors of a project e.g. safety, technical, environmental, regulatory, economic or legal issues to determine whether and how the project should be implemented. A study could also be used to set out in detail the operational aspects of a cooperation, such as the precise legal and regulatory set up of the financing arrangements (e.g. design of a cross-border tender or the regulatory set up of the cooperation project, or allocation of the costs and benefits between the partnering countries).

For more mature projects, studies may have the objective to move the project through the development stage to a Final Investment Decision (FID) and may include Front End Engineering and Design (FEED) studies, technical design studies, geophysical surveys, seabed surveys, tasks related to territorial planning, pilot-tests, environmental assessments, preparation of the procurement arrangements for the construction phase and comparable studies as applicable. Activities may also include stakeholder engagement and activities aiming at increasing public acceptance of the project.

2.2.2. Works for cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy

Works in the meaning of CEF Energy include the purchase, supply and deployment of components, systems and services including software, the development, construction and installation activities relating to a project, the acceptance of installations and the launching of a project.

The Commission may decide to give priority to applications focused on the construction of renewable energy generation components over applications pertaining to non-renewable energy generation components even if these fulfil the eligibility requirements.

2.2.3. Expected impact

CB RES projects are expected to contribute to a cost-effective achievement of the EU target for a share of renewables in the gross final energy consumption by 2030, as referred to in Article 3 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 as amended. They are also to contribute to the strategic uptake of innovative technologies concerning renewable energy, to decarbonisation, to completing the internal energy market and to enhancing the security of supply. They are an

integral element of the enabling framework for cooperation on renewables as called for under Article 3(5)(d) of Directive (EU) 2018/2001⁷

2.2.4. Eligibility conditions

To be eligible for funding under CEF Energy, CB RES project needs to be included in the list of CB RES projects established pursuant to point 4 of Annex Part IV of the CEF Regulation. The technical documentation accompanying the CB RES list clarifies the technical components that are in the scope of each project and therefore are eligible for funding.

CB RES projects must comply with the general conditions in Article 7 and Annex Part IV of the CEF Regulation and the specific ones defined in the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/342⁸, as well as with the conditions laid down in the relevant calls.

Once a project is qualified as CB RES, it can apply for CEF funding in the form of grants for studies or grants for works. An application is submitted for either studies or works, no mixed proposal is allowed.

In the case of grants for works, the provisions of Article 14(5) and the additional criteria laid down in Article 7(4) of the CEF Regulation apply.

Implementation

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution – description of how this action contributes to climate and biodiversity mainstreaming in qualitative and quantitative ways

Actions under this work programme will contribute to climate objectives in line with the coefficients identified under Recital 5 of the CEF Regulation and consistently with Annex 1 of the CPR Regulation (EU 2021/1060), where applicable, namely 100% for expenditure relating to renewable energy.

Indicative timetable and budget for the calls for proposals 2024-2027

Forms of assistance	Indicative timetable and amounts ⁹				Implementation
	2024	2025	2026	2027	
	Grants: EUR				
	Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy				
Studies and works	1 call for proposals Q3/Q4	1 call for proposals Q3/Q4	1 call for proposals Q3	1 call for proposals Q3	

⁷ OJ L 328, 21.12.2018, p. 82

⁸ OJ L 62, 1.3.2022, p. 1.

⁹ Timing, design, and budget are dependent on the degree of maturity and the funding needs of eligible projects. and without prejudice to future decision of co-funding the Renewable Energy Financing Mechanism.

	80,000,000	150,000,000	150,000,000	150,000,000	DG ENER / CINEA
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(3) Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2024-2027 is EUR 15.337.284.

3.1. Technical and administrative assistance by procurement contracts

General description of the contracts envisaged

The Commission plans the following activities under technical and administrative assistance in accordance with Articles 4(4) and 6 of the CEF Regulation:

Support the TEN-TEC, the back-office activities for the Transparency Platforms, REA validation activities, as well as support the IT systems (under SEDIA corporate initiative) that will be used for the management of CEF calls for proposals, including their publication and evaluation, and the management of grant agreements, and the related GIS interface. Call for tenders and specific contracts under a framework contract or other adequate forms of procurement may be used for these activities.

Measures necessary for the implementation of the TEN-E Regulation, of the CEF Regulation and of cross-border cooperation in the area of renewable energy, including studies and services required for the execution of TEN-E and CEF policy and of cross-border renewable cooperation, as well as the organisation of meetings in the framework of policy implementation (notably high-level and regional groups). Calls for tenders and specific contracts under a framework contract or other adequate forms of procurement may be used to support these activities.

Communication activities to raise public awareness about the Union as a whole, its roles, values, political priorities and its work to address current issues in line with inter alia the general objectives of sector specific regulations under the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework and with the general objectives referred to in the CEF and the TEN-E Regulations. The activities shall be implemented through corporate communication framework contracts, or where possible, very-low-, low- or middle-value contracts.

Implementation

Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER). Some of the above activities may be co-delegated or sub-delegated to other Commission departments and executive agencies, such as: Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM), Directorate-General for Digital Services (DG DIGIT), European Climate, Infrastructure and Environmental Executive Agency (CINEA).

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming

Not applicable as actions relate to technical assistance.

4. Other actions or expenditure

The global budgetary envelope reserved for other actions or expenditure in 2024-2027 is EUR 600,000.

4.1. Contracting of experts for evaluations of CEF calls for proposals

General description of the contracts envisaged

The Commission plans the contracting of experts for evaluations of CEF calls for proposals (calls for the award of the status of cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy and calls for the award of CEF grants to PCIs or PMIs and to cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy).

The proposals submitted under the abovementioned calls come from a variety of sectors. By involving external experts in addition to internal evaluators, the Commission ensures that the proposals are evaluated on the basis of broad, relevant and up-to-date technical and financial expertise.

External experts will be tasked with assessing proposals against the relevant award criteria, with drawing up individual assessment reports and with producing common assessment reports after discussion with other experts. The common assessment reports will serve as a basis for the Commission's evaluation.

In the selection of external experts, the Commission will pay particular attention to their specific qualifications for the call in question, ensuring as much as possible a balance of regulatory and sector-specific expertise, administration, academia and business background, geographical and gender balance, as well as the rotation of experts and the avoidance of potential conflicts of interest.

Implementation

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

Not applicable as actions relate to contracting of experts

(5) Common provisions

5.1. Common provisions applying to grant actions related to PCIs and PMIs (see section 2.1) and to cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy (section 2.2)

Co-funding rates for grants

The maximum co-financing rates laid down in the Article 15 of the CEF Regulation are applicable. For studies, the amount of Union financial assistance shall not exceed 50% of the total eligible cost. For works, the following maximum co-financing rates shall apply:

- for works relating to the specific objectives referred to in Article 3(2)(b)(i), the amount of Union financial assistance shall not exceed 50% of the total eligible costs, for works in outermost regions the co-financing rates shall be set to a maximum of 70%.

- the co-financing rates may be increased to a maximum of 75% for actions contributing to the development of PCI (and, by extension, PMI) which, based on the evidence referred to in Article 18(2) of the TEN-E Regulation, provide a high degree of regional or Union-wide security of supply, strengthen the solidarity of the Union or comprise highly innovative solutions.

Combination of grants with other sources of financing

Grants may be used in combination with other sources of financing under the conditions laid down in Article 17 of the CEF Regulation.

5.2. Eligible applicants

The eligible entities are defined in Article 11 of the CEF Regulation

Only proposals submitted by one or more Member States or, with the agreement of the Member States concerned, by international organisations, joint undertakings, or public or private undertakings or bodies, including regional or local authorities, are eligible.

A Member State may decide that, for this specific work programme or for specific categories of applications, proposals can be submitted without its agreement. In such case, upon the request of the Member State concerned, this is indicated in the call for such proposals.

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the PCI or PMI, the calls for proposals may request that at least one of the applicants shall be the PCI or PMI promoter as defined in the TEN-E Regulation or the written support of the PCI or PMI promoter shall be provided by the applicant.

Where necessary to achieve the objectives of a given PCI, PMI or cross-border project in the field of renewable energy and where duly motivated, third countries not associated to CEF and entities established in third countries which are not associated to the CEF may participate in actions contributing to the PCI, PMI or cross-border project in the field of renewable energy. They may not receive funding under this work programme, except where this is indispensable to achieve the objectives of a given PCI (and, by extension, PMI) or cross-border project in the field of renewable energy. Cross-border projects in the field of renewable energy developed in cooperation with a third country have to ensure that the renewable energy is consumed in the EU according to Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001.

5.3. Eligible costs

Eligible costs will be those laid down in Article 16 of the CEF Regulation in addition to the criteria set out in Article 189 of the Financial Regulation.

Costs related to the management of the action and related tasks, such as internal meetings for the action's progress, salaries of staff who implement tasks related to the management of the action, etc. shall not exceed 10% of the total eligible costs per action and be fully in line with Article 6 on eligible and ineligible costs and contributions of the Model Grant Agreement.

5.4. Synergetic elements

In accordance with Article 10(2) of the CEF Regulation, eligible actions under this work programme may include synergetic (ancillary) elements relating to another sector of the CEF programme, i.e. transport and digital, if these synergetic elements allow to significantly

improve the socio-economic, climate or environmental benefits of the action. Co-funding from the main sector budget may be provided as long as the cost of these synergetic elements does not exceed 20% of the total eligible costs of the action.

5.5. Climate proofing

Applications for grants for works relating to a project for which an environmental impact assessment must be carried out in compliance with Directive 2011/92/EU¹⁰ shall include information on the climate proofing of such project, taking into account the Guidance on the Climate Proofing of Infrastructure¹¹. Such information may be provided in the form of a summary of the main findings and conclusions, notably as regards mitigation and adaptation measures. In cases, where the environmental impact assessment has not been completed yet, the application shall confirm that climate proofing will be considered as part of the environmental impact assessment, taking into account the Guidance on the Climate Proofing of Infrastructure.

Applications relating to a project for which an environmental impact assessment was completed¹² before 31 December 2021 are not subject to this requirement.

5.6. Selection criteria

5.6.1. Financial capacity

The applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out and to participate in its funding.

For applicants participating under this work programme the 'Rules for Legal Entity Validation, LEAR Appointment and Financial Capacity Assessment' apply.¹³

The need to demonstrate the financial capacity does not apply to Member States, third countries, international organisations, public bodies established in the EU and transmission system operators certified following the procedures laid down in Articles 52 or 53 of Directive (EU) 2019/944 or Articles 10 or 11 of Directive 2009/73/EC, and joint undertakings established in the Union which qualify as public bodies.

5.6.2. Operational capacity

The applicants must have the operational and technical competencies and capacities required to complete the proposed action for which the grant is awarded and must provide appropriate documents attesting to that capacity (e.g. organisations' activity report, proof of the experience in carrying out infrastructure actions).

¹⁰ Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, OJ L 26, 28.1.2012, p. 1.

¹¹ C(2021) 5340 final.

¹² Completion of the following steps of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure: an environmental impact assessment report prepared by the project promoter and consultations carried out under the EIA Directive.

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/rules-lev-lear-fca_en.pdf

The need to demonstrate the operational capacity does not apply to Member States, third countries, international organisations, public bodies established in the EU and transmission system operators certified following the procedures laid down in Articles 52 or 53 of Directive (EU) 2019/944 or Articles 10 or 11 of Directive 2009/73/EC, joint undertakings established in the Union which qualify as public bodies.

5.7. Award criteria and scoring

A decision to grant Union financial assistance shall take into account the following general award criteria, based on the provisions of Article 14 of the CEF Regulation and of Article 19 of the TEN-E Regulation, as appropriate:

- (1) **Maturity:** assessing the maturity of the action in the project development. The criterion will measure, among others, the readiness/ability of the project to start by the proposed start date and to be completed by the proposed end date, and the status of the contracting procedures and of the necessary permits.
- (2) **Quality:** evaluating the soundness of the implementation plan proposed, both from the technical and financial point of view, the architecture and design approach, the organisational structures put in place (or foreseen) for the implementation, the risk analysis, and the control procedures and quality management.
- (3) **Impact:** assessing, when applicable, the economic, social and environmental impact, including the climate impact, and for a PCI or PMI proposal, other relevant externalities such as security of supply, system flexibility, innovation, and solidarity among Member States involving works. In addition, assessing the need to overcome financial obstacles such as those generated by insufficient commercial viability, high upfront costs or the lack of market finance, as well as the proposal's cross-border dimension.

NB: A PCI or PMI proposal requesting grants for works needs to demonstrate significant positive externalities in line with Article 18, paragraphs (2)(a) and (4), of the TEN-E Regulation in order to reach the minimum pass score of 3. A proposal relating to a cross-border project in the field of renewable energy requesting grants for works needs to demonstrate the additional criteria of Article 7(4) of CEF Regulation in order to reach the minimum score of 3.

- (4) **Priority and urgency of the action:** evaluating correspondence of the proposal with the sectoral policy targets, objectives and priorities, notably its contribution to and alignment with achieving the EU 2030 climate and energy targets in view of reaching the climate neutrality objective by 2050 as set out in the European Green Deal, market integration, measuring its EU added-value and where applicable assessing the possible synergies with other sectors;
- (5) **Catalytic effect of Union assistance:** evaluating the financial gap, the capacity to mobilise differentiated investments sources, the capacity to trigger important overall investments with limited EU support and when appropriate the extent to which externalities justify the CEF financial assistance. It shall assess the catalytic effect of the EU financial assistance and determine whenever possible the actual co-funding rate to be granted. For PCI or PMI proposals for grants for works, the evaluation of the financial gap should take into account the cross-border cost allocation decision and, if applicable, regulatory incentives.

Each of the five award criteria will also assess the quality of the relevant information provided in the proposal.

As a standard practice, a score is assigned for each of the criterion on a scale from 0 (insufficient) to 5 (excellent).

More detailed information on the evaluation and award procedure will be included in each call for proposals.

In the evaluation process, consideration will be given to the implementation of the internal energy market rules (Directive (EU) 2019/944; Directive 2009/73/EC; Regulation (EU) 2019/943; Regulation (EC) No 715/2009) for the Member States involved, and as relevant to the completion of the action.

Breakdown of annual instalments¹⁴

Budget line	Action	2021 commitments	2022 commitments	2023 commitments	2024 commitments	2025 commitments	2026 commitments	2027 commitments	TOTAL
02 03 02	MAWP (Grants) 2021-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	785.994.145	209.637.048	0	0	17.485.628	20.000.000	0	1.033.116.820
	MAWP (Grants) 2022-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	561.556.043	0	0	19.454.462	20.000.000	0	601.010.505
	MAWP (Grants) 2023-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	0	379.875.947	0	106.545.359	50.000.000	30.000.000	566.421.306
	MAWP (Grants) 2024-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	0	0	836.516.628	200.000.000	140.000.000	73.440.114	1.249.956.742
	MAWP (Grants) 2025-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	0	0	0	411.585.432	120.000.000	68.414.568	600.000.000
	MAWP (Grants) 2026-2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	0	0	0	0	523.860.756	76.528.764	600.389.520
	MAWP (Grants) 2027 Actions related to projects of common interest to be prepared and implemented within the framework of the TEN policy	0	0	0	0	0	0	603.027.265	603.027.265
	MAWP (Grants) 2021-2027 Preparatory studies - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	298.944	0	0	0	0	0	0	298.944
	MAWP (Grants) 2022-2027 Preparatory studies - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	252.500	0	0	0	0	0	252.500
	MAWP (Grants) 2023-2027 Preparatory studies - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	1.027.892	0	0	0	0	1.027.892
	MAWP (Grants) 2022-2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	22.132.473	0	0	0	0	0	22.132.473
	MAWP (Grants) 2023-2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	45.000.000	0	22.443.950	0	0	67.443.950
	MAWP (Grants) 2024-2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	0	40.000.000	40.000.000	0	0	80.000.000
	MAWP (Grants) 2025-2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	0	0	100.000.000	30.000.000	20.000.000	150.000.000
	MAWP (Grants) 2026-2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	0	0	0	100.000.000	50.000.000	150.000.000
	MAWP (Grants) 2027 Studies and Works - Actions related to cross-border cooperation on renewable energy	0	0	0	0	0	0	150.000.000	150.000.000
	Technical Assistance (including experts, studies, communication and IT costs)	1.788.316	2.761.288	2.731.368	3.997.284	3.980.000	3.980.000	3.980.000	23.218.256
	Total reserved by the CEF Energy Work Programmes	788.081.405	796.339.352	428.635.207	880.513.912	921.494.831	1.007.840.756	1.075.390.711	5.898.296.173
	CEF commitment appropriations (MFF 2021-2027)	783.149.971	792.507.558	421.321.882	880.513.912	921.494.831	1.007.840.756	1.075.390.711	5.882.219.621
Internal assigned revenues	4.931.434	3.831.794	7.313.325	0	0	0	0	16.076.553	
CEF Total commitment appropriations	788.081.405	796.339.352	428.635.207	880.513.912	921.494.831	1.007.840.756	1.075.390.711	5.898.296.173	

¹⁴ Article 4(5) of the CEF Regulation: Budgetary commitments for actions over more than one financial year may be the broken down into annual instalments, over two or more years.