

EN

ANNEX

Work programme for 2024 for pilot projects and preparatory actions in the field of energy

1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives laid down in the budget remarks, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2024 as follows:

- (a) for procurement (implemented under direct management) (point 2);

Legal basis

Article 58(2) of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012¹

Budget lines

PP 09 24 01 – EU CCUS Observatory
PA 01 23 01 – Energy Prosumers Repository
PA 01 23 04 – Support Service for citizens-led renovation projects

Objectives pursued

Pilot projects and preparatory actions serve as an instrument to allocate appropriations with the aim to test a novel policy idea where the Union has competency but no relevant basic act exists that would allow the Union to spend any funding.

Expected results

Pilot projects are activities of an experimental nature that aim at testing the feasibility and usefulness of a new initiative.
Preparatory actions are initiatives designed to prepare legislative proposals with a view to the possible adoption of future actions.

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

The actions included in this work programme contribute to the goals set in the European Green Deal for a clean energy transition such as securing affordable energy supply, investing in renewable energy, prioritising energy efficiency, building interconnected energy systems, empowering consumers and addressing energy poverty.

¹ OJ L 193, 30.07.2018, p. 1

2. *Procurement*

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2024 is EUR 5 500 000.

Budget line

PP 09 24 01 – Pilot project EU CCUS Observatory

2.1 EU CCUS Observatory

General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical assistance to set up an independent body in charge of monitoring, verifying and reporting on captured, transported and stored CO₂.

Objectives pursued and expected results

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) are crucial in achieving the EU's climate target by 2050. The Net-Zero Industry Act proposal sets a target of 50 million tonnes of annual operational CO₂ injection capacity by 2030. The Industrial Carbon Management Strategy in 2024 will set the path to accelerate the deployment of CCUS technologies in Europe necessary to achieving these objectives. CCUS pose several concerns, such as misuse to prolong the use of fossil fuels, "greenwashing", or poor climate performance. An independent body is needed to monitor CCUS projects development and sustainability. This pilot project will test the creation of an EU CCUS Observatory to monitor, report, and verify the captured, transported, and stored CO₂ from specific industrial installations. In a first phase, the monitoring, reporting and verification activities will only include cement plants and waste incineration plants with carbon capture installations. The objective of this pilot project is to build a primary structure of knowledge, data, and best practices for a permanent EU CCUS Observatory of all the carbon management value chain.

Implementation

Directorate-General for Energy

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

Modelling by the European Commission indicates that carbon capture, utilisation and storage are crucial in achieving the EU's climate target by 2050. In this context, an independent body is needed to monitor CCUS projects development and sustainability, in order to ensure the highest environmental and climate standards, avoid potential future leakages, maximise climate benefits, and avoid unnecessary prolongation of fossil fuels usage.

Budget line

PA 01 23 01 – Preparatory action - Energy Prosumers Repository

2.2. Preparatory action Energy Prosumers Repository

General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical assistance for the collection and monitoring of data and the maintenance of a repository of policy developments and projects

Objectives pursued and expected results

The timely and correct transposition of the Clean Energy Package provisions on consumers' empowerment is essential to build the EU's energy independence. The aim of the action is to track and support the progress of collective mechanisms and private investment in the renewable transition. The action has three main components:

- Monitoring and collecting data on the development and impact of different types of energy communities in the EU.
- Providing financial, legal, administrative and technical assistance to energy communities to help implement business plans and set up community networks at regional and national level.
- Providing models for citizen engagement and governance solutions to ensure democratic and inclusive decision-making within energy communities in order to ensure just transition.

The data collected in the repository will be a source of information for EU institutions as well as national and local governments that will facilitate the development of energy communities. It will also help monitor the democratisation of the energy system through citizen ownership of decentralised energy production.

Implementation

Directorate-General for Energy

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

The repository is an important tool to ensure the implementation of EU law and its replicability and speed up the EU's energy independence and the achievement of the European Green Deal objectives.

Budget line

PA 01 23 04 – Preparatory action Support Service for citizens-led renovation projects

2.3 Preparatory action Support Service for citizens-led renovation projects

General description of the contracts envisaged

Technical assistance, communication, and study

Objectives pursued and expected results

This preparatory action aims to overcome financial, legal, and technical barriers to citizen-led renovation projects. The combined service may involve the creation of a specific Union support service or secretariat for Citizens' Energy Communities (CEC) and Renewable Energy Communities (REC). The objective of a support service or secretariat would be to help community building in order to scale up and replicate successful programmes. It would

build upon the lessons learnt from the two pilot projects and the experience from cooperatives that are successfully bundling projects at a neighbourhood scale. It will include:

- a platform to share experience and models in order to build strong community dynamics and mobilise EU citizens on integrated building renovations and renewable deployment;
- support for the development of investment plans; a selected number of citizens-led initiatives could be supported, based on their innovative design and high replication potential;
- evidence and indicators to raise awareness among existing energy communities about the concept of citizen-led renovations and their benefits.
- technical assistance and coaching to citizens' groups, existing community organisations and local authorities to set up citizens' and renewable energy communities.

Implementation

Directorate-General for Energy

Climate and biodiversity mainstreaming contribution

To achieve the EU's energy and climate ambitions for 2030 and 2050, citizens and energy communities play an important role in bundling building renovation projects, which makes them attractive for investors. A support service for citizens-led renovation projects would help create demand for renovations of residential buildings that comply with the EU's energy and climate priorities.