

Europe



Intelligent Energy

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2009



**Call Identifier:
CIP-IEE-2009**

**CLOSING DATE:
Thursday 25 June 2009, 17:00 (Brussels local time)**

Electronic submission only.

**For further information:
<http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy>**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2009 FOR ACTIONS UNDER THE PROGRAMME “INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE”

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	THE INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE PROGRAMME	3
2.	BUDGET, FUNDING RATES AND ELIGIBILITY OF COSTS	5
3.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	5
3.1.	Which organisations and countries are eligible?	5
3.2.	How many applicants are required?	6
3.3.	Themes and funding priorities	6
3.4.	Submission	6
3.5.	Grounds for exclusion	6
3.6.	Administrative and financial penalties	7
4.	SELECTION CRITERIA	7
4.1.	Financial capacity of applicants	7
4.2.	Technical capacity of applicants	8
5.	AWARD CRITERIA	8
6.	GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AWARDED GRANTS	9
7.	FORMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS	9
8.	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	10
9.	INDICATIVE TIMETABLE	10
10.	PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF ACTION FOR 2009	10
10.1.	Energy efficiency and rational use of resources (SAVE)	10
10.2.	New and renewable energy sources (ALTENER)	12
10.3.	Energy in transport (STEER)	14
10.4.	Integrated initiatives	15

1. THE INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE PROGRAMME

The objective of the Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme is to contribute to secure, sustainable and competitively priced energy for Europe, by providing for action¹:

- to foster energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources;
- to promote new and renewable energy sources and to support energy diversification;
- to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources in transport.

The Programme in particular contributes to the Energy Policy for Europe², including the EU action plan for energy-efficiency³ and the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources⁴.

Intelligent Energy – Europe builds on the experience gained from its predecessor, the first Intelligent Energy - Europe (2003-2006) Programme⁵. This Programme has become the main Community instrument to tackle non-technological barriers to the spread of efficient use of energy and greater use of new and renewable energy sources. From 2007, Intelligent Energy – Europe has been included in the overall Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)⁶ in order to contribute to achieving the objectives of EU energy policy and to implementing the Lisbon Agenda.

The Programme is managed by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI, formerly known as Intelligent Energy Executive Agency) under powers delegated by the European Commission.

In operational terms the Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme aims to⁷:

- a) provide the elements necessary for the improvement of sustainability, the development of the potential of cities and regions, as well as for the preparation of the legislative measures needed to attain the related strategic objectives; develop the means and instruments to follow up, monitor and evaluate the impact of the measures adopted by the Community and its Member States in the fields addressed by the Programme;
- b) boost investment across Member States in new and best performing technologies in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and energy diversification, including in transport, by bridging the gap between the successful demonstration of innovative technologies and their effective, broad market uptake in order to attain leverage of public and private sector investment, promote key strategic technologies, bring down costs, increase market experience and contribute to reducing the financial risks and other perceived risks and barriers that hinder this type of investment;
- c) remove the non-technological barriers to efficient and intelligent patterns of energy production and consumption by promoting institutional capacity building at, inter alia, local and regional level, by raising awareness, notably through the educational system, by encouraging exchanges of experience and know-how among the main players concerned, business and citizens in general and by stimulating the spread of best practices and best available technologies, notably by means of their promotion at Community level.

¹ Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013), OJ L 310/15, 09.11.2006, , Article 37.

² An energy policy for Europe: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/energy_policy/index_en.htm

³ Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential, COM(2006)545 of 19.10.2006

⁴ COM(2008)19

⁵ Decision 1230/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26.06.2003

⁶ Articles 37 to 45 of Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24.10.2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013).

⁷ Articles 38 of Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24.10.2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013).

Intelligent Energy - Europe covers action in the following fields:

Energy efficiency and rational use of resources (SAVE), including:

- improving energy efficiency and the rational use of energy, in particular in the building and industry sectors;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

New and renewable energy resources (ALTENER), including:

- promoting new and renewable energy sources for centralised and decentralised production of electricity, heat and cooling, and biofuels, thus supporting the diversification of energy sources;
- integrating new and renewable energy sources into the local environment and the energy systems;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Energy in transport (STEER) to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energies sources in transport, including

- supporting initiatives relating to all energy aspects of transport and the diversification of fuels;
- promoting renewable fuels and energy efficiency in transport;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Integrated initiatives combining several of the aforementioned fields or relating to certain Community priorities. They may include actions integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in several sectors of the economy and/or combining various instruments, tools and actors within the same action or project.

Actions supported in the framework of the IEE programme have a significant impact at European level, a high profile and the broadest possible relevance to European citizens and policies. In this context, preference are given to proposals of outstanding quality that present cost-effective arrangements and a significant dimension.

In general, activities subject to call for proposals can take the form of:

- projects;
- or the establishment of new local and regional energy management agencies;

The above fields, objectives, and instruments are valid for the whole Programme duration, i.e. from 2007 to 2013. However each annual work programme sets a number of more specific, action-related objectives. Those relative to the call for proposals 2009 have been set in the annual work programme 2009, adopted by the European Commission on 31 March 2009⁸. They are summarised hereafter.

In particular, the establishment of new local and regional energy management agencies is not open for this year's call. Grants will only be awarded to projects. It is expected that this call for proposals will result in about 60 to 70 projects being supported.

For the priorities and types of action for this Call 2009, see chapter 10.

For further details on the priorities, please consult the annual Work Programme 2009 available on the programme website together with all relevant Call documents.

⁸ C(2009)2174

2. BUDGET, FUNDING RATES AND ELIGIBILITY OF COSTS

The indicative total amount available for this call is about **EUR 65 million**. The Commission, through the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI), plans to grant funds which are complementary to contributions made by the beneficiary, the national, regional or local authorities and/or other bodies. The sources of co-funding must be transparent and stated in such a way that they are clearly identifiable and accountable.

Accordingly, the amount granted will be: **up to 75% of the total eligible costs for projects**.

The Community contribution to reimburse eligible costs must not give rise to a profit. Contributions in kind are not eligible costs. One action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the Community budget to any one beneficiary. Action which receives financial support for the same purpose from other Community financial instruments will not receive funding from the IEE Programme.

Eligible costs can be incurred only after signature of the grant agreement by all the parties, save in exceptional cases, and under no circumstances before submission of the application for a grant.

The maximum duration of a project is 3 years.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

3.1. Which organisations and countries are eligible?

All applicants must be legal entities, whether public or private, established in the territory of the EU Member States, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Croatia.

A grant agreement with legal entities established in other countries will only be signed under the condition that the country has undertaken the necessary steps to join the IEE programme. Up-to-date information on which countries are part of the programme is available on the programme web site (see chapter 8).

The IEE programme is also open to the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC). It is also open to international organisations – subject to the conditions set out above. They may, if necessary, receive funding. If one of the participants is the JRC or an international organisation, it is deemed to be established in a Member State or associated country other than any Member State or associated country in which another participant in the same action is established.

Local and regional energy agencies which were established with and are still beneficiaries of Community contributions from the IEE Programme are eligible to participate in IEE projects if the submission deadline for the call for proposals lies at least 24 months after the starting date of their activities, as specified in the relevant grant agreement.

Applicants that do not have legal personality may apply for grants provided that the representatives of these applicants prove that they have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on behalf of the applicant and provided that they offer financial guarantees equivalent to those provided by legal entities.

“Legal entity” means any entity created under the national law of its place of establishment, Community law or international law, which has legal personality and which, acting under its own name, may exercise rights and be subject to obligations.

"International organisations" means legal entities arising from an association of States, other than the Community, established on the basis of a treaty or similar act, having common institutions and an international legal personality distinct from that of its Member States.

Natural persons are not eligible.

3.2. How many applicants are required?

Applications must be submitted by a team of at least three independent⁹ legal entities, each established in a different eligible country (see section 3.1).

3.3. Themes and funding priorities

All priorities mentioned in **chapter 10** are open for submission of proposals.

Exceptionally, and if properly justified, proposals that meet the eligibility criteria but do not directly respond to the priorities defined in the Call may also be considered.

3.4. Submission

Proposals must be submitted by the closing date and time (see chapter 7) and must be complete.

3.5. Grounds for exclusion

Applications will not be considered for a grant if the applicants are in any of the following situations:

- (a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- (b) they have been convicted of an offence concerning professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata;
- (c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify;
- (d) they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
- (e) they have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the Communities' financial interests;
- (f) they are currently subject to an administrative penalty referred to in Article 96(1) of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the Communities¹⁰;
- (g) they are faced with a conflict of interest;
- (h) they are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in the procedure or fail to supply this information.

Applicants shall supply evidence that they exist as legal entities and that they are not in one of the above-listed situations. For that purpose, applicants shall submit a declaration on their honour as part of the application forms.

⁹ Definition of independent: In case of two undertakings A and B; A may control not more than 50% of B, and vice versa; A and B may be controlled not more than 50% by a third undertaking C.

¹⁰ Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) n.1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 357,31.12.2002) as amended by Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) 1995/2006 of 13 December 2006 (OJ L 390/2006 of 30 December 2006).

3.6. Administrative and financial penalties

Without prejudice to the application of penalties laid down in the contract, candidates and contractors who have made false declarations, have made substantial errors or committed irregularities or fraud, or have been found in serious breach of their contractual obligations may be excluded from all contracts and grants financed by the Community budget for a maximum of five years from the date on which the infringement is established as confirmed following and adversarial procedure with the contractor. That period may be extended to ten years in the event of a repeated offence within five years of the date referred to in the first subparagraph.

Candidates who have made false declarations, have submitted substantial errors, irregularities or fraud, may also be subject to financial penalties representing 2% to 10% of the total estimated value of the contract being awarded. Contractors who have been found in serious breach of their contractual obligations may be subject to financial penalties representing 2% to 10% of the total value of the contract in question. The rate may be increased to 4% to 20% in the event of a repeat infringement within five years of the date on which the infringement is established as confirmed following and adversarial procedure with the contractor.

The cases referred to in point 3.5 (e) cover:

- (a) cases of fraud as referred to in Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995¹¹;
- (b) cases of corruption as referred to in Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 May 1997¹²;
- (c) cases of involvement in a criminal organisation, as defined in Article 2(1) of Joint Action 98/733/JHA of the Council¹³;
- (d) cases of money laundering as defined in Article 1 of Council Directive 91/308/EEC¹⁴.

The non-exclusion criteria will be checked by the EACI on receipt of the proposals. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the proposal not being evaluated further.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

The applicant must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out and to participate in its funding. The applicant must have the professional skills and qualifications required to complete the proposed action.

4.1. Financial capacity of applicants

Applicants must show that they have the financial capacity and operational capability to complete the action to be supported. Unless they are a public body or an international organisation, they must complete a 'Simplified Financial Statement' Form and provide their annual financial statements comprised of the balance sheet, the profit and loss statement and any annexes to those for the last financial year for which the accounts have been closed (details available with the Guide for Proposers and Application Forms).

In accordance with Article 173(4) of the rules implementing the Financial Regulation, if the application concerns grants for action which exceed €500 000, an audit report produced by an approved external

¹¹ OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

¹² OJ C 195, 25.6.1997, p. 1.

¹³ OJ C 351, 29.12.1998, p.1. Joint action of 21 December 1998 on making it a criminal offence to participate in a criminal organisation in the Member States of the European Union.

¹⁴ OJ L 166, 28.6.1991, p. 77. Directive of 10 June 1991, as amended by Directive 2001/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 December 2001 (OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 76).

auditor must be submitted. That report must certify the accounts for the last financial year available. In the case of agreements with a number of beneficiaries this threshold will apply to each individual beneficiary.

4.2. Technical capacity of applicants

Applicants must have the technical capacity and operational capability to complete the action to be supported and should provide supporting documents. Guidance on the supporting documents required (e.g. CVs of those responsible for carrying out the action, description of projects and activities undertaken in the last three years, etc.) can be found in the Guide for Proposers.

The selection criteria will be assessed as a first step by the evaluation committee. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the proposal not being evaluated further by the evaluation committee. Applicants may be asked to provide additional proof or to clarify the supporting documents related to the selection criteria within a specific time limit.

5. AWARD CRITERIA

The Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation will base its selection of actions and the rate of Community co-financing on the written presentation. The actions will be evaluated against five award criteria which will carry equal weighting within the overall assessment. Within the general conclusions, the evaluation will provide a qualitative judgment on the overall value for money, comparing the outcomes based on the five award criteria with the costs and efforts involved.

If a proposal is to be classified as worth funding, the grand total of the marks for all the award criteria should be equal to or greater than 70% of the maximum total score. In addition, a mark of over 50% will be required for each criterion. Proposals that pass these thresholds will be considered for funding. At the end of the evaluation, proposals will be ranked on the basis of the evaluation results.

Funding decisions will be made on the basis of this ranking and within the limits of the available budget. Proposals with an identical score next to the cut-off limit of the available budget will be sub-ranked, taking into account the indicative distribution of the 2009 budget by field, as indicated in the Work Programme 2009. A limited number of proposals may be placed on a reserve list, following the sub-ranking.

The following five criteria apply to project proposals:

1. Relevance of the action (score 0-10), with the following subcriteria:

- Extent to which the proposed action reflects the state of the art and builds on previous action in the context of the objectives of the IEE Programme and relevant action by/in participating countries;
- Potential impact of the action in relation to EU policies and priorities, targets and legislation;
- Involvement of market players in the action.

2. Quality of the methodology (score 0-10), with the following subcriteria:

- Structure, clarity, consistency and suitability of the proposed approach (definition of work packages, schedule and deliverables) to achieve the expected results;
- Appropriateness of the targets and performance indicators;
- Ambition of the communication/dissemination plan and appropriateness of the communication tools to be used for the specified target groups.

3. Community added value (score 0-10), with the following subcriteria:

- Justification and benefits of addressing the subject of the proposal at European level;
- Appropriate geographical coverage of the project;
- Transferability of the solutions offered by the proposal to other parts of the EU.

4. Costs and co-financing (score 0-10), with the following subcriteria:

- Appropriate level of effort for the work packages and the main tasks in the work packages;
- Appropriate weight of costs per cost category, including sub-contracting;
- Transparency, sustainability, sources and commitment of the co-financing scheme.

5. Management and organisation of the team (score 0-10), with the following subcriteria:

- Composition and balance of skills of the team;
- Distribution and balance of effort, budget and responsibilities between partners;
- Management, including management structure, work plan, coordination and project team communications.

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AWARDING GRANTS

The general conditions for awarding grants, particularly the definition of the eligible costs and the methods of payment, are set out in the draft grant agreement, available on the website of the IEE programme (see chapter 8). The budget for the action attached to the application must have revenue and expenditure in balance and show clearly the costs which are eligible for financing from the Community level.

Depending on the size and other risk factors of the action, the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation might request a financial guarantee of the beneficiary for pre-financing.

If the successful applicant is an international organisation, the model Contribution Agreement with an international organisation or any other contract template agreed between the international organisation concerned and the Contracting Authority will be used instead of a text based on the draft grant agreement.

7. FORMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted using the **on-line submission system** and **application forms** indicated on the IEE programme website (see chapter 8).

Applications which fail to comply with this formal requirement will not be evaluated further. In particular, proposals arriving at the EACI by any other means will be regarded as "not submitted" and will not be evaluated.

The closing date for submission is 25 June 2009, 17:00 (Brussels local time).

Applications submitted after the closing date and time will NOT be taken into consideration.

Proposers are strongly advised to start their submission process well in time and not to leave it to the last hour in order to avoid the risk of a failed submission.

Should changes occur regarding formal requirements for submission of applications, they will be highlighted on the website of the programme. Applicants are therefore advised to check this web site prior to submitting their application.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Applicants should consult the website of the programme at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy>

The IEE website contains all information and forms in relation to this call for proposals, such as the IEE annual work programme 2009, guides for applicants, application forms, and information about projects supported by the programme. Furthermore the website informs about information days which will be held during the duration of the call for proposals.

Any questions regarding this call for proposals should be sent to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (stating, if applicable, the technical field, as indicated in chapter 10) using the online enquiry form available on <http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy>.

9. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Closing date for submission of applications:	25 June 2009, 17:00 Brussels local time
Estimated date of completion of the evaluation:	December 2009
Estimated date for the notification of applicants:	from December 2009 onwards
Estimated date for signature of contracts	from April 2010 onwards

10. PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF ACTION FOR 2009

10.1. Energy efficiency and rational use of resources (SAVE)

Proposals related to **energy-efficient buildings**¹⁵, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Large-scale education and professional training schemes in all Member States to ready the market for implementation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and beyond: agreements with universities, associations of installers, chambers of commerce, etc. to institutionalise the necessary

¹⁵ Proposal focusing on the integration of small scale renewable applications into buildings are invited under ALTENER (Chapter 10.2.)

education/training.

- Targeted actions with high demonstrated impact related to existing buildings and, to a lesser extent, to new residential buildings. Addressing, e.g.:
 - Cross-country comparisons on consumer reactions to identify best communication practices, regarding the energy performance certificates, the inspection reports on heating systems and the inspection reports on air-conditioning systems;
 - Schemes to incentivise concrete implementation of energy performance certificate recommendations (for minor and major renovations);
 - Wide-scale market penetration of integrated design, through facilitation of a radical shift in professional practice, including adoption of known best practice and use of existing tools;
 - Supply-chain analysis for the take-up of buildings and technologies having both carbon dioxide emissions and primary energy consumption which are low or equal to zero, and for energy-positive buildings;
 - Assessment of current status regarding cost/benefit and quality control aspects of realised energy savings measures. This short-term action should address schemes which are aimed at European households.
- Collection of market feedback on the use of the CEN standards on building energy performance and other accompanying measures for giving support to their practical and effective utilisation.

Proposals related to **energy efficient products**, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Actions focusing on increasing the market share of energy-efficient heating and cooling appliances (space heating and cooling, and water heating).
- Ambitious market transformation actions with high demonstrated impact, involving multipliers such as associations of manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, installers and/or consumers (e.g. actions for the uptake of energy-efficient motor driven systems, variable speed drives, energy-efficient lighting).
- Large well-targeted information campaigns, relying on energy performance labels and using social marketing for changing end-users' behaviour.
- Actions addressing financial barriers: e.g. preparation and launch of incentives and subsidy programmes, constitution of large buyers' groups to overcome cost barriers associated with new technologies.
- Training sales personnel on energy labels and life-cycle cost principles, so that they can use them as a sales argument. Synergies with business-as-usual installers' training sessions must be sought to increase effectiveness.
- Training of technicians responsible for installation and/or maintenance of energy-using products, especially when they are also the ones to advise end-users on the choice of equipment (e.g. boiler installers).
- Actions addressing ecodesign and energy labelling topics which are not covered by Calls for tender and ecodesign implementing measures or which comprise soft measures recommended by the ecodesign preparatory studies.

- Actions addressing networking among competent authorities in charge of verifying compliance of products with the applicable eco-design or labelling legal requirements and development of product verification methods.

N.B.: Actions regarding ICT for energy efficiency will not be funded as they are covered by the CIP Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme¹⁶.

Proposals related to **industrial excellence in energy**: not foreseen in this Call 2009.

10.2. New and renewable energy sources (ALTENER)

ALTENER projects may include one of more of the following key actions:

Proposals related to **electricity from renewable energy sources (RES-e)** shall support the implementation of the new EU policies with the emphasis on the **RES Directive**, giving a special focus on offshore application and grid issues - covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Analyse, benchmark, develop, promote and implement innovative policies and regulatory frameworks, including support schemes and grid connection requirements; assess, verify and/or develop scenarios for potentials, market growth trajectories, use of trade and flexibility instruments to reach targets and impacts on security of supply, the environment, economic growth, competitiveness and employment.
- Projects addressing non-technological barriers to the growth of offshore power generation from wind, and marine sources. This may include projects aimed at supporting strategic planning of cross-border offshore electricity grids that involve the relevant authorities, grid operators and other stakeholders from countries around specific regional seas or coastlines.
- Strategic actions aiming to analyse, monitor, streamline and ease application procedures, including construction and planning permits as well as grid connection procedures, thus reducing lead times and improving approval rates.
- Encourage businesses, households and the public sector to switch to cleaner electricity supplies.
- Give more prominence to RES-e topics in vocational training curricula; institutionalise (for example by means of agreements with universities, associations of installers, industries, and chambers of commerce) and promote certification schemes for installers, and for operation and maintenance teams.

Proposals related to **renewable energy heating/cooling (RES-H/C)** aim at supporting the implementation of the RES Directive at national, regional and local levels, with a particular emphasis on large-scale RE systems for district heating and/or cooling. Actions on biomass for district heating are expected to also address options involving CHP. Proposals may cover one or more of the following priorities:

- Analyse, benchmark, develop and implement innovative policies, legislation, codes and standards, including certification and support schemes, and international trading in sustainably produced fuels and systems for large-scale RES-H/C; assess, verify and/or develop scenarios for potentials, market growth trajectories and impacts on security of supply, the environment, economic growth, competitiveness and employment.
- Increase the use of RES-H/C in district heating and cooling systems and in cogeneration units by promoting best practices, improving application procedures, construction and planning permits, district

¹⁶ http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm

heating and cooling grid connection procedures, and market transparency including disclosure, guarantee of origin, transparent RE fuel pricing and tariffs, intelligent combinations with storage systems, and by engaging planners to include district-scale RES-H/C systems in their planning and reducing project approval delays for developers dealing with the design, construction and refurbishment of industrial and residential areas.

- Provide detailed and targeted information (including success stories and best practices), analyses and advice on the benefits, costs, administrative barriers and delays, access and connection issues for independent heat and power producers, and efficiency of RES-H/C in district heating/cooling systems and of related measures providing support to planners, developers, builders, businesses, public and commercial building managers, sports centres and households to encourage switching to RES-H/C.
- Strengthen local entrepreneurship capacity (notably in SMEs) for providing services related to sustainable fuel supply, installation and management of RES-H/C in district heating and cooling systems, including training and certification schemes for suppliers and installers.
- Provide targeted, institutionalised and certified training in the implementation of large-scale RES-H/C for planners, architects and public-sector authorising officers.

Proposals related to **small-scale renewable energy applications in buildings**¹⁷ shall increase the engagement of project developers, building construction companies and other building sector actors, and to convince them to integrate RE systems into their buildings in much larger numbers by covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Analyse, benchmark, develop and implement innovative planning and regulatory policies, aiming to promote the integration of RE systems in new building developments and in renovations of buildings.
- Support public authorities aiming to implement obligations for minimum levels of energy from RE sources (for heating, cooling and electricity from solar thermal, biomass, geothermal and PV) in their building regulations and codes for new or refurbished buildings.
- Coordinate activities aiming to support SMEs and other market actors with the development of markets and promotion of “plug and play” solutions using certified products, systems and services (including quality labelling) for cost-effective integration of small-scale RE systems in buildings. Priority will be given in 2009 to solar cooling and biomass heating systems.
- Large-scale training schemes/activities, in particular agreements with associations of installers, chambers of commerce etc., to institutionalise and certify the necessary training - involving conventional businesses from the building sector (plumbers, heating and air conditioning installers) – for installers of biomass boilers and stoves, solar heating and cooling and photovoltaic systems, and geothermal heat pumps in buildings.

Proposals related to **small-scale decentralised renewable energy systems**: not foreseen in this Call 2009.

Proposals related to **biofuels** are expected to support the implementation of the RES Directive and the proposed revised Fuel Quality Directive in relation to sustainably produced biofuels and biogas, covering one or more of the following priorities:

¹⁷ In the building sector, this Key Action focuses on development of the market, the industry and policy and regulatory frameworks which directly affect use of RE heating and cooling systems. More general action addressing implementation of the EPBD is a priority under SAVE.

- Monitor the impact of biofuels and biogas, including international trading of biofuels, on security of supply, food markets, commodity price changes, the environment, land use, economic growth, competitiveness and employment.
- Promote concrete actions aiming to implement EU policies related to biofuels or biogas at national, regional and local levels, in view of EU targets, whilst ensuring adequate sustainability and consistency with other EU policies.
- Encourage market players in the biofuel supply chain (farmers, foresters, fuel processors and distributors) to increase the economic competitiveness and environmental sustainability of biofuels (including second-generation biofuels and biofuels produced from algae).
- Improve transparency in EU and international biofuels markets, including guarantees of sustainable production, labelling and transparent pricing; support and promote the application of sustainability criteria for biofuels.
- Address the issues under discussion in the current debates on land use and sustainability; facilitate and promote well-informed debate and a balanced attitude amongst decision-makers and the general public.

10.3. Energy in transport (STEER)

STEER covers all modes of transport except aviation and long-distance maritime transport. Transport of goods and of people are both addressed.

Proposals related to **alternative fuels and clean and energy-efficient vehicles** (including electric vehicles), covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Promote and facilitate joint procurement of clean and energy-efficient vehicles (e.g. buses, rental cars, business car fleets and vehicles used for public services such as waste disposal) and/or of alternative fuels.
- Conduct awareness-raising campaigns for stakeholders involved in distribution, marketing and sales of clean and energy-efficient vehicles. They should be developed and offered systematically on a wide scale and could also include training for sales and maintenance staff in this sector.
- Conduct awareness-raising and information campaigns for customers regarding the availability of alternative fuels and the appropriate infrastructure, with an emphasis on the sustainability of these fuels in line with the sustainability criteria as laid down in the Renewable Energy Sources Directive and the proposed revised Fuel Quality Directive.

Proposals related to **energy-efficient transport**, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Promote less car-dependent lifestyles (e.g. measures to increase car occupancy rates or keep car occupancy rates high; measures to reduce car-kilometres, etc.).
- Increase the quality and attractiveness of collective transport and promote its use.
- Promote safe walking and safe cycling, also as an accompanying soft measure for local, national and/or European funding schemes on transport infrastructure.
- Provide coordination, management and information mechanisms and motivation to fleet operators, retailers and stakeholders in the freight sector about measures to increase the energy efficiency of fleet operations and driving.

- Support concepts to promote energy-efficient driving, particularly aimed at young drivers (including driving schools, improved maintenance and operation, such as tyre pressure control and “eco-tuning” and a more energy-efficient driving style).
- Promote transport demand management initiatives (for example, access restrictions, incentive/disincentive mechanisms, parking policies, etc.)
- Support learning and exchanges between practitioners, employees of regulating and administrative bodies or experts, for example through exchanges of staff (e.g. “shadowing” an experienced colleague, on-the-job training by practitioners or internships), audits or networking activities in order to transfer knowledge and experience.

Proposals related to **capacity-building in transport for existing local and regional agencies**, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Implement effective means of competence-building, in particular:
 - training and capacity-building on transport and energy issues for decision-makers or top management of the agencies;
 - exchanges of staff between different agencies and between agencies and transport experts (e.g. “shadowing” an experienced colleague or hands-on on-the-job training by practitioners or internships) in order to boost knowledge and experience.
- Priority will be given to competence-building proposals which build on existing learning material (e.g. building on previous STEER or other European projects), promote networking through face-to-face training and seek to overcome language barriers in order to reach the widest possible target group.
- Encourage close cooperation between energy and transport experts within or between agencies.
- Work towards long-term structural integration of transport issues into energy-related policies.
- Take action to encourage existing local and regional agencies to offer services related to energy efficiency in transport and to alternative fuels and clean vehicles.

10.4. Integrated initiatives

Proposals related to **European networking for local action**¹⁸, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Large-scale promotional activities by public authorities, local or regional development agencies or energy agencies, multipliers like chambers of commerce, associations of professionals, or consumer groups aimed at changing consumer behaviour with regard to EE and RE. Priority will be given to bottom-up actions, mobilising local stakeholders to participate in synchronised activities across the EU (e.g. energy days and weeks, coordinated between a number of local and regional sites in Europe). Such activities must have a results-oriented approach, demonstrably high expected impacts, a large EU

¹⁸ No priority will be given to training activities - these are more fully addressed in the SAVE, ALTENER and STEER fields.

dimension, and strong media impact.

- Joint activities between fully established energy agencies with more than three years' operating experience, working with national, regional or local authorities that wish to trigger investments in sustainable energy projects with the help of regional and structural funds.

Proposals related to **sustainable energy communities**, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Actions that will help communities to be or become a member of the Covenant of Mayors, embracing sustainable energy issues in a holistic way (public and private buildings, transport, industry) covering both demand- and supply-side measures, whilst at the same time strengthening collaboration between all relevant stakeholders (public administration, voluntary sector, businesses and citizens) and stimulating energy-efficient behaviour. Proposals must clearly demonstrate the willingness of the communities to play an exemplary role in the Covenant of Mayors and to encourage other communities to follow suit.
- Actions by **regional or national associations of public authorities** that will show leadership and through their role as multiplier can demonstrate to achieve a significant impact on their members to become sustainable energy communities.

Proposals related to **bio-business** following two major objectives: i) integrated bioenergy planning; ii) strengthening sustainable supply chains for solid bioenergy resources, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Actions in which public authorities and business interests (market stakeholders and investors) work together to develop and/or share experience on integrated planning to increase, where sustainable, the biomass production at regional level. Particular attention should be paid in such actions to compliance with existing/emerging sustainability criteria and to potential competition with the food, furniture and construction markets.
- Promote the establishment, consolidation or expansion of efficient and reliable markets for solid biomass, including the promotion of long-term agreements between farmers, foresters, landowners, biomass processors, bioenergy suppliers and end-users.
- Promote the latest bioenergy standards and address sustainability, traceability and quality-labelling or certification of solid bioenergy products at EU level.
- Stimulate large-scale investment in integrated sustainable bioenergy production at regional level, providing information and advice to large businesses and financing institutions.
- Promote the replication of outstanding bioenergy projects which give particular and/or additional economic, social and environmental benefits.
- Promote enhanced dialogue between biomass producers (farmers, foresters and fuel suppliers) and potential investors (project developers, financial institutions and potential partners in cooperative project financing or other innovative financing schemes).
- Improve the understanding of public-sector decision-makers, rural planners, entrepreneurs and investors in relation to local and regional bio-business opportunities and their social, economic and environmental benefits.

Proposals related to **energy services**, covering one or more of the following priorities:

- Provide applied monitoring and evaluation results of energy efficiency progress as well as policies and/or programmes outlined in the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans.
- Develop market-based approaches to energy efficiency policies, such as white certificates.
- Foster exchanges of best practice between public-sector bodies on energy-efficient public procurement in line with Annex VI of Directive 2006/32/EC.
- Improve market conditions for energy service companies (ESCOs), e.g. remove legal barriers in national legislation to use of shared and guaranteed savings, third-party financing, and energy performance contracting.
- Implement sustainable schemes for energy audits and energy management in line with Article 12 of Directive 2006/32/EC.
- Analyse, exchange information on best practices on smart metering and informative billing in line with Article 13 of Directive 2006/32/EC (however, actions eligible for funding under the ICT programme will not be supported).
- Identify, analyse and exchange information on best practices on financial mechanisms for promoting energy efficiency, including fiscal measures.

Proposals related to **intelligent energy education (higher education of teachers only)**, covering one or more of the following activities:

- Exchange of experiences among higher education institutions at EU level in integrating energy education into the overall training of teachers.
- Institutionalise training and awareness-raising among teachers on energy issues, including in-service training.
- Organise exchanges of experience between countries which have integrated intelligent energy education into their higher education curriculum for teachers and countries which have not.

Proposals related to the **creation of local and regional energy agencies**: not foreseen in this Call 2009.

Proposals related to **combined heat and power (CHP)**: not foreseen in this Call 2009.