EUCF
European City Facility

Final Impact Report

July 2024

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EUCF
Designed by Cities for Cities

Municipalities, local authorities and local public entities are the driver of the European sustainable energy transition. With tremendous potential to build comprehensive sustainable energy investment programmes, they also play a key role in aggregating smaller projects into larger investment portfolios and in mobilising significant financial resources required for the energy transition. The European City Facility (EUCF) unlocks this local potential and supports municipalities to develop relevant investment concepts related to the implementation of their climate and energy action plans. Cities can rely on the financial support offered by EUCF in the form of a €60,000 lump sum to develop their investment concepts, representing an initial yet critical step toward realizing their projects.

The ultimate objective is to build a substantial pipeline of sustainable energy investment projects across local authorities and local public entities in Europe

What is the EUCF

The project aims to unlock the potential of municipalities and local authorities to build comprehensive sustainable energy investment programs and mobilize the necessary funds for implementation. Municipalities across Europe have made ambitious commitments to significantly reduce their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. However, when attempting to implement these plans, they often encounter financial constraints and a lack of capacity to access appropriate financing.

It is at this point that the EUCF steps in, providing tailor-made, fast, and simplified financial support in the form of €60,000 lump sums, along with related services, to help develop relevant investment concepts that correspond to the implementation actions identified in municipalities' climate and energy action plans. The EUCF finances services and activities that contribute to the realization of different components of the investment concept, which should include the identification of potential project pipelines, legal analyses, governance analyses, basic financing strategies, and roadmaps for implementation. These elements are prerequisites for accessing various sources of funding. EUCF grants are intended to be used to develop comprehensive and robust investment concepts.

Specifically, the initiative addresses a number of barriers for sustainable energy investments at the local level:

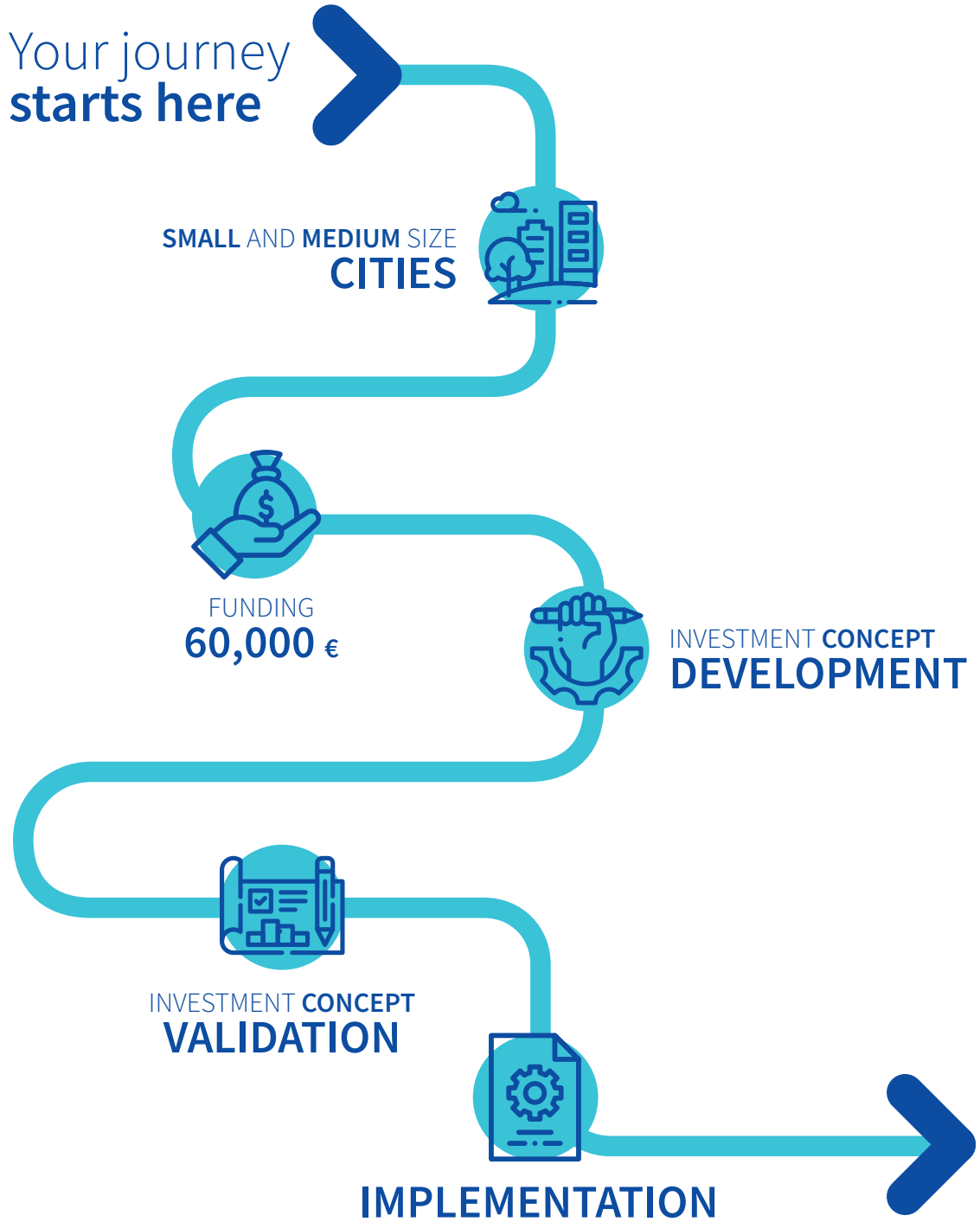
- Lack of financial and legal capacity to transform local long-term energy and climate strategies (e.g. SEAPs, SECAPs etc.) into appropriate investment concepts.
- Lack of attractiveness for the financial sector.

Initially established under the EU's Horizon 2020 Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, the project has continued operations post-December 2022 as part of the EU's LIFE programme.

Vision & Mission

The vision of the EUCF is one where European cities have their say on how the EUCF financial and technical support will be used to meet their needs and help them overcome the barriers they face in financing and implementing their ambitious energy and climate strategies.

How the EUCF supports your journey



The EUCF journey

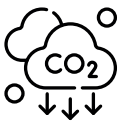
From May 2020 to September 2023, EUCF operated 4 calls for application with a total of 215 successful beneficiaries selected, coming from 25 countries. This has been a critical initial step towards the subsequent mobilisation of (local) investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Overall, the Southern Europe (SE)[1] represented the region submitting the highest number of applications across the four EUCF calls (299) followed by Central and Eastern Europe (CEE)[2] (290). The Nordic countries and Western Europe (NC&WE)[3] region presented the lowest total of submitted applications (184). The first investment concepts (IC) submission started in February 2022 while the last submitted investment concepts (from the fourth call) were uploaded until July 2024. Of all the selected beneficiaries, 202 ICs were succesfully submitted and positively validated, 12 ICs were not completed/not submitted by the beneficiary, 1 IC was negatively validated.

Thanks to the specific structure of the call and the accessibility to the grant, the beneficiaries of EUCF are quite diverse. They are comprised of both small local governments of less than 10,000 inhabitants to much larger ones. Beneficiaries also include groups of municipalities having jointly submitted a proposal. In addition, the investment concepts show diversity in target sectors focus. The expected investment size also varies, ranging from less than €2 million to more than €2 billion.

Altogether, the value of the investment concepts submitted amounts to €7.7 billion for the CEE, €6 billion for SE, and €10.5 billion for NC&WE (total investment size). Such a volume of investments will help deliver the overall programme objectives:

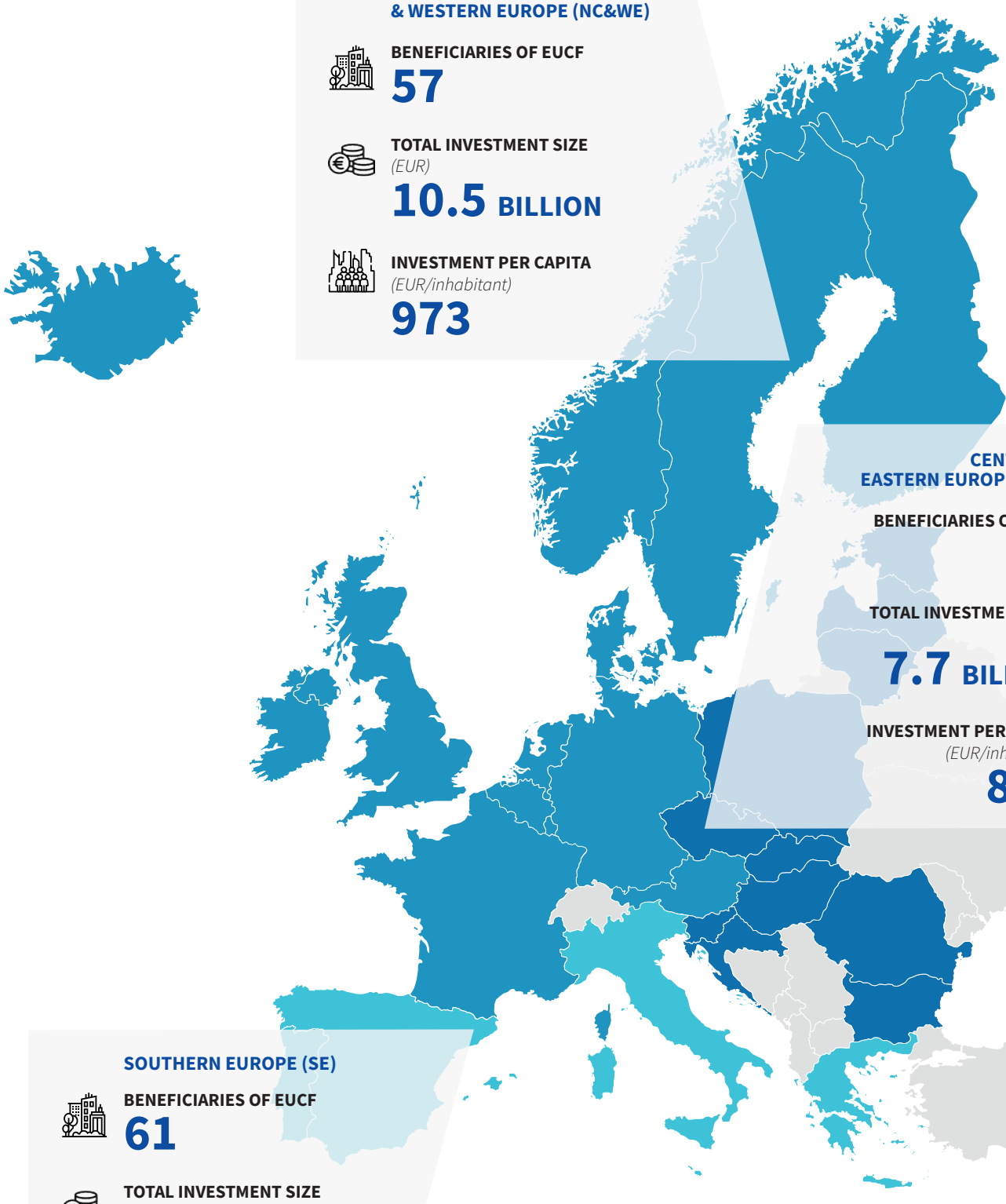
to **reduce** energy **consumption**,

to **increase** production from **renewable energy,**



to **reduce CO_2** emissions.

[1] Southern Europe: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
[2] Central and Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia
[3] Nordic countries and Western Europe: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, U.K.



NORDIC COUNTRIES & WESTERN EUROPE (NC&WE)

BENEFICIARIES OF EUCF
57

TOTAL INVESTMENT SIZE
(EUR)
10.5 BILLION

INVESTMENT PER CAPITA
(EUR/inhabitant)
973

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE (CEE)

BENEFICIARIES OF EUCF
84

TOTAL INVESTMENT SIZE
(EUR)
7.7 BILLION

INVESTMENT PER CAPITA
(EUR/inhabitant)
845

SOUTHERN EUROPE (SE)

BENEFICIARIES OF EUCF
61

TOTAL INVESTMENT SIZE
(EUR)
6 BILLION

INVESTMENT PER CAPITA
(EUR/inhabitant)
749

The concrete figures for expected impacts and investments presented in this document are based on the values provided in the positively validated investment concepts.

Total foreseen impacts

Investment concepts are required to address the energy and climate actions identified within the local climate plans (SECAPs), also demonstrating positive environmental impacts. As global awareness around both climate change and environmental degradation increases, investors are increasingly scrutinising the ecological footprint of their portfolios. The attractiveness of green investments, which focus on renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and eco-friendly technologies, is growing. Investments of this kind aim to mitigate environmental harm by promoting practices that reduce carbon emissions, promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. Investment concepts developed through EUCF support envisage strong environmental outcomes, namely: approximately 12,000 GWh of energy savings per year, around 10,000 GWh of energy produced from renewable sources annually, and 8 million tons of CO2 equivalent emissions avoided each year.

Aggregated data from positively validated investment concepts

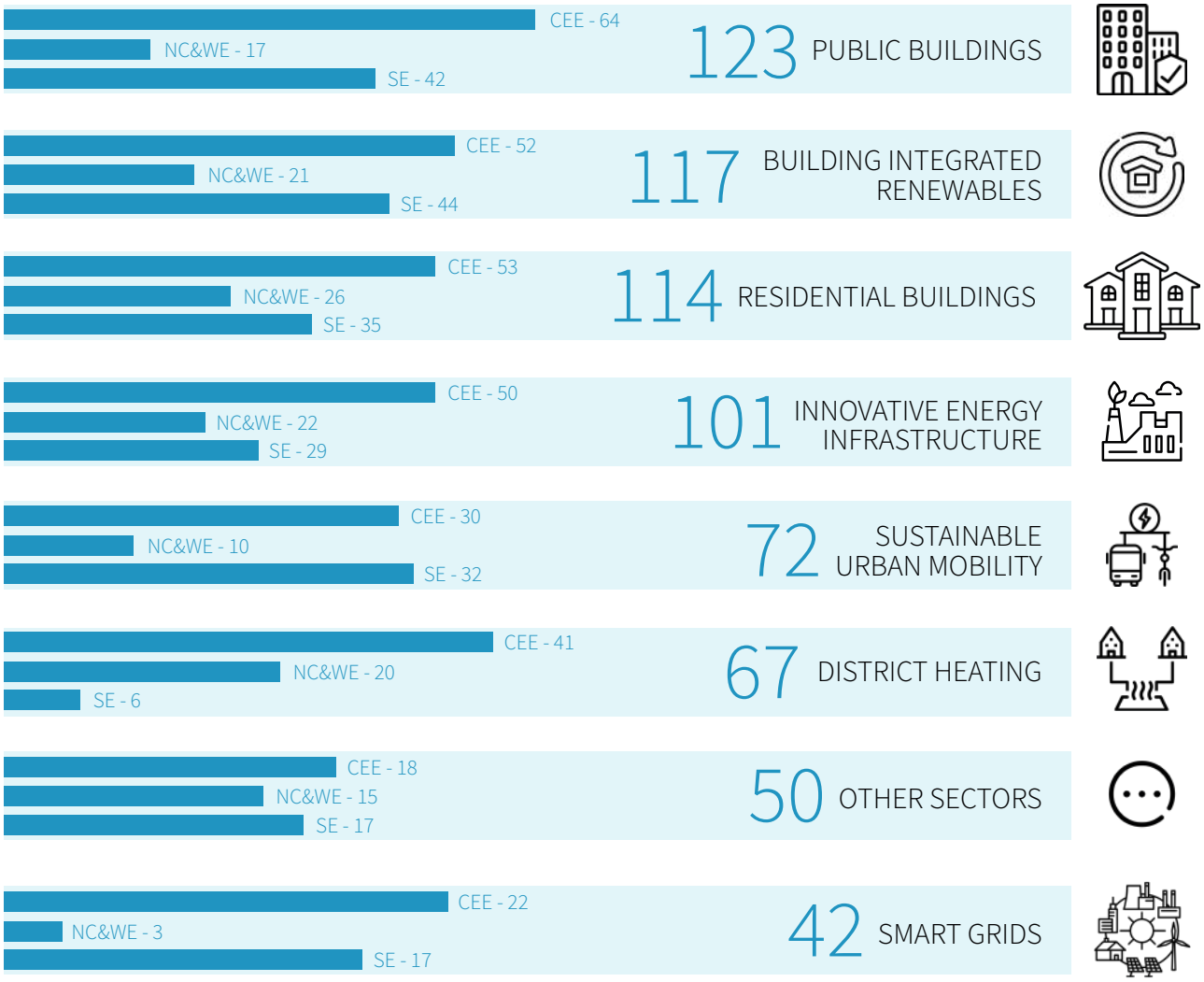
	TOTAL POPULATION	TOTAL ENERGY SAVINGS	TOTAL RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION	AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE (CEE)	**9 MILLION** inhabitants	**3,158** GWh/y	**3,497** GWh/y	**3 MILLION** tCO_2eq/y
NORDIC COUNTRIES & WESTERN EUROPE (NC&WE)	**11 MILLION** inhabitants	**6,007** GWh/y	**2,594** GWh/y	**3 MILLION** tCO2eq/y
SOUTHERN EUROPE (SE)	**8 MILLION** inhabitants	**2,798** GWh/y	**3,796** GWh/y	**2 MILLION** tCO2eq/y
TOTAL	**28 MILLION** inhabitants	**11,963** GWh/y	**9,887** GWh/y	**8 MILLION** tCO2eq/y

The concrete figures for expected impacts and investments presented in this document are based on the values provided in the final investment concepts.

Investment Sectors

When it comes to investment sectors, municipalities planned investments across a variety of areas, though some were prioritized more than others. Overall, municipalities showed particular interest in building renovation (both public and private), followed by building-integrated renewables and innovative energy infrastructures. Less attention was given to the development of smart grids and other specific sectors.

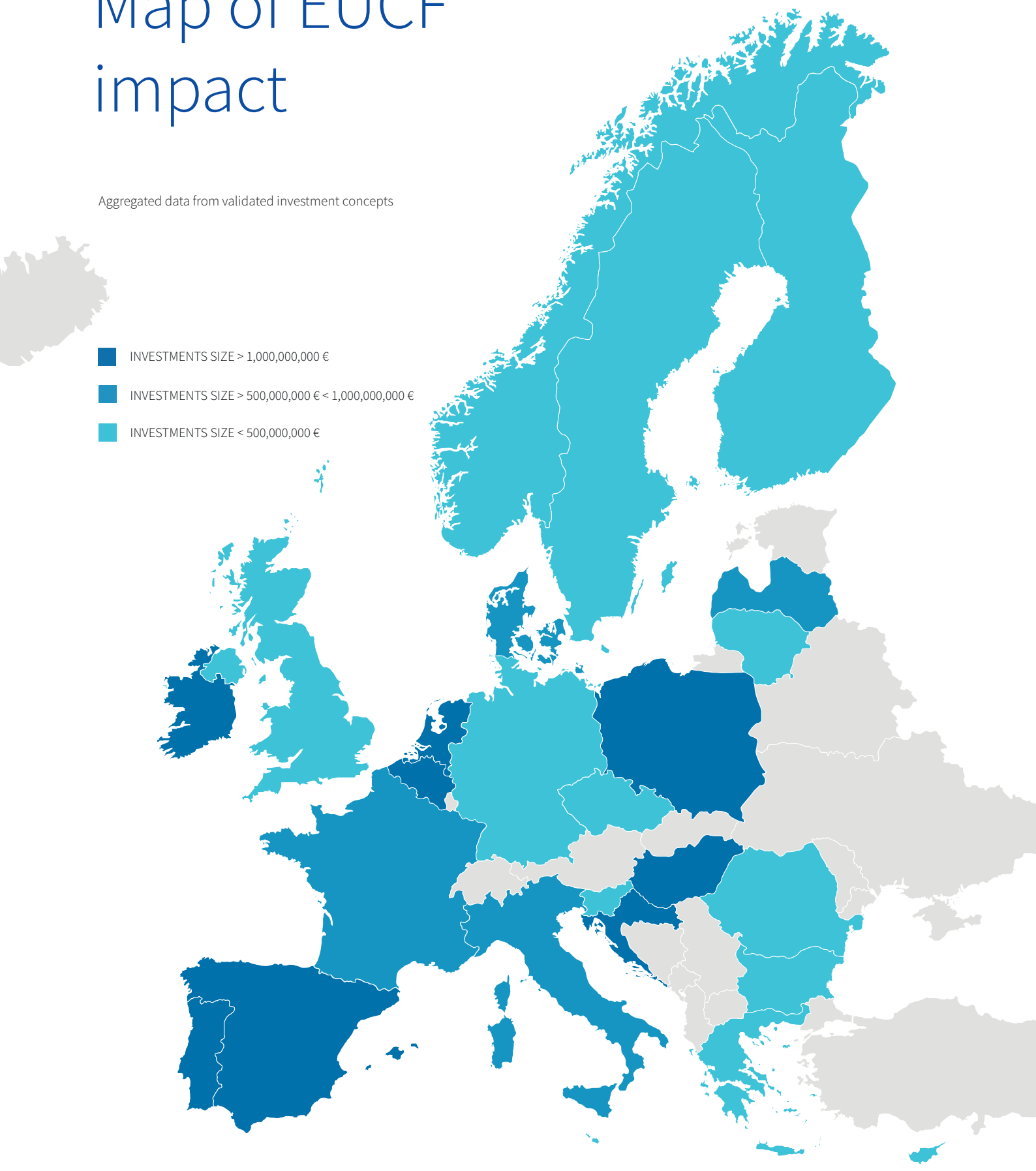
(Main) targeted investment sectors by validated investment concepts* divided by region



*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

Map of EUCF impact

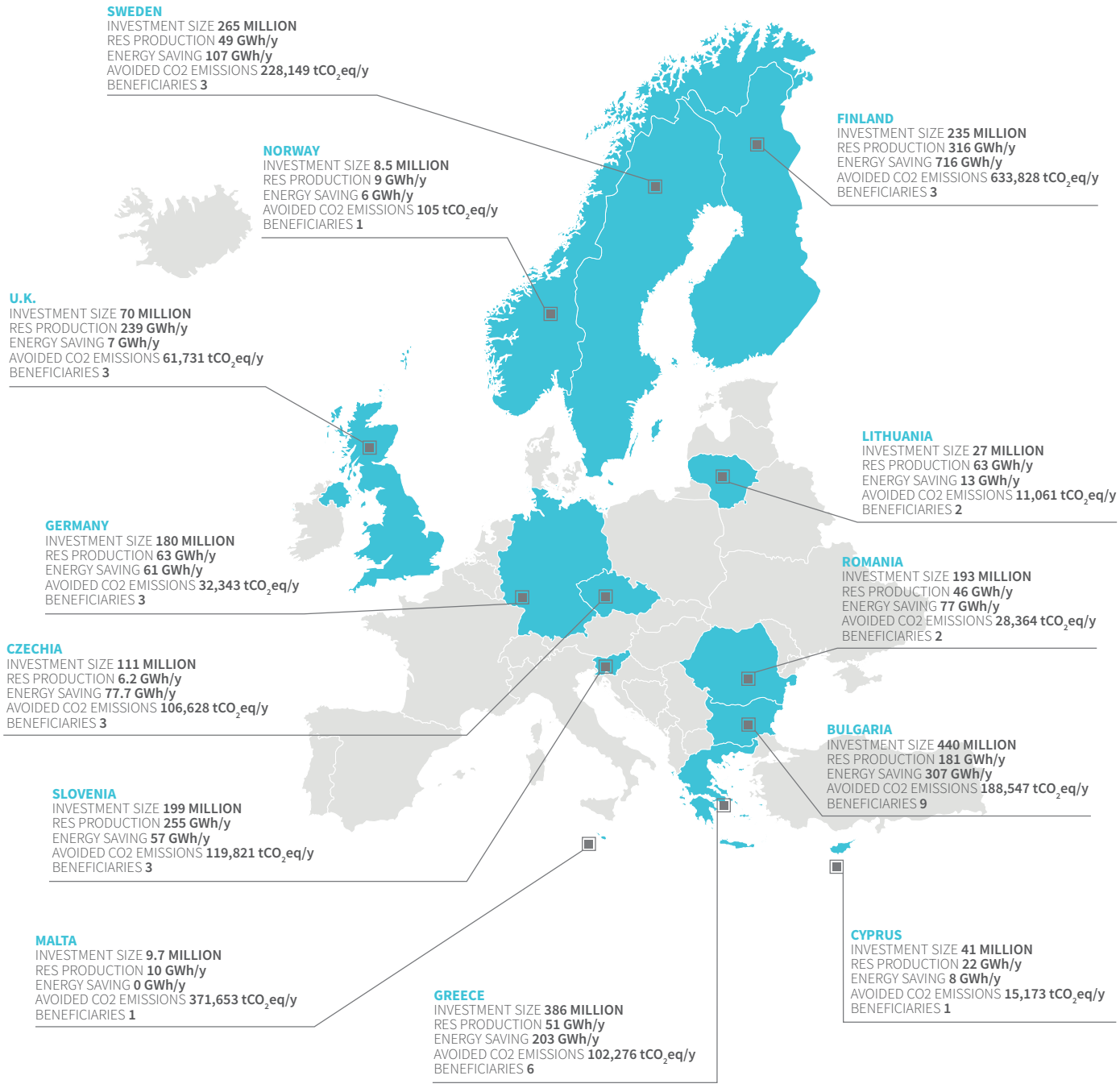
Aggregated data from validated investment concepts



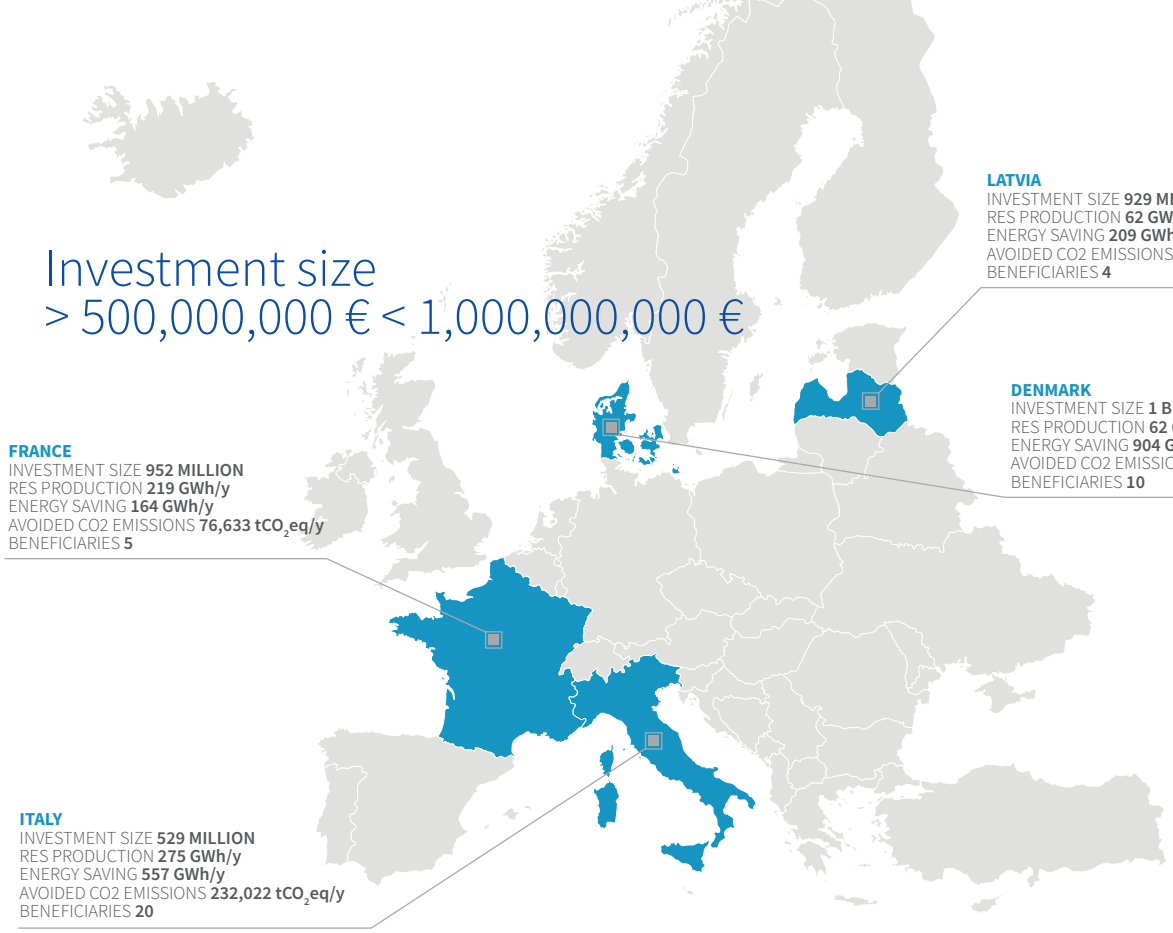
Focus on countries

Entering into the details by country, the countries representing the highest aggregated investment levels are the Netherlands, followed by Portugal and Ireland.

Investment size
< 500,000,000 €



Investment size
> 500,000,000 € < 1,000,000,000 €



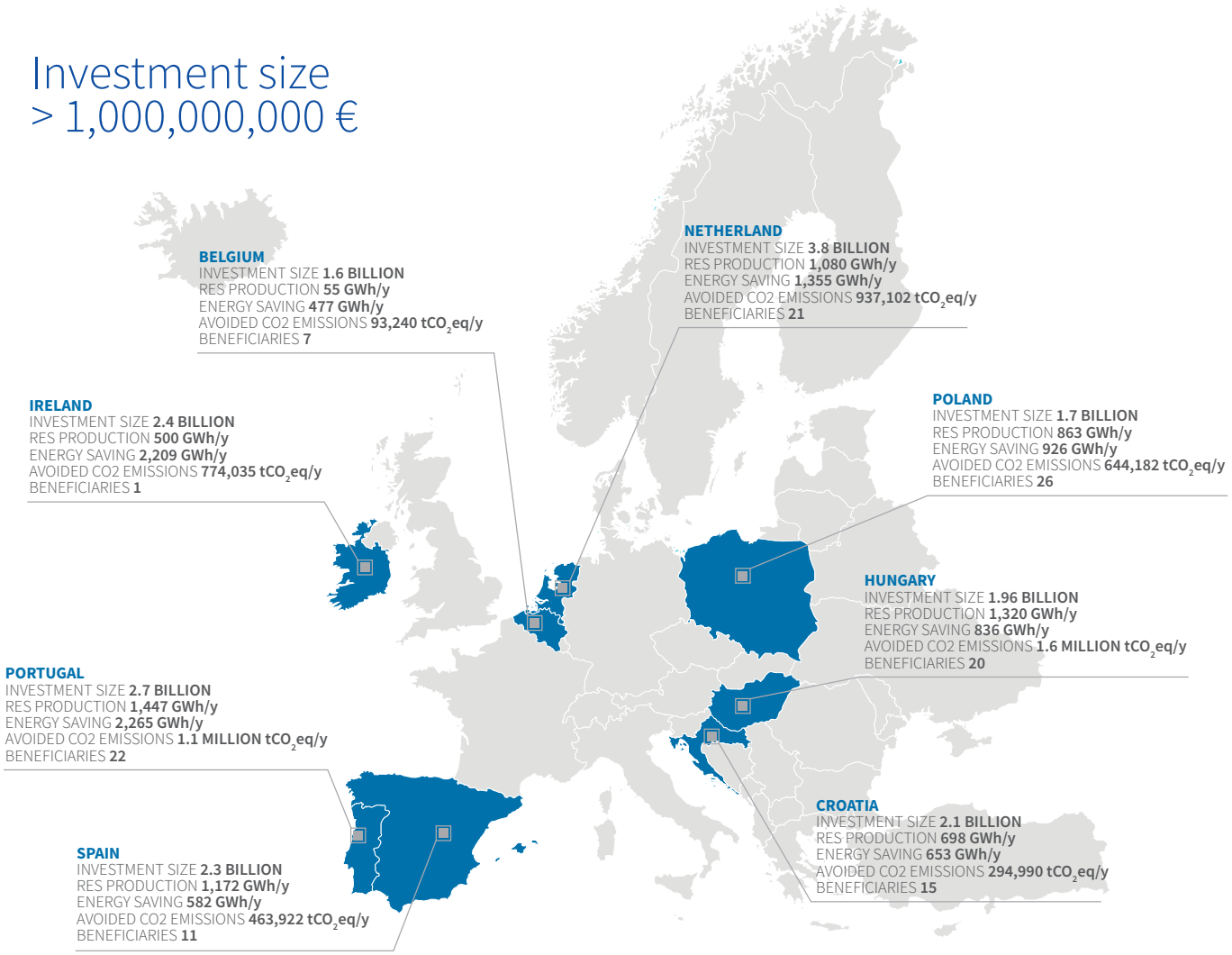
LATVIA
INVESTMENT SIZE **929 MILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **62 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **209 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **35,249 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **4**

DENMARK
INVESTMENT SIZE **1 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **62 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **904 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **288,007 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **10**

FRANCE
INVESTMENT SIZE **952 MILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **219 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **164 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **76,633 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **5**

ITALY
INVESTMENT SIZE **529 MILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **275 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **557 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **232,022 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **20**

Investment size
> 1,000,000,000 €



BELGIUM
INVESTMENT SIZE **1.6 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **55 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **477 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **93,240 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **7**

NETHERLAND
INVESTMENT SIZE **3.8 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **1,080 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **1,355 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **937,102 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **21**

IRELAND
INVESTMENT SIZE **2.4 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **500 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **2,209 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **774,035 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **1**

POLAND
INVESTMENT SIZE **1.7 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **863 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **926 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **644,182 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **26**

HUNGARY
INVESTMENT SIZE **1.96 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **1,320 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **836 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **1.6 MILLION tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **20**

PORTUGAL
INVESTMENT SIZE **2.7 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **1,447 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **2,265 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **1.1 MILLION tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **22**

CROATIA
INVESTMENT SIZE **2.1 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **698 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **653 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **294,990 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **15**

SPAIN
INVESTMENT SIZE **2.3 BILLION**
RES PRODUCTION **1,172 GWh/y**
ENERGY SAVING **582 GWh/y**
AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS **463,922 tCO_2eq/y**
BENEFICIARIES **11**

Detail by Country

Focusing on individual countries rather than the broader European context offers distinct advantages for investors. Each European country has unique economic conditions, regulatory environments, and growth opportunities. By tailoring investment strategies to specific countries, investors can better leverage these factors. Additionally, national priorities and legislative frameworks, which vary by country, demand a more targeted approach. Each country has its own specificities, from political climate to national policies supporting investments in different sectors and areas. Therefore, we aim to provide detailed information on country-specific trends.

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE (CEE)

COUNTRY

Bulgaria

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
181 GWh/y	307 GWh/y	188,547 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 9

EUCF FUNDING **540,000** €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED **440** MILLION €

Dobrich | Burgas | Gabrovo | Belene | Pyce | Razgrad | Cherven Bryag | Smolyan | Mizia

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
9	6	2	1	6	1	7	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Croatia

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
698 GWh/y	653 GWh/y	294,990 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 15

EUCF FUNDING **900,000** €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED **2.1** BILLION €

Karlovac | Rijeka | Velika Gorica | Križevci | Poreč | Slavonski Brod | Cres | Korčula | Kastav | Zabok | Čavle | Varaždin | Virovitica | Koprivnica | Vrbovec

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
8	7	8	3	9	6	8	4

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Czechia

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
6.2 GWh/y	77.7 GWh/y	106,628 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING **180,000** €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED **111** MILLION €

Kladno | Tábor | Žďár nad Sázavou

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
2	1	0	0	2	1	0	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Hungary

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
1,320 GWh/y	836 GWh/y	1.6 MILLION tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 20

EUCF FUNDING **1.2** MILLION €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED **1.96** BILLION €

Gyöngyös | Hódmezővásárhely | Veszprém | Mórahalom | Budaörs | Budapest III | Miskolc | Bükkaranyos | Szombathely | Pécs | Szekszárd | Kecskemét | Budapest (7th District Erzsébetváros) | Budapest (District 11 of Budapest, Újbuda) | Cegléd | Debrecen | Budapest (District IX Kerület Ferencváros Önkormányzata) | Budapest (District VIII Józsefváros) | Alsómocsolád | Dunaújváros

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
16	16	10	4	15	10	10	4

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Latvia

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
62 GWh/y	209 GWh/y	35,249 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 4

EUCF FUNDING
240,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
929 MILLION €

Rīga | Ādažu novads | Tukuma novads | Jūrmala

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
3	2	0	0	3	2	2	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Lithuania

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
63 GWh/y	13 GWh/y	11,061 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 2

EUCF FUNDING
120,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
27 MILLION €

Visaginas savivaldybė | Elektrėnų savivaldybė

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
0	0	1	0	0	2	1	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Poland

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
863 GWh/y	926 GWh/y	644,182 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 26

EUCF FUNDING
1.56 MILLION €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
1.7 BILLION €

Piaseczno | Sztum | Włocławek | Gorzów Wielkopolski | Zawiercie | Piastów | Skierbieszów | Łódź | Wrocław | Dobczyce | Bydgoszcz | Krosno | Bytom | Świdnica | Lubartów | Nowy Targ | Czechowice-Dziedzice | Radłów | Wałbrzych | Warszawa | Inowrocław | Dzierzgoń | Racibórz | Wołomin | Ujazd | Rejowiec Fabryczny

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
22	19	7	13	13	15	19	7

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Romania

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
46 GWh/y	77 GWh/y	28,364 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 2

EUCF FUNDING
120,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
193 MILLION €

Onești | Sfântul Gheorghe

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
2	2	2	1	2	1	2	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Slovenia

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
255 GWh/y	57 GWh/y	119,821 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING
180,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
199 MILLION €

Velenje | Grosuplje | Kranj

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

NORDIC COUNTRIES & WESTERN EUROPE (NC&WE)

COUNTRY
Belgium

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
55 GWh/y	477 GWh/y	93,240 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 7

EUCF FUNDING
420,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
1.6 BILLION €

Schaerbeek | Mechelen | Ranst | Zuid-West-Vlaanderen | Profondeville | Mortsel | Zottegem

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
2	1	0	0	1	3	1	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Denmark

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
62 GWh/y	904 GWh/y	288,007 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 10

EUCF FUNDING
600,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
1 BILLION €

Nyborg | Samsø | Aarhus | Kalundborg | Ringkøbing Skjern | Hjørring | Haderslev | Frederikssund | Silkeborg | Furesø

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
0	3	2	0	0	3	4	3

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Finland

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
316 GWh/y	716 GWh/y	633,828 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING
180,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
235 MILLION €

Tampere | Mikkeli | Vaasa

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
0	0	0	0	1	3	3	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
France

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
219 GWh/y	164 GWh/y	76,633 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 5

EUCF FUNDING
300,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
952 MILLION €

Le Havre Seine Métropole | Métropole Lilloise | Poitiers | Lyon | Roannais Agglomération

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
3	2	1	0	3	2	1	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Germany

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
63 GWh/y	61 GWh/y	32,343 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING
180,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
180 MILLION €

Rostock | Konstanz | Bottrop

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
3	2	2	1	3	2	2	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Ireland

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
500 GWh/y	2,209 GWh/y	774,035 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 1

EUCF FUNDING
60,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
2.4 BILLION €

Lifford Stranorlar

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Netherlands

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
1,080 GWh/y	1,355 GWh/y	937,102 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 21

EUCF FUNDING
1.26 MILLION €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
3.8 BILLION €

Waalwijk | Rheden | Horst aan de Maas | Westland | Epe | Berkelland | Wageningen | De Bilt | Voorst | Bunnik | Utrechtse Heuvelrug | Bronckhorst | Houten | Leeuwarden | Smallingerland | Zeist | Ede | Purmerend | Uithoorn | Haarlemmermeer | Groningen

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
2	14	1	2	6	4	6	4

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Norway

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
9 GWh/y	6 GWh/y	105 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 1

EUCF FUNDING
60,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
8.5 MILLION €

Asker

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

Sweden

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
49 GWh/y	107 GWh/y	228,149 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING
180,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
265 MILLION €

Lund | Skövde | Västervik

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
3	2	3	0	3	2	2	3

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY

U.K.

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
239 GWh/y	7 GWh/y	61,731 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 3

EUCF FUNDING
180,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
70 MILLION €

Coventry | County Durham | Northumberland

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
2	0	0	0	2	0	2	1

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

SOUTHERN EUROPE (SE)

COUNTRY
Cyprus

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
22 GWh/y	8 GWh/y	15,173 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 1

EUCF FUNDING
60,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
41 MILLION €

Plano Platres

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Greece

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
51 GWh/y	203 GWh/y	102,276 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 6

EUCF FUNDING
360,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
386 MILLION €

Thermi | Vrilissia | Edessa | Xylokastro Evrostini | Nea Smyrni | Korydallos

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
6	2	4	0	4	0	1	5

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Italy

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
275 GWh/y	557 GWh/y	232,022 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 20

EUCF FUNDING
1.2 MILLION €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
529 MILLION €

Pinerolo | Ravenna | Castel San Pietro Terme | Isola Vicentina | Carmignano di Brenta | Reggio nell'Emilia | Assisi | Montechiarugolo | Feltre | Borgo San Dalmazzo | Unione della Romagna Faentina | Milano | Unione dei Comuni Valli del Reno, Lavino e Samoggia | Bologna | Capannoli | Castellammare di Stabia | Federazione dei Comuni del Camposampierese | Union of Bassa Romagna Municipalities | Unione Terre di Castelli | Chiampo

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
11	7	11	2	13	2	11	6

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Malta

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
10 GWh/y	0 GWh/y	371,653 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 1

EUCF FUNDING
60,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
9.7 MILLION €

Cottonera

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Portugal

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
1,447 GWh/y	2,265 GWh/y	1.1 MILLION tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 22

EUCF FUNDING
1.36 MILLION €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
2.7 BILLION €

Cascais | Sintra | Braga | Guimaraes | Guarda | Porto | Vila Nova de Gaia | Vila Nova de Famalicao | Torres Vedras | Sao Joao da Madeira | Arcos de Valdevez | Oeiras | Ovar | Maia | Vinhais | Azambuja | Arruda dos Vinhos | Almada | Valongo | Marvao | Matosinhos | Carrazeda de Ansiaes

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
17	18	10	9	16	2	11	2

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

COUNTRY
Spain

RES PRODUCTION	ENERGY SAVINGS	AVOIDED CO2 EMISSIONS
1,172 GWh/y	582 GWh/y	463,922 tCO2eq/y

NUMBER BENEFICIARIES: 11

EUCF FUNDING
660,000 €

INVESTMENT EXPECTED
2.3 BILLION €

Girona | Málaga | Alcorcón | Rivas Vaciamadrid | Osona | Logroño | Pamplona | Lleida | Rubí | Santa Maria d'Oló | Montilla

TARGET SECTORS*

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS	SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY	SMART GRIDS	BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES	DISTRICT HEATING	INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER
7	8	6	6	9	2	5	4

*Investment concepts may cover more than one sector

Beneficiaries

Just as with country-specific trends, each municipality within a country presents a unique scenario. Differences in capacity, human resources, national and regional support, and even geographical location all significantly impact the size and scope of the projects that each municipality can envision. Consequently, it is particularly valuable to explore the investment concepts developed by each municipality. This information is readily accessible on the website.

Click or scan
for more details.

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE (CEE)	
BULGARIA	Dobrich | Burgas | Gabrovo | Belene | Pyce | Razgrad | Cherven Bryag | Smolyan | Mizia
CROATIA	Karlovac | Rijeka | Velika Gorica | Križevci | Poreč | Slavonski Brod | Cres | Korčula | Kastav | Zabok | Čavle | Varaždin | Virovitica | Koprivnica | Vrbovec
CZECHIA	Kladno | Tábor | Žďár nad Sázavou
HUNGARY	Gyöngyös | Hódmezővásárhely | Veszprém | Mórahalom | Budaörs | Budapest III | Miskolc | Bükkaranyos | Szombathely | Pécs | Szekszárd | Kecskemét | Budapest (7th District Erzsébetváros) | Budapest (District 11 of Budapest, Újbuda) | Cegléd | Debrecen | Budapest (District IX Kerület Ferencváros Önkormányzata) | Budapest (District VIII Józsefváros) | Alsómocsolád | Dunaújváros
LATVIA	Rīga | Ādažu novads | Tukuma novads | Jūrmala
LITHUANIA	Visaginas savivaldybė | Elektrėnų savivaldybė
POLAND	Piaseczno | Sztum | Włocławek | Gorzów Wielkopolski | Zawiercie | Piastów | Skierbieszów | Łódź | Wrocław | Dobczyce | Bydgoszcz | Krosno | Bytom | Świdnica | Lubartów | Nowy Targ | Czechowice-Dziedzice | Radłów | Wałbrzych | Warszawa | Inowrocław | Dzierzgoń | Racibórz | Wołomin | Ujazd | Rejowiec Fabryczny
ROMANIA	Onești | Sfântul Gheorghe
SLOVENIA	Velenje | Grosuplje | Kranj

NORDIC COUNTRIES & WESTERN EUROPE (NC&WE)	
BELGIUM	Schaerbeek | Mechelen | Ranst | Zuid-West-Vlaanderen | Profondeville | Mortsel | Zottegem
DENMARK	Nyborg | Samsø | Aarhus | Kalundborg | Ringkøbing Skjern | Hjørring | Haderslev | Frederikssund | Silkeborg | Furesø
FINLAND	Tampere | Mikkeli | Vaasa
FRANCE	Le Havre Seine Métropole | Métropole Lilloise | Poitiers | Lyon | Roannais Agglomération
GERMANY	Rostock | Konstanz | Bottrop
IRELAND	Lifford Stranorlar
NETHERLANDS	Waalwijk | Rheden | Horst aan de Maas | Westland | Epe | Berkelland | Wageningen | De Bilt | Voorst | Bunnik | Utrechtse Heuvelrug | Bronckhorst | Houten | Leeuwarden | Smallingerland | Zeist | Ede | Purmerend | Uithoorn | Haarlemmermeer | Groningen
NORWAY	Asker
SWEDEN	Lund | Skövde | Västervik
U.K.	Coventry | County Durham | Northumberland
SOUTHERN EUROPE (SE)	
CYPRUS	Plano Platres
GREECE	Thermi | Vrilissia | Edessa | Xylokastro Evrostini | Nea Smyrni | Korydallos
ITALY	Pinerolo | Ravenna | Castel San Pietro Terme | Isola Vicentina | Carmignano di Brenta | Reggio nell'Emilia | Assisi | Montechiarugolo | Feltre | Borgo San Dalmazzo | Unione della Romagna Faentina | Milano | Unione dei Comuni Valli del Reno, Lavino e Samoggia | Bologna | Capannoli | Castellammare di Stabia | Federazione dei Comuni del Camposampierese | Union of Bassa Romagna Municipalities | Unione Terre di Castelli | Chiampo
MALTA	Cottonera
PORTUGAL	Cascais | Sintra | Braga | Guimaraes | Guarda | Porto | Vila Nova de Gaia | Vila Nova de Famalicao | Torres Vedras | Sao Joao da Madeira | Arcos de Valdevez | Oeiras | Ovar | Maia | Vinhais | Azambuja | Arruda dos Vinhos | Almada | Valongo | Matao | Matosinhos | Carrazeda de Ansiaes
SPAIN	Girona | Málaga | Alcorcón | Rivas Vaciamadrid | Osona | Logroño | Pamplona | Lleida | Rubí | Santa Maria d'Oló | Montilla

Beyond the Investment Concept

Defining the investment size needed to implement a particular energy transition activity is critical to progressing toward a specific climate objective. However, the goal of the EUCF project extends beyond just this financial component. The project aims to develop the organizational, technical, and financial capabilities of municipalities, particularly small and medium-sized ones that often lack the resources to develop their climate plans.

Ultimately, the main objectives of the EUCF are:

- **Provide hands-on locally rooted technical and financial expertise to municipalities**, local authorities and local public entities aggregating municipalities/local authorities to deliver credible and scalable investment projects, which should trigger public and private investment
- Build the **capacity** of municipal staff
- Broaden knowledge about possible **financial opportunities** (private financing, EU funding streams, European Investment Bank programs, crowdfunding, ESCOs, etc.)
- **Encourage replication** and catalyse further action across European cities.

As discussed in the previous chapter, investment concepts can take various paths, shaped by national priorities, local needs, and the resources available to each municipality. This diversity makes it challenging to pinpoint a single, inspirational model that can be universally replicated. However, to provide valuable insights to other municipalities about the potential opportunities, challenges, and key factors to consider, **the EUCF team selected 10 beneficiaries** from different countries, each with varying resources. In most cases, the projects featured are planned on a long-term basis and are still ongoing. Overall, the selected municipalities have worked or are working on a wide range of projects, offering a broad spectrum of experiences.

Through bilateral calls, we had the opportunity to delve into not only the tangible progress of their projects but also to explore how participation in the EUCF initiative has influenced their internal operations and deepened their understanding of financial aspects. These case studies not only demonstrate the positive financial benefits gained by beneficiaries from participating in the EUCF programme but also highlight some of the new knowledge and capacities acquired.

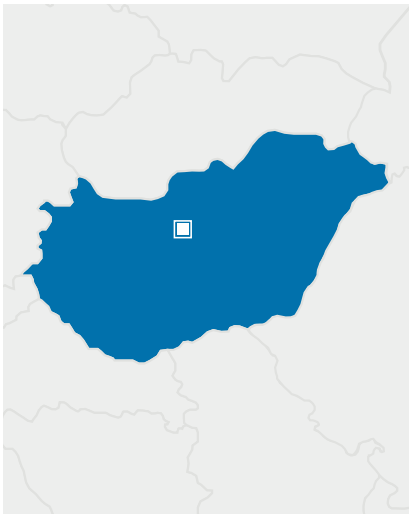
QUOTE

"EUCF gave us valuable knowledge to access new opportunities"

Budaörs

COUNTRY

Hungary



STAGE
PLANNING

INHABITANTS
29,119

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED POLLUTION

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The Municipality of Budaörs is planning a long-term project to create a **positive energy district** (PED). However, it faces significant challenges, including **financial constraints and limited human resources**. In fact, only two individuals are currently dedicated to this project. However, the municipality is considering applying for additional EU funds, such as the European Urban Initiative. Moreover, despite the challenges faced, **the municipality has managed to make progress** in some areas, including undertaking small-scale projects such as installing solar panels on kindergarten roofs. Additionally, **collaboration with NGOs and companies** has led to increased awareness and actions by citizens and businesses. For instance, some companies have installed charging stations for EVs, and some citizens have undertaken energy-efficient renovations of their buildings. Finally, while most of the project remains in the planning phase, some companies are planning significant renewable energy initiatives, which, if implemented, would meet the expectations outlined in the investment concept.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
02-2023

INVESTMENT SIZE
17.5
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
25.5
GWh/y

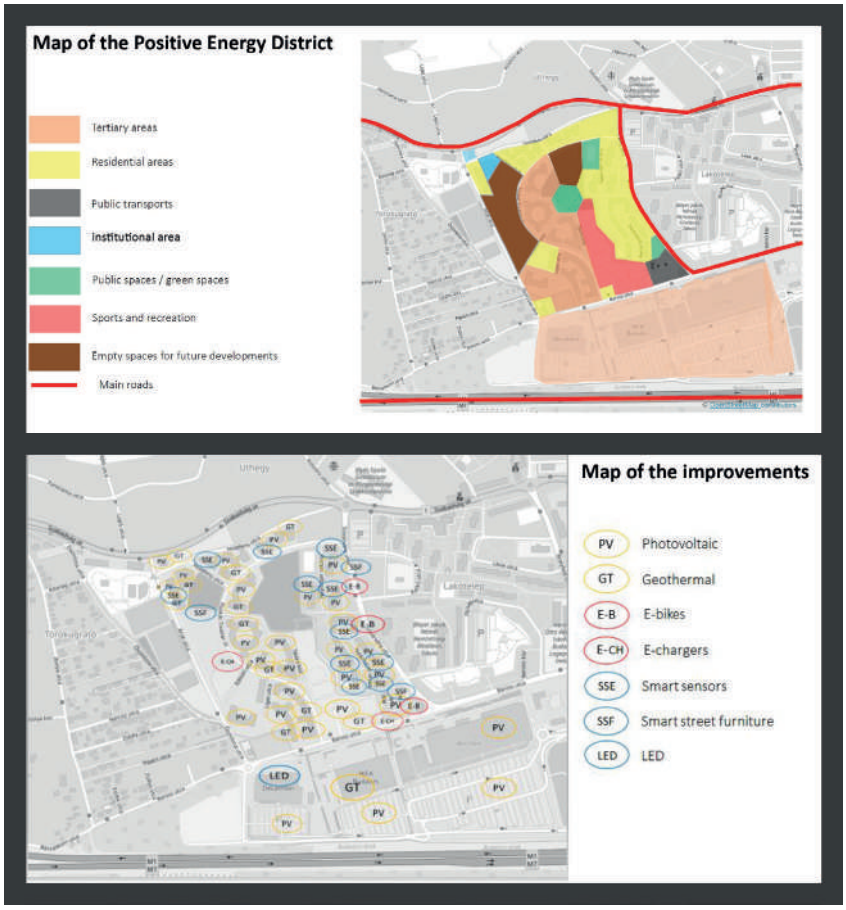
ENERGY SAVINGS
0.7
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
7,664
tCO_2eq/y

Budaörs

COUNTRY
Hungary

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

The municipality coordinated the investment concept development, involving stakeholders through an interactive workshop and incorporating their feedback. However, the actual development was handled by an external company in Budapest.

FUNDING SOURCES

About 20% will come from public funds. The municipality also plan to use EU funds like the European Urban Initiative and leverage financial resources from companies headquartered in the PED's designated area.

LESSONS LEARNED

Budaörs Municipality's initiative to create a positive energy district has taught valuable lessons.

They discovered the importance of proactive engagement with stakeholders and leveraging diverse funding sources, including EU funds and local businesses. Challenges highlighted the need for robust financial planning and adequate human resources.

Effective coordination among stakeholders proved crucial in navigating project complexities. These insights are guiding their path toward sustainable urban development despite multifaceted challenges.

QUOTE

"With EUCF we could work beyond our budgetary constraints"

Riga

COUNTRY

Latvia

STAGE
PLANNING

INHABITANTS
632,000

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED POLLUTION

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

For Riga Municipality, EUCF presented a unique opportunity to address challenges that otherwise wouldn't have been feasible due to budget constraints. While the aim of the project, named 'REEF', was ambitious – **renovating thousands of buildings** – the concept was solid. However, the main challenge lay in coordinating various stakeholders upon whom the success of the investment concept relied. Implementation hurdles were evident, particularly with dependencies on decisions from entities like the Ministry of Economics. Internally, the municipality focused on two key aspects within the project: **developing a pipeline** of buildings for energy efficiency fund applications and **conducting essential research** and documentation. Funding for these activities primarily came from the municipality's own resources, aiming to bridge the gap between concept and practical application. The municipality intends to invest **€30 million to start the renovation** of selected buildings, which will serve as both a pilot and proof of concept. However, with over 6,000 buildings needing renovation and a national renovation program in place until 2027, alternative funding options such as establishing an ESCO company have been deemed imperative beyond that point.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
01-2023

INVESTMENT SIZE
794
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
0.9
GWh/y

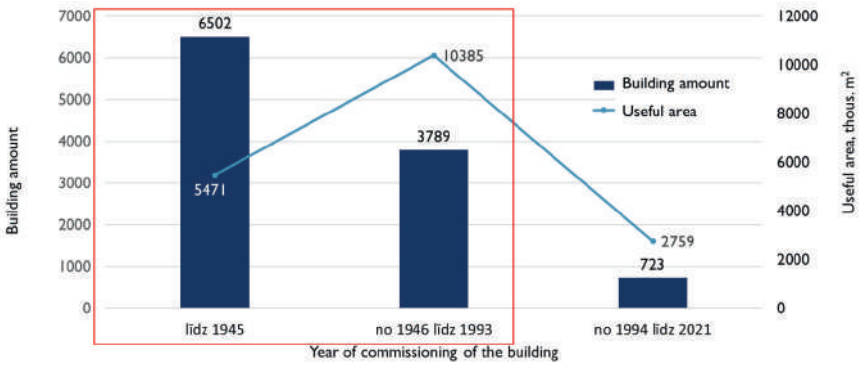
ENERGY SAVINGS
190.0
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
24,846
tCO_2eq/y

Riga

COUNTRY
Latvia

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

30% of the investment concept was developed by the Riga Energy Agency, and 70% by two different companies, one dedicated to the financial side and the other to the legal side of the project.

FUNDING SOURCES

Municipal funding, although alternative funding options such as ESCOs will be explored as well after 2027.

LESSONS LEARNED

Overall, EUCF proved to be relatively straightforward in terms of project composition and monitoring. The municipality also appreciated how easy it was to receive the funding.

Crucially, EUCF brought something completely new to the municipality, which translated into both challenges and opportunities for learning.

Ultimately, it enabled them to allocate funds effectively, outsource expertise as needed, learn how to coordinate multiple stakeholders, and gain practical insights into project implementation processes.

QUOTE

"EUCF forced us to have a more financial approach in mind"

Mechelen

COUNTRY
Belgium

STAGE
PLANNING

INHABITANTS
86,996

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

CO-BENEFITS

IMPROVED LIVING WORKING CONDITIONS

REDUCED POLLUTION

CREATION OF JOBS

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

Mechelen's CondoReno project targets residential buildings and co-owned condominiums. Through **comprehensive mapping exercises**, four building typologies from the 1970s and 1980s with significant renovation potential were identified. This detailed analysis revealed valuable insights, emphasizing the need to refine the investment concept into smaller, concrete projects suitable for funding. However, challenges persist, especially in making projects financially viable due to challenging return on investment. For this reason, **Mechelen plans to revisit the investment concept**, exploring innovative financing solutions and integrating services to ensure more robust implementation. Importantly, the municipality promoted three focus group meetings during the development of the investment concept. Representatives from three identified buildings, architects, and high-level government actors participated, ensuring their involvement from the project's inception. This **collaborative approach** highlighted capacity limitations and the critical need for financial expertise. Consequently, Mechelen established an internal group focused on financing climate actions. Ultimately, Mechelen advises future projects to set more **realistic goals**. This would ensure that plans are not only visionary but also achievable, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
11-2022

INVESTMENT SIZE
439
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
23
GWh/y

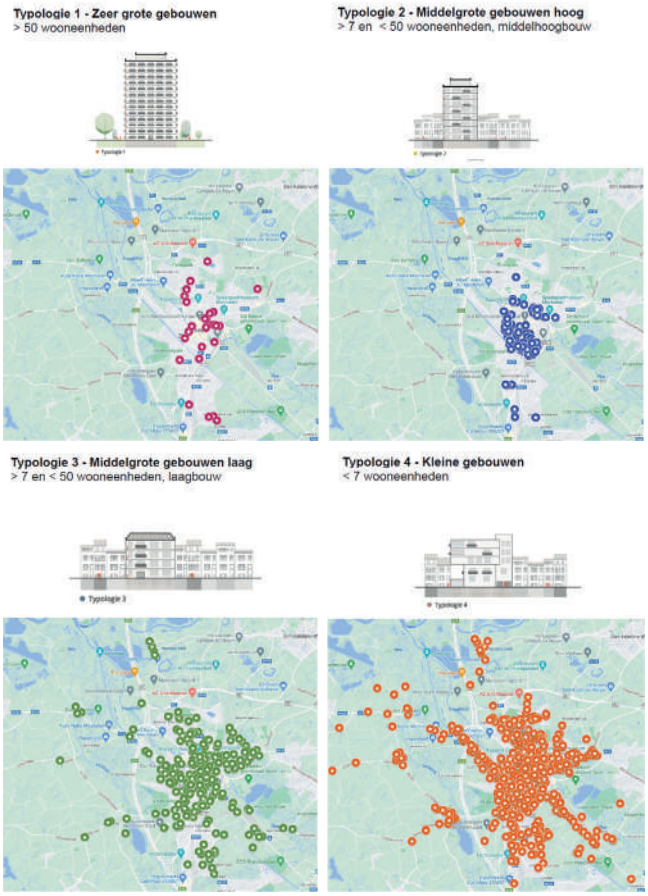
ENERGY SAVINGS
109
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
22,000
tCO_2eq/y

Mechelen

COUNTRY
Belgium

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

The investment concept was developed not in-house, but with the assistance of an external consultant. However, it is worth noting that the municipality also allocated internal human resources to support the EUCF project at every stage.

FUNDING SOURCES

Blend of private and public funding sources. Private funding will primarily come from co-owners' contributions, ideally supplemented by financing from an ESCO. Public funding will be provided through the Flemish grant for residential retrofits.

LESSONS LEARNED

It is important to balance vision with practical feasibility to ensure successful outcomes. Overly ambitious plans can lead to shortcomings.

Early and consistent involvement of stakeholders, including building representatives, architects, and government officials, was essential. Their input and engagement from the start helped in shaping realistic and acceptable project plans, ensuring smoother implementation.

Exploring and integrating innovative financing solutions is necessary to overcome financial barriers.

MECHELEN

QUOTE

"EUCF has provided us with invaluable insights into the potential of our territory"

Le Havre Seine Métropole

COUNTRY

France

STAGE
PLANNING

INHABITANTS
275,000

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS | BUILDING INTEGRATED RENEWABLES | OTHER SECTORS

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED ENERGY PRICES | REDUCED POLLUTION | CREATION OF JOBS | IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

Le Havre's investment concept under the EUCF project is primarily focused on **developing solar energy** within the municipality. With external assistance, the municipality has developed an **Excel tool for financial profitability** analysis of photovoltaic projects. This tool allows them to input information about solar projects and visualize costs, production, and profitability. A key initiative is the installation of solar panels on public buildings and parking lots. They have identified **30 parking lots** where shade houses with solar panels could be installed. This initiative aligns with new French regulations (APER), which mandate the installation of solar panels on large parking lots to accelerate renewable energy production. Le Havre has also invested in a **semi-public company**, SEM ASER, to reinvest in sustainable projects. The municipality emphasizes the importance of **collaboration with private sector leaders**, especially since most of the territory's potential lies in the private sector due to the high-emission industrial area in Le Havre. Le Havre's participation in the EUCF has significantly impacted its strategy for reducing carbon emissions. The program has provided a clear path for achieving their renewable energy goals and highlighted the need for regulatory support.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

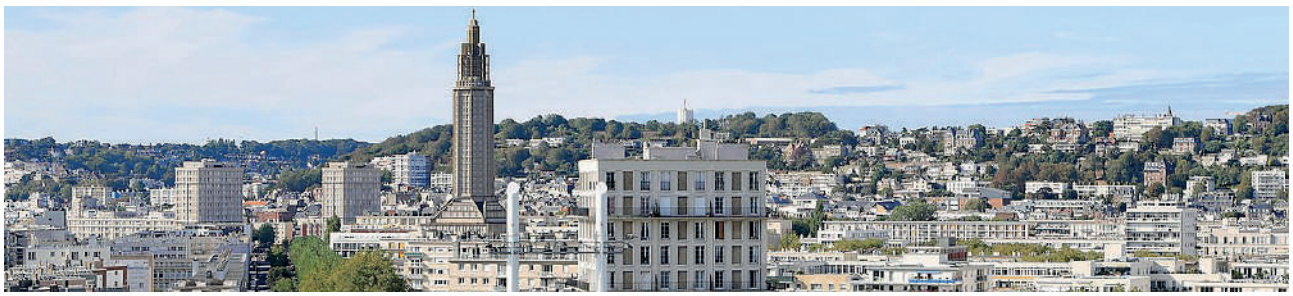
INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
02-2022

INVESTMENT SIZE
110
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
95
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVINGS
0
GWh/y

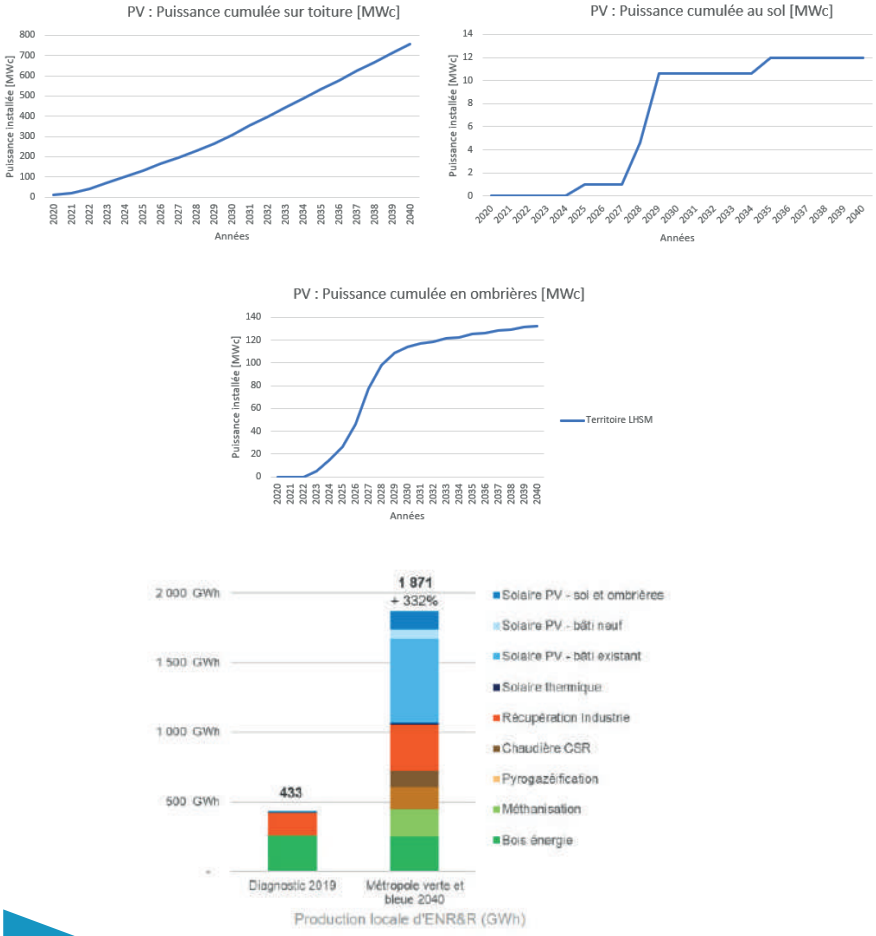
AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
1,236
tCO_2eq/y



Le Havre Seine Métropole

COUNTRY
France

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

The investment concept was developed with external help for financial analysis, using the same assistant as the Climate Action Plan. Strategies, objectives, implementation steps, and stakeholder involvement were decided in-house.

FUNDING SOURCES

2€ million of public investment. However, they plan to rely mostly on private funds to implement the rest of the project.

LESSONS LEARNED

Le Havre's participation in the EUCF has significantly impacted their direction towards reducing carbon emissions. Utilizing external expertise for financial analysis proved beneficial, but managing strategies internally ensured alignment with local goals.

Collaboration with private sector leaders and regulatory support were essential, particularly in industrial areas.

The project underscored the importance of regulatory mandates in driving private sector investment and highlighted the need for continuous capacity building and technical guidance.

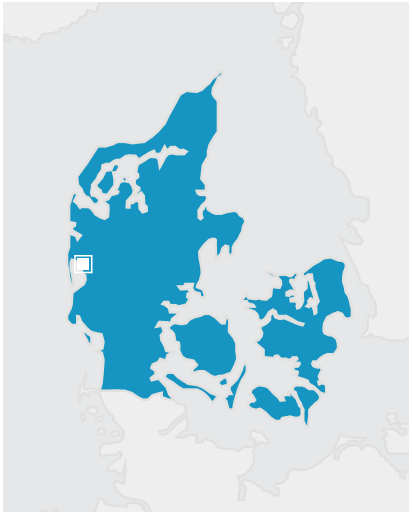
QUOTE

"EUCF was a catalyst for positive change"

Ringkøbing-Skjern

COUNTRY

Denmark



STAGE
IMPLEMENTED

INHABITANTS
377,675

MAIN TARGET SECTOR

SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED POLLUTION

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The collaborative effort of Ringkøbing-Skjern, Frederikshavn, Skive, Horsens, Høje Taastrup, and Sønderborg municipalities resulted in the successful completion of the envisioned project 'We-CARe': establishing a comprehensive **network of publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations**. Not only did the project meet its objectives, but it exceeded expectations, with more investment secured and more charging points established than initially planned. According to the municipality, one of the project's key successes was its **snowball effect**: the installation of charging stations led to increased adoption of electric vehicles, making it easier to implement additional stations. However, the project was financed through **private investments** via an open tender process and presented significant challenges for the municipalities involved. **Specialized knowledge** and **external legal expertise** were essential in navigating the complexities of the tender process, which involved multiple municipal departments and stakeholders. Despite these challenges, the winning bidder went above and beyond expectations by installing charging stations even in less populated areas, demonstrating a long-term commitment to the green transition. The evolving legal framework posed additional challenges, but EUCF provided a valuable tool for adapting to these changes.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
03-2023

INVESTMENT SIZE
4
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
0.0
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVINGS
358
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
120,340
tCO_2eq/y

Ringkøbing-Skjern

COUNTRY
Denmark

DETAILS

IC DEVELOPMENT

The investment concept was not developed in-house.

FUNDING SOURCES

The project was entirely financed through private sources via an open tendering process organized by the municipality.

LESSONS LEARNED

EUCF not only aligned with the municipalities' priorities but also facilitated knowledge exchange and collaboration among like-minded municipalities in Denmark. This collaboration transformed a casual network into a proactive action group, catalyzing momentum in the local market and changing perspectives among potential investors.

This capacity-building aspect was instrumental in overcoming challenges and realizing the project's objectives. At last, the municipality expressed a desire to reapply to EUCF and wished that the number of successful applications per city were not limited to just one.

QUOTE

"EUCF is a tool able to transform a wishlist into something tanglible"

Isola Vicentina

COUNTRY

Italy

STAGE
PLANNING

INHABITANTS
21,974

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

CO-BENEFITS

IMPROVED LIVING WORKING CONDITIONS

REDUCED POLLUTION

CREATION OF JOBS

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The municipalities of Isola Vicentina, Nanto, Longaro, and Castegner developed an investment concept focused on three main dynamics: **improving the efficiency of private buildings**, including homes and condominiums; **addressing the needs** of public buildings, particularly municipal structures; and fostering the development of **energy communities**. The investment concept was developed with the idea that it could be replicated. While the project is still ongoing, progress has been made, notably by engaging citizens through surveys and polls to gauge support and participation. The incentives under the **Superbonus** initiative, promoted by the Italian government, have also been instrumental in mobilizing citizens and achieving tangible results. However, there have been **challenges**, especially regarding the involvement of Energy Service Company (ESCO) in private building efficiency, where trust in certain investments remains low. Similarly, the establishment of energy communities faced delays due to **regulatory uncertainties**. Nonetheless, recent clarity in regulations has accelerated progress, with communities like Nanto, Castegnero, and Longaro moving towards implementation through a participatory foundation. Overall, EUCF has been an incredibly valuable resource and has transformed ambitious project ideas into actionable plans, laying the foundation to involve both the administrative/political side and the citizenry, ultimately **bridging the gap between vision and implementation**. The municipality of Isola Vicentina stresses how EUCF represents a tool to explore truly innovative projects that would otherwise hardly find any funding to be developed.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
1st Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
03-2022

INVESTMENT SIZE
28
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
3.1
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVING
10.1
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
2,033
tCO_2eq/y

Isola Vicentina

COUNTRY
Italy

DETAILS

IC DEVELOPMENT

Not in-house. The municipality relied on the external consultancy company ADAPT EV.

FUNDING SOURCES

For the Public Buildings the municipalities will directly fund the intervention. Private Citizens will be able to directly invest in the project thank to the provided tools and taking advantages of the incentives and bonus provided at national level. Esco also expressed interest to support the renovation.

LESSONS LEARNED

The development of the investment concept was a crucial step to realise the project. At the beginning it was focused only on the private sector. A deep analysis of the energy market, how it works and understanding what is interesting for the stakeholders were the levers for evolving and expanding it.

One of the main challenges was to understand focusing uniquely on the private sector weakened the project. Instead taking a more incremental approach (i.e. beginning with the involvement of residential buildings, then moving to public buildings, then to energy communities), the work plan could be extended, with the revenues from each phase supporting the subsequent one.

QUOTE

"EUCF is key for a strategic holistic planning"

Ravenna

COUNTRY
Italy

STAGE
IMPLEMENTATION

INHABITANTS
159,000

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

INNOVATIVE ENERGY INFRASTUCTURE

CO-BENEFITS

IMPROVED LIVING WORKING CONDITIONS

REDUCED POLLUTION

CREATION OF JOBS

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The investment is located in the Municipality of Ravenna and involves **11 school complexes and 3 innovative energy infrastructures**. Ravenna harnessed resources from multiple **national and European funding sources**, including National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), NextGen EU, and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), surpassing their initial €15 million target for investments. This strategic approach enabled them to secure the necessary funding for the energy-efficiency projects, with almost all of the 11 identified schools receiving the expected financial support. However, the varying timelines of calls and funding have led to **different stages of development** for each sub-project. The received funds, particularly from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, facilitated prioritization and detailed feasibility studies for each intervention. A notable challenge during the EUCF process was the capacity building largely offered in English, resulting in underutilization due to linguistic barriers.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
1st Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
05-2022

INVESTMENT SIZE
15
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
2.1
GWh/y

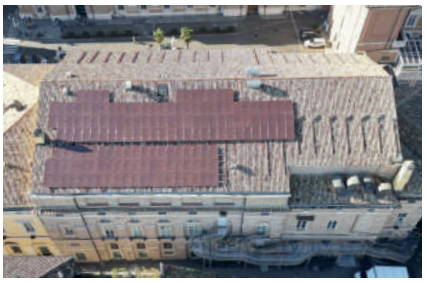
ENERGY SAVINGS
3.7
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
695
tCO_2eq/y

Ravenna

COUNTRY
Italy

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

The investment concept was developed with external support, specifically from CERTIMAC and AESS.

FUNDING SOURCES

Both national and European funding sources, including National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), NextGen EU, and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

LESSONS LEARNED

Overall, Ravenna's experience with the EUCF was very positive.

The EUCF enabled the municipality to transition from short-term, day-to-day planning to more holistic and strategic long-term approaches, based on thorough analysis and project prioritization.

This approach led to effective funding applications and exceeded financial targets. The process spurred innovative policy development and comprehensive frameworks for energy efficiency, enhancing overall municipal strategies.

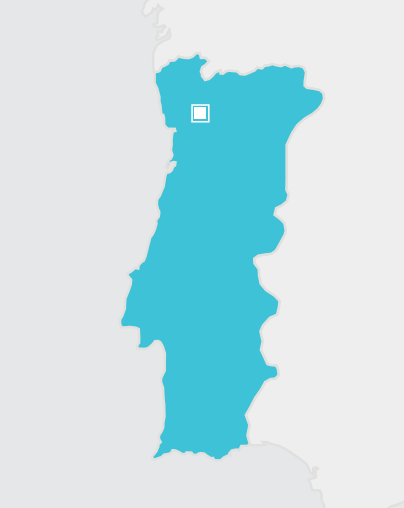
QUOTE

"EUCF has been very useful to structure our climate action"

Guimarães

COUNTRY

Portugal



STAGE
N.D.

INHABITANTS
152,309

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY

SMART GRIDS

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED POLLUTION

IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

REDUCED ENERGY PRICES

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The investment concept developed by the city of Guimarães revolved around four main pillars: intervention in the **housing** sector, development of **Renewable Energy Communities**, replacement of **public lighting with LED lamps**, and installation of more than **500 EV chargers**. The municipality has seen progress in various areas; however, challenges such as regulatory hurdles and grid issues have slowed the progress of implementing the initiatives. Nevertheless, the municipality has made significant strides in public lighting, aiming for full LED coverage by the end of 2024. They also aim to establish energy communities to neutralize building emissions, with ongoing evaluations carried out in tandem with potentially interested Energy Service Companies (ESCOs). Social housing renovations have seen partial completion, with over 150 dwellings upgraded with energy-efficient measures and people already living in their refurbished homes. **Challenges remain in expanding initiatives to the private sector**. In order to try to solve such issues, the municipality is trying to engage private partners through ESCO procedures to finance projects, ensuring long-term sustainability. So far, the **ESCO model** has allowed achieving the anticipated results in terms of LED coverage, and they will soon try to replicate it for the energy communities. In order to set the foundation for the next steps regarding energy communities, the municipality launched a private pact and has seen more than 100 companies join in.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
02-2023

INVESTMENT SIZE
91
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
68.4
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVINGS
73.2
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
39,897
tCO_2eq/y

Guimarães

COUNTRY
Portugal

DETAILS

IC DEVELOPMENT

The municipality can count on a Climate Transition team. However, human capital is not enough to carry out all procedures in-house, and in these cases, Guimarães has relied on external consultancy companies, whose work has been carefully reviewed and evaluated by the Climate Transition team.

FUNDING SOURCES

Mainly private funding, primarily through ESCOs. For energy efficiency and energy communities, the municipality will promote investment from the private sector by raising awareness about funding sources, namely through the integration of a One-Stop Shop.

LESSONS LEARNED

Despite the challenges and adjustments needed, the EUCF project has proven valuable in structuring climate action for Guimarães. However, the municipality has recognized that EUCF projects tend to be very ambitious and sometimes unrealistic.

In the municipality's view, it is essential to keep the investment concept's objectives as real and tangible as possible. It is key to plan for the realization of a project within achievable boundaries.

QUOTE

"EUCF helped us place together all pieces of the puzzle"

Matosinhos

COUNTRY

Portugal

STAGE
N.D.

INHABITANTS
167,000

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS | RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS | SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY

CO-BENEFITS

REDUCED POLLUTION | IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY | REDUCED ENERGY PRICES

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The "Matosinhos Positive Energy" Investment Concept aims to reinforce the objectives defined in Matosinhos 2030 SECAP and is a relevant part of the 2030 Matosinhos Carbon Neutrality Roadmap. The plan, whose aim is to tackle climate change on all possible fronts, is divided into five main sections, each subdivided into multiple components. Overall, the plan includes a plethora of actions, including **energy efficiency interventions** in 89 public buildings and 53 **social housing** neighborhoods, the implementation of a remote management system in the city's **public lighting**, the replacement of the municipal **fleet of vehicles** with electric ones, the installation of **solar panels** on eight municipal buildings, and the creation of **energy communities**. Given the scope of the plan, major actions are far from being fully implemented. Still, the public lighting system overhaul has been fully implemented, with the target actually exceeded, and the renovation of residential buildings and installation of solar panels are already at progress statuses of 49% and 39%, respectively. Overall, Matosinhos is fully committed to the implementation of the plan and achieving the objectives outlined in it. EUCF served as a baseline to structure their targets and pursue them with a clear roadmap. Crucially, the **involvement of key stakeholders** was also prioritized from the very beginning, as demonstrated by the letter of commitment signed by representatives of major stakeholders to be involved in the project.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
4th Call

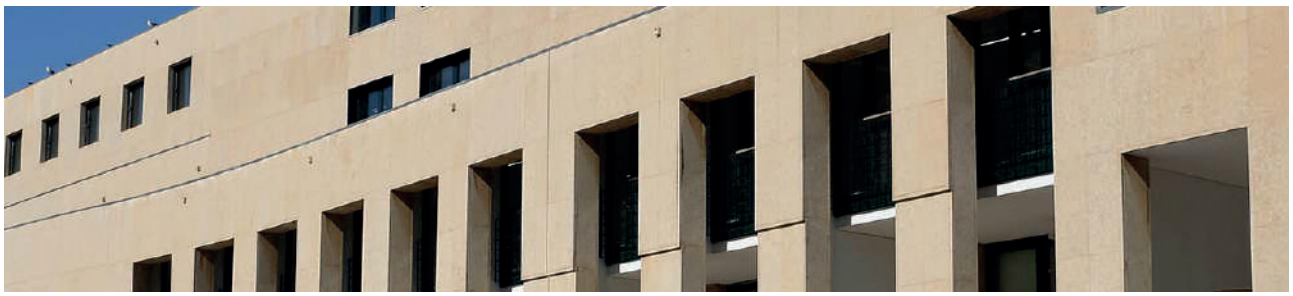
INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
03-2024

INVESTMENT SIZE
133
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
7.6
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVINGS
48.1
GWh/y

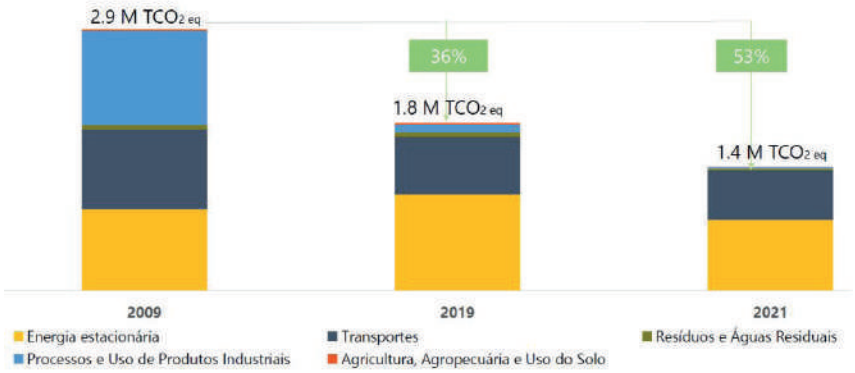
AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
16,584
tCO_2eq/y



Matosinhos

COUNTRY
Portugal

DETAILS



IC DEVELOPMENT

The investment concept was developed with the help of Porto Energy Agency. Meanwhile, all major stakeholders were brought together, and they signed a letter of commitment (see photo).

FUNDING SOURCES

The majority of funds are expected to come from national and European sources, such as Norte 2030 and the Recovery and Resilience Plan. The municipality will also contribute with municipal funds.

LESSONS LEARNED

The municipality described EUCF as an instrument that allowed them to solve a puzzle. They had all the different pieces, each contributing to tackling the problem of climate change, and EUCF allowed them to piece them together.

Sharing experiences and practices with other beneficiaries also enabled them to unlock a broader perspective on how to approach their case.

Finally, Matosinhos learned the importance of choosing good partners to work with; in their case, the help provided by the Porto Energy Agency was invaluable and made possible by the EUCF grant.

matosinhos

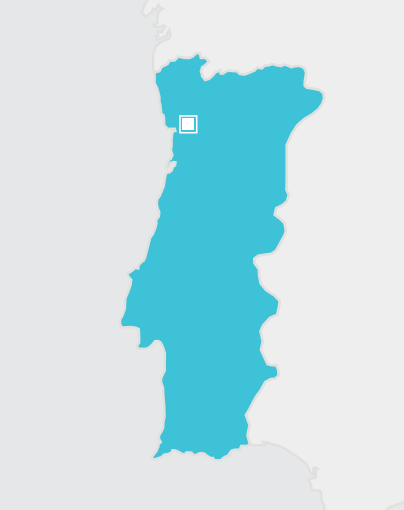
QUOTE

"EUCF is an opportunity to create a group to design a common plan"

Porto

COUNTRY

Portugal



STAGE
IMPLEMENTATION

INHABITANTS
240,000

MAIN TARGET SECTORS

PUBLIC BUILDINGS | RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS | SUSTAINABLE URBAN MOBILITY

CO-BENEFITS

IMPROVED LIVING WORKING CONDITIONS | REDUCED POLLUTION | CREATION OF JOBS | IMPROVED ENERGY SECURITY

THE CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

The investment concept developed by Porto consists of 12 major measures to enhance sustainability and energy efficiency. While none of these measures are fully completed, significant progress has been achieved, particularly in areas such as **public lighting**, **social housing**, **renewable energy generation**, and transitioning the **municipal fleet to electric vehicles**. Challenges persist, mainly **regulatory hurdles** and attracting private investment. Delays are largely due to regulatory issues, such as waiting for licenses for energy communities, rather than funding constraints. Successes include installing the first megawatt of renewable energy, energy-efficient upgrades in 25 schools, transitioning nearly 100% of public lighting to LED, and plans to renovate the entire municipal fleet with 48 fully electric buses already delivered. **Efforts to secure private investment** have been challenging due to low projected returns, prompting reliance on national funding sources like the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP). **Energy audits and grants for energy efficiency** projects are being leveraged to address this issue. Future plans include incentivizing citizen investments in energy efficiency projects, increasing energy literacy, and enhancing private sector involvement. Porto Energy agency, initially supporting IC development, has expanded its role in promoting the project and providing general assistance by becoming a country expert, underscoring its commitment to EUCF's objectives.

TIMELINE

APPLICATION:
2nd Call

INVESTMENT CONCEPT VALIDATED:
01-2023

INVESTMENT SIZE
246
MILLION €

RES PRODUCTION
31.9
GWh/y

ENERGY SAVINGS
87
GWh/y

AVOIDED CO_2 EMISSIONS
35,379
tCO_2eq/y

Porto

COUNTRY
Portugal

DETAILS

IC DEVELOPMENT

The municipality made the EUCF proposal but then relied on Porto Energy Agency to manage the development of the investment concept.

FUNDING SOURCES

Primarily national funds, National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and other grants. They are also trying to attract private investments through an ESCO, as well as exploring other sources of funding including PPAs, Concessions and Operation Leasing.

LESSONS LEARNED

Porto has learned valuable lessons so far.

The investment concept was essential in organizing and understanding the scope and impact of initiatives for the municipality's future development.

The EUCF support was instrumental in fostering internal growth and knowledge.

However, the municipality highlighted the need for better guidelines for investment concept creation. Still, if given the chance to apply again, they would do so immediately.

Conclusion and next steps

Through the operation of the four calls for proposals and a monitoring activities, the EUCF team was able to gain additional information about the challenges faced by local governments. These inputs were taken into consideration to ensure continuous improvement of services to specifically address beneficiary needs.

Local governments mentioned difficulties to access the desired funding resources, resulting in a long time needed to effectively implement the investment concept. Moreover, bureaucracy burdens were mentioned as barriers for a fast implementation. Thanks to the new skills and capacities gained, the beneficiaries were able to advance by focusing on several key activities:

- Integration of the investment concept with other **technical developments**
- **Engagement** with possible investors
- Preparation of **procurement documents**

Beneficiaries have also expressed a strong interest in continued support from the EUCF, whether through further capacity building initiatives or opportunities to connect and exchange experiences with peers.

All the inputs received have been incorporated into the activities from call 5 onwards, with the support of the LIFE Clean Energy Transition Programme.

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