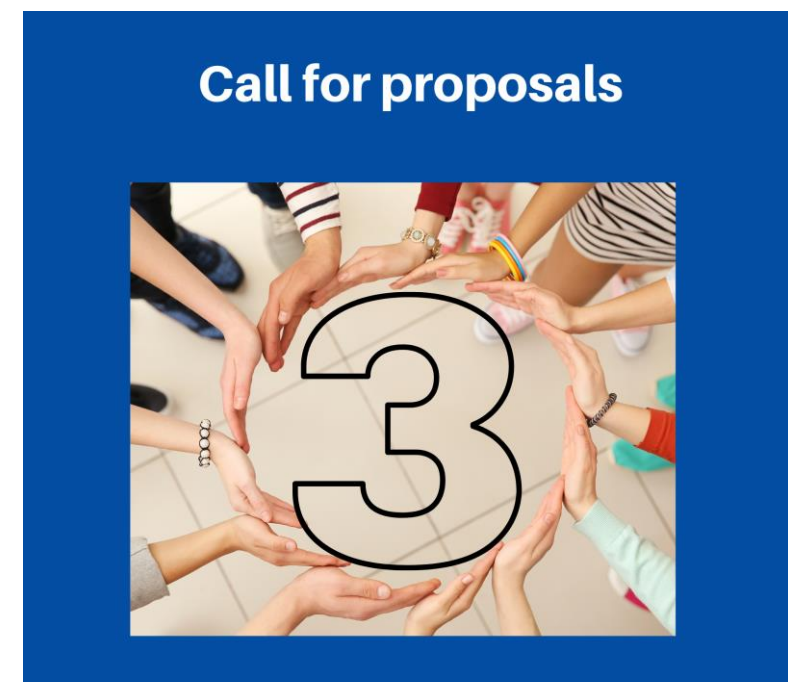


Webinar on thematic focus of Specific Objective 2.1



Overview of the main topics covered

1. Introduction
2. Problem statement
3. Objectives
4. Focus areas
5. Budget allocation
6. Partnership
7. Consultations
8. Timeline
9. Q&A

Introduction

Focus areas of SO 2.1: Greening the energy and transport sectors in the DR by enhancing the integration of RES

1. Increasing the share of renewable energy in the Danube region
2. Decreasing carbon intensity in the power and transport sectors

Problem statement - background

Contribution to the energy transition as outlined in the mid-term review

- still growing need for sustainable, renewable energy solutions
- „A modernised Cohesion policy: The mid-term review” (MTR, COM(2025) 163 final) published by the EC

Objectives of the call:

- Capacity building for sustainable energy planning especially in regions with high share of non-RES energy production or consumption.
- Support for harmonised actions and transnational cooperation in the buildings' heating and cooling sector (e. g. decreasing carbon intensity in heating, RES integration in building sector combining it with storage and charging solution systems for e-mobility) with special attention to countries and regions with outstanding shares in energy consumption of the heating and cooling sector.
- Reduction of GHG emissions in the transport sector: introduction of alternative fuels and new technologies (e. g. electric vehicles) in transportation and innovative mobility solutions, support the shift towards environmentally friendly means of transportation, especially in public transport and freight transport, coordination between energy providers in relation to infrastructure elements of Danube Region relevance.
- Joint planning of infrastructure for the utilisation of renewable energy sources with the facilitation of knowledge exchange between regions of the lowest and the highest share of RES in the energy mix.
- Development of incentive policies to encourage the renewable energy production based on the Danube Region available resources.

Focus areas of the call:

- sustainable renewable energy solutions in the context of
 - energy production
 - heating and cooling systems
 - grid load
 - energy communities
 - district heating and cooling
 - storage and peak load reduction
- To maximise the impact generated by corresponding activities the call is focused on **small and medium municipalities** to motivate them to participate in the energy transition.

Budget allocation:

- **4,0 mio EUR**

Partnership

Primarily:

- Regional and local administrations, municipalities
- Regional and local public institutions
- Development/ investment/ energy agencies
- Service providers and SMEs

Secondly:

- Universities, research institutes
- Business support organizations (e.g. financial/banking associations, chambers)

Consultations

- **available offline or online**
- **shall be scheduled and agreed with the Priority Officer in advance**
- **based on a concept note sent in advance:**
 - no fixed format is necessary, but
 - objectives, planned outputs and results of the project, countries and partner organisations, estimated budget to be involved
- **continuous support is available per email throughout the entire application period**

Timeline

- **launch of the 1 step call: September 2025**
- **LA seminar: October 2025**
- **submission deadline: December 2025**
- **expected project start date: July 2026**

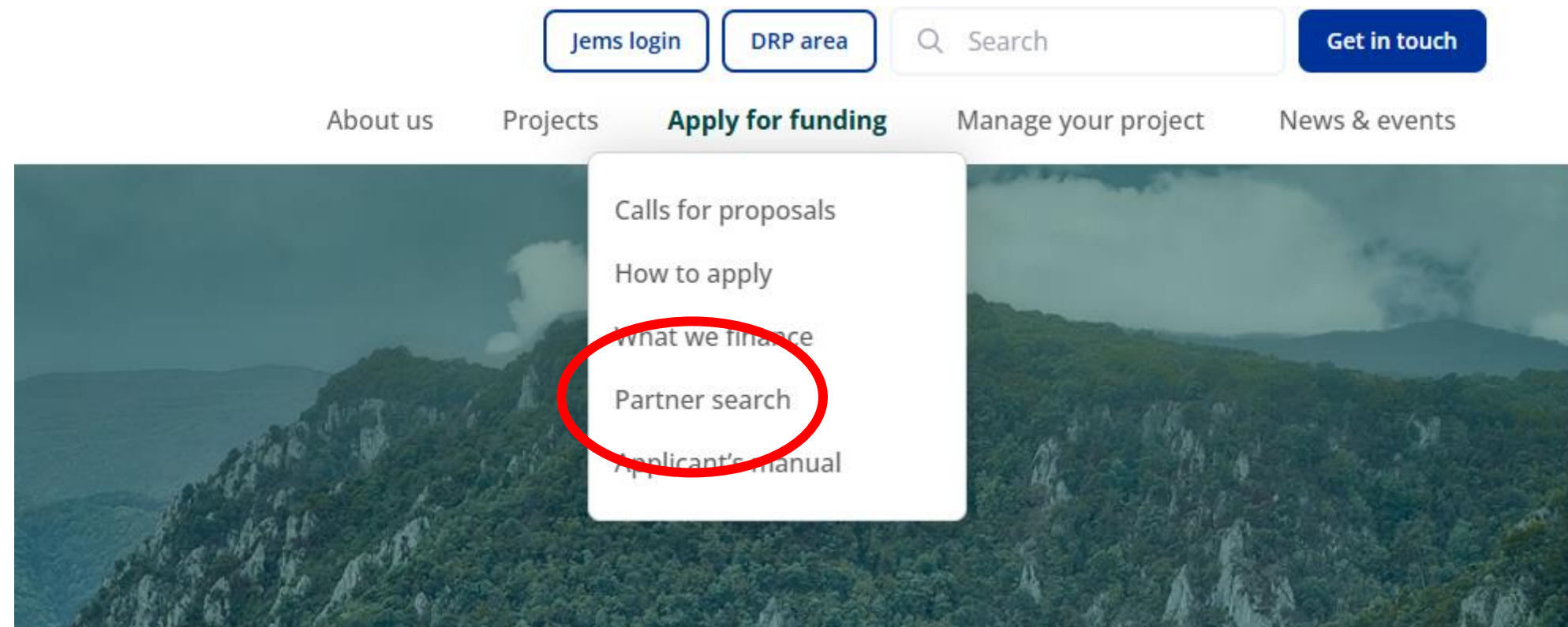
Q&A



Q&A

- **Partnership and possible partners**

Matchmaking Platform



Q&A

- **Waste-to-energy models**

suitable for SO2.1

Q&A

- **Procurement for electric minibuses**

as a principle the programme will NOT finance projects with a predominantly approach towards equipment and infrastructure

Q&A

- **Chances of partnerships, large companies**

Partners will be assessed amongst others on their ability to contribute to the goals and targets of the project.

Large companies are better invited as ASPs.

SMEs have to prove their dedicated field of expertise that contributes to the project.

It is not allowed to have SMEs and large companies in the partnership to avoid procurement and/or contracting.

**Thank you for your
attention!**

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