

Croatia – program on Energy and Climate Change

Background:

The EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021 represent funding from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to reduce economic and social disparities and strengthen cooperation with 15 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. For the period 2014-2021, a total contribution of €2.8 billion has been agreed. In the Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with the individual countries, the actual allocation is determined. In the MoU it is also determined which Norwegian authorities will be the donor program partner (adviser) for the countries' respective programs.

In Croatia NVE is donor program partner for a program covering energy and climate change. Being donor program partner means to provide advisory services in all phases of program and project developments and implementation.

Strengthening relations between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the beneficiary countries is the other of the two main objectives of the EEA and Norway Grants. On program level: public institutions and government agencies from the beneficiary states and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway cooperate in the design of the program (concept note) and share knowledge and experience during the implementation stage. On project level under the program: private businesses, research groups, municipalities, and NGOs from the donor and the beneficiary countries are encouraged to enter into cooperation to implement joint projects. NVE as a donor program partner will assist in facilitating such project cooperation.

Activities:

The work with the concept note started late 2018. After finalizing the concept note (spring 2019), the next step is a matchmaking (probably before summer 2019), and then the open calls for project applicants will be launched.

The program seems to be divided into 3 areas:

- a) Energy efficiency in buildings
- b) Renewable energy included geothermal energy and hydropower.
- c) Smart islands – locally energy supply on islands based on renewable energy

Overall data for the energy and climate program in Croatia

NVE Mandate: NVE is Donor Program Partner (DPP) to the Program Operator (PO) in Croatia, the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund.

Program budget from the EEA Grants of euro 17,000,000 (this is 85 percent of the total budget, which is euro 20,000,000 – the rest comes from the national co-financing).

NVE's expenditures as DPP are covered by a separate contract with FMO (Financial Mechanism Office).

Program period: Projects can be awarded until 2021, and must be completed by 2024.

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