



PROGRAMME Broadband Internet – Call I

The objective of this programme is to expand modern, quality and secure infrastructure enabling high-speed Internet access (next-generation access networks) to areas where such access is not currently provided and where it is not probable that it will be provided through market mechanisms on a commercial basis.

SCHEDULE

Acceptance of applications for support:

- 26 April 2017 (12 p.m.) – 26 September 2017 (12 p.m.)

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Ensuring the expansion of the existing infrastructure of access networks for broadband Internet access provided at a fixed location, which have the characteristics according to Article 2 point 138 of the GBER, with the objective of providing the end customer with genuine broadband Internet access with transfer speeds of at least 30 Mbit/s, on condition that in the future it will be possible to enable transfer speeds of at least 100 Mbit/s only by changing active network elements.
- Establishing new networks with the characteristics according to Article 2 point 138 of the GBER, provided at a fixed location, enabling transfer speeds of at least 30 Mbit/s, on condition that such network must enable genuine transfer speeds of at least 100Mbit/s by the end of 2020.

APPLICANT

An applicant/beneficiary may be an enterprise that:

- Is the operator of a public electronic communications network and holds all essential permissions to operate such a network. It has authorisation to conduct the type of business corresponding to the supported economic activity that is the focus of the implemented project.
- Is, in accordance with its affirmation, registered as an income tax payer in some EU Member States; the applicant acknowledges that it must have an established place of business or branch in the Czech Republic at the moment of payment of support.
- Does not have, according to its affirmation, any arrears towards selected institutions in the state of its registered office, respectively in the state of the registered office of its branch, or towards providers of support for projects co-financed from the EU budget.
- Does not have, according to its affirmation, any arrears as regards the wage entitlements of its employees.

- Does not have an outstanding liability that arose based on a recovery order issued in connection with a decision of the Commission through which support was declared unlawful and incompatible with the internal market.

SECTOR CLASSIFICATION

- Projects are not supported whose outputs will impact any of the following sectors:
 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing, aquaculture (CZ-NACE A 01, A 02, A 03).

MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must be implemented in the territory of the Czech Republic outside Prague Capital City.
- The project must exclusively relate to supported activities indicated in Article 3: Supported Activities, meaning that it must be in accordance with the National Plan for the Development of New-Generation Networks in its wording approved by the government.
- The project must be directed to one of the intervention areas, according to Annex No 8 of the Call.
- The project must be in accordance with the aspects presented in Article No 2; The technical parameters and infrastructure operation must be in accordance with the Technical/Operational Aspects of NGA Networks Established with Public Funds; the wholesale offer for other operators and other connected infrastructure economic aspects must be in accordance with the Economic/Investment Aspects of NGA Networks Established with Public Funds.
- The project must be strictly implemented in so-called white areas, meaning the address points of residential buildings in which there is no possibility for a broadband connection to a network infrastructure (NGA network) enabling a broadband Internet access service of at least 30 Mbit/s, and where it is not probable that such infrastructure will be constructed under commercial conditions within three years.
- The project's compliance with the National Research and Innovation Strategy for the Smart Specialisation of the Czech Republic will be checked as part of the project assessment.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Investment costs for the construction of passive network infrastructure.
- Investment costs for construction and engineering work connected with network infrastructure, which means construction and engineering work essential for the construction of a broadband Internet access network, for example earthworks for the placement of cabling, or the establishment of overhead electronic communications wiring. The payment of compensation for easements concluded in accordance with Section 18 of Act No 151/1997, on property valuation.
- Investment costs for the construction of next-generation access networks, including investment costs at network layer level of data communication through optical or coaxial metallic networks and the related accessories (ODF, passive network elements, racks, street cabinets, junction boxes, including power connections).

FORM AND AMOUNT OF SUPPORT

- Project subsidies are provided at a minimum of CZK 1 million and a maximum of CZK 200 million.
- The aid intensity is a maximum of 75% of eligible expenditure.