



Energy infrastructure - Smart Grids - AMM - Call I

The goal of the call is the development/establishment of smart grids supporting the integration of renewable energy sources into distribution systems in the Czech Republic.

TIMETABLE

Receipt of grant applications:

- 02.05. 2023 – 25.01.2024

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- Implementation of smart metering technology at the low voltage level, including communication infrastructure, reading and data centres and related components and modifications of other systems.
- Acquisition of smart meters with remote control, equipped with a communication unit for a specific type of communication, acquisition of a mobile operator SIM, relay boxes for load management, implementation of a reading and data centre including acquisition of components for security and modification of other related IT systems and a dispatch centre.

Applicant

- is a **natural person** or **legal entity** pursuing business, that has been **assigned a Czech ID number** and is **authorized to do business¹**.
- is authorized to conduct business corresponding to an **economic activity² Electricity distribution - 35.13** in which the project is implemented.

¹ This is a trade license or license to do business according to other legal regulations (unless otherwise stated in the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries of OP TAC - special section).

² In the application in IS KP21+, the applicant indicated the CZ-NACE in which the project is implemented, which corresponds to the activity recorded in the public registers. The registered CZ-NACE must not be listed in the Call Annex under the title "Unsupported CZ-NACE".

- provided **the data to the extent required in Section 14, paragraph 3, letter e) of Act No 218/2000 Coll.**, the Act on Budgetary Rules and amending certain related acts, as amended:
 - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of persons acting on behalf of the applicant, indicating whether they act as its statutory body or whether these persons act on the basis of a granted power of attorney,
 - has registered the real owners of the legal entity in accordance with Act No 37/2021 Coll., on the registration of real owners (fulfilment of the condition will be verified by IB),
 - in IS KP21+, it entered information on the identification of the entities in which it has a share and the amount of this share.
- According to its sworn statement, it **is not in liquidation**.
- According to its sworn statement, it has been registered as an income tax payer in the Czech Republic, continuously for at least two tax periods³ preceding the date of submission of the grant application.

TERRITORIAL FOCUS

- Target territory: The territory of the Czech Republic, except NUTS 2 Prague
- The territorial acceptability is not assessed based on the registered office of the applicant (beneficiary) but based on the actual place of project implementation, i.e. the territory where the physical implementation takes place and the project expenses are incurred.

MAIN CONDITIONS OF THE CALL

- The project must not violate horizontal EU policies and their basic principles. In particular, the project must comply:
 - with principles of non-discrimination (primarily non-discrimination based on race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, disability, age or sexual orientation),
 - with the principles of sustainable development,
 - with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.
- The project objectives shall be in line with the objectives of the operational programme and the Call.
- The score obtained in the simplified economic assessment, which expresses the financial health of the applicant, is not lower than 5 points.
- The project does not significantly harm the environmental objectives within the meaning of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- Investments in infrastructure meet the requirement for climate resilience in the sense of Article 2(42) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council.
- It must be implemented in a distribution system whose operator has more than 90,000 customer take-off points connected to the distribution system⁴

³ This is a tax period according to Section 16b for natural persons / Section 21a for legal entities of Act No 586/1992 Coll., on income taxes.

⁴ In the case of the Czech Republic, these distribution system operators are: EG.D, a.s., ČEZ Distribuce, a.s. and PREdistribuce, a.s. Given that the target area within the territorial focus is the territory of the Czech Republic outside NUTS 2 Prague, in the case of PREdistribuce, a.s., the target area of the call is limited to only the part of the distribution territory that is outside the territory of the City of Prague.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- Tangible fixed assets
- Intangible fixed assets (if necessary for the proper operation of the tangible fixed assets).
- Non-investment costs
 - Design documentation
 - Engineering activity
 - Assessment of the benefits of modernization and construction of distribution networks in order to increase the capacity of the network for the integration of renewable energy sources.
 - Assessment of meeting the criteria of an environmentally sustainable investment and verification of the climate impact of the infrastructure.
 - Other costs related to project implementation.

FORM AND AMOUNT OF AID

- The aid is provided in the form of a grant.
- The grant for the project is provided in the amount of at least CZK 100 million⁵ and up to a maximum of CZK 2 000 million.
- The aid will be paid in accordance with the "Rules for the co-financing of the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for financial support for border management and visas for the 2021-2027 programming period⁶" and will be reimbursed **retrospectively after the end of the project** or its stage (if the project is staged in accordance with the Rules for applicants and beneficiaries - general part) provided that the conditions of the Decision are met.
- The beneficiary is obliged to ensure the financing of expenses for the implementation of the project, including VAT.
- The aid may not be provided for the same project expenses for which other aid from public sources has already been or will be provided, including an aid from Union funds that are centrally managed by bodies, agencies, joint ventures and other Union entities and that are not directly or indirectly under control of member states.
- The aid may not be provided to a beneficiary who has an unpaid obligation arising from a recovery order issued after a previous decision of the Commission declaring that the aid received from a provider from the Czech Republic is illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

AID INTENSITY AND BREAKDOWN OF FUNDING SOURCES⁷

Type of entity	EU share
Large enterprise	50%

⁵ Valid at the stage of approval by the selection committee.

⁶ Document of the Ministry of Finance approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in Resolution No 354 of 12 April 2021.

⁷ The chapter shows the EU share. The remaining part of the funding will be covered from the beneficiary's resources.