



## Horizon 2020 Energy Efficiency Call 2015 Frequently Asked Questions

*Update 31/03/2015 (version 3)*

For clarifications on the topics under this Call contact: [easme-energy@ec.europa.eu](mailto:easme-energy@ec.europa.eu)

*This document supersedes and replaces version 2 dated 23/02/2015. All information contained in previous versions remains valid. Version 3 includes an updated Table of Contents (table now including specific reference to Topic EE17) and provides supplementary information for EE10 which is identifiable by the text '(new in v.3)'.*

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## General

*Q1. Who can provide clarifications on the topics of the Energy Efficiency Call 2014/15?*

A1. Clarifications on the topics of the Energy Efficiency Call 2014/15 can be obtained from the EASME functional mailbox [EASME-Energy@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EASME-Energy@ec.europa.eu) and the Horizon 2020 [National Contact Points](#) for Energy.

*Q2. Where can I find a list of the proposals supported under the Energy Efficiency Call 2014? (new in v.2)*

A2. You can find [here](#) a list of proposals supported under the Energy Efficiency Call 2014 and a short description of each of them.

*Q3. Expected impacts in terms of energy savings and/or renewable energy production in GWh/year are referred to in many of the topics of the Energy-efficiency Call 2014/15. Do these savings refer to primary energy? Under which time frame are these impacts expected to be achieved?*

A2. The expected impacts in terms of energy savings and/or renewable energy production are expressed as primary energy. They refer to the expected energy impact to be triggered by the end of the project. The templates for proposal submission include tables and guidance for presenting these impacts within a proposal.

*Q4: What is the duration of a project under the Energy Efficiency Call?*

A4: The H2020 Energy Efficiency Call does not provide an indication regarding the duration. Also, the Horizon 2020 general model grant agreement does not set a fix rule for the duration of H2020 projects.

It will be up to the proposer to define a sound project duration, which will be judged during the evaluation by the expert evaluators as part of the evaluation process against the Award Criteria.

You may want to consider that the work programme contains budget indications for each topic. This will be one element of consideration when you design your proposal with an appropriate time frame.

Please do note however that other H2020 work programmes may in some cases provide an indicative duration or a compulsory duration or maximum duration.

*Q5: What is the number of partners required under the Energy Efficiency Call?*

A5: In principle, subject to exceptions below, for all action under the Energy Efficiency Call:

- at least three legal entities shall participate in an action;
- each of the three legal entities shall be established in a different Member State or associated country;
- all three legal entities shall be independent of each other within the meaning of Article 8 of the rules of participation.

Exceptions:

- EE19 "Improving financeability and attractiveness of sustainable energy investment": Same as above except: Proposals aiming to create national sustainable energy financing platforms may be submitted by one legal entity
- EE20: For the whole of the topic 'Project Development Assistance', proposals may be submitted by one legal entity

#### **EE5: Increasing energy performance of existing building through process and organisation innovations and creating a market for deep renovation**

*Q1. Is there a definition of 'deep renovation' – what do you expect in terms of energy savings to be achieved by a 'deep renovation'? (new in v.2)*

A1. A 'deep renovation' in accordance with the Energy Efficiency Directive (see recital 16), is a cost-effective renovation which leads to a refurbishment that reduces both the delivered and final energy consumption of a building by a significant percentage compared with the pre-renovation levels leading to a very high energy performance. Such deep renovations could also be carried out in stages. The European Commission Staff Working Document ([SWD\(2013\) 143 final](#)) indicates that the significant efficiency improvements resulting from deep renovation are typically of more than 60% energy savings.

## **EE6: Demand response in blocks of buildings**

*Q1. What is the scope of technologies that are expected to be installed as part of the project, under the EE6 topic? (new in v.2)*

A1. Scope: At the level of a block of buildings, the focus should be on real time optimisation of energy demand, storage and supply (including self-production when applicable) using intelligent energy management systems with the objective of reducing the difference between peak power demand and minimum night time demand, thus reducing costs and greenhouse gas emissions. Cost-effective and interoperable solutions that do not compromise the comfort of occupants should be demonstrated for a block of buildings consisting of at least 3 different buildings in real life operating conditions. Solutions should be compatible with smart grids and open international standards and with the distribution network infrastructure.

*Q2. What is the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for the activities under EE6? (new in v.2)*

A2. The activities are expected to be implemented at TRL 6-7 (please see part G of the General Annexes). Briefly, TRL 6: technology demonstrated in relevant environment and TRL 7: system prototype demonstration in operational environment.

*Q3. What should be understood as a "block of buildings" regarding the above mentioned topic? (new in v.2)*

A3. According to the description of the topic EE6, cost-effective and interoperable solutions that do not compromise the comfort of occupants should be demonstrated for a block of buildings consisting of at least 3 different buildings in real life operating conditions. It is entirely up to the proposers to define the characteristics of the respective block of buildings considering the scope of the topic and the expected impact.

*Q4. Regarding the demonstration activities, should they cover three buildings, e.g. 3 office buildings or 3 residential buildings etc., or does this mean three different kinds of buildings, i.e. three differently used buildings? (new in v.2)*

A4. Considering the challenge-based approach of the work programme, it is up to the proposers to define the number of demonstration sites and their characteristics. The topic EE6 clearly refers to the block of buildings – either residential or non-residential.

*Q5. Do the demo sites have to be in a specific distance to each other or do they have to be in the same district etc.? Or can they even be in different cities? (new in v.2)*

A5. The topic does not refer to any geographical restriction, specific distance to each other, climate, etc.

## **EE7: Enhancing the capacity of public authorities to plan and implement sustainable energy policies and measures**

*Q1. Do public authorities need to be partners of the consortium?*

A1. Not necessarily. However, although there is no obligation to include public authorities directly in the consortium, the Call text makes it clear that public authorities need to be strongly engaged in the activities. Proposals must clearly explain how their actions will influence public officers and engage with public authorities in order to ensure that their proposed impacts will be achieved, ie that their proposed numbers of officers and authorities will introduce new or improved policies and plans during project implementation.

*Q2. Does a proposal need to address all the actions (bullet points)?*

A2. No. Although several actions have been identified as being within the scope of this topic, the list of possible actions is intended to be illustrative (and is also not exhaustive).

*Q3. What kind of impacts do you expect?*

A3. Proposals must clearly demonstrate how the proposed actions will empower public authorities to develop, finance and implement ambitious sustainable energy policies and plans. Project teams must not only measure the impact in terms of number of public officers influenced and number of new or improved policies and plans, but also show how their proposed actions will have an impact on the end consumers. Proposals targeted at government level should also explain how the actions would accelerate the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive.

## **EE9: Empowering stakeholders to assist public authorities in the definition and implementation of sustainable energy policies and measures**

*Q1. Should the consortium be restricted to public entities?*

A1. No. The Call text identifies a wide spectrum of stakeholders, which could assist public authorities

*Q2. Should the final beneficiary be a public authority?*

A2. No. The text of the Call (scope) states that proposals should provide capacity building or engagement activities to groups with a key role in defining and/or implementing sustainable energy policies and measures initiated by public authorities.

*Q3. What do you mean by 'implementation of sustainable energy policies and measures'?*

A3. Project activities should lead to new/updated policies and measures which influence hundreds of stakeholders and lead to a measurable impact on thousands of final consumers.

*Q4. What is the role of the stakeholders in the definition/implementation of sustainable energy policy?*

A4. Different stakeholders have different roles in defining and implementing sustainable energy policies. However, they should collectively and effectively convert policies and plans into concrete actions.

#### **EE10: Consumer engagement for sustainable energy**

*Q1. Can a proposal address various different target groups although the text calls for a clear "market segmentation"?*

A1. Yes, because there may be several target groups to address in the supply chain of a given market. Nevertheless, proposals should be well targeted and focused, and should justify the choice of target group(s) in relation to the challenges and the expected impacts.

*Q2. What is meant by "market segmentation"?*

A2. Market segmentation involves dividing a bigger target group into subgroups of consumers with common needs and priorities, and developing and implementing specific actions to target them. Just as an example, vulnerable consumers may be considered too wide a target group and further segmentation would be expected.

*Q3. What do you mean when you state that proposals should focus on 'Action', the last step of the AIDA (Awareness, Interest, Desire, and Action) framework?*

A3. The Awareness-Interest-Desire-Action framework highlights the sequence of steps that consumers need to follow in order to change their behaviour or take informed decisions to invest in EE and/or RES products or services. Proposals should focus on the last step of the framework "Action" in order to deliver their expected impacts (bigger market share, concrete energy savings, changed behaviour, informed investment decisions).

*Q4. The topic title mentions Sustainable Energy. Are proposals focusing only on renewable energy sources (RES) also eligible?*

A4. In this topic proposals may address: (i) pure Energy Efficiency proposals, aiming at changing behaviour of consumers in their everyday life and/or leading to bigger market shares for the most energy efficient products, (ii) pure RES proposals assisting consumers when taking decisions to invest in RES products or services (e.g. taking part is RES citizens cooperatives), leading to bigger market shares for high quality renewable energy products, (iii) proposals addressing EE and RES together when appropriate. In any case proposals should demonstrate significant impact in terms of people changing behaviour and taking informed investment decisions.

*Q5. Who should be involved in the action?*

A5. All relevant stakeholders necessary for the successful implementation of the action should be involved. In particular, for proposals addressing consumer behaviour, it is expected that relevant consumer organisations are either directly involved as

beneficiaries or their support is clearly demonstrated in the proposal, e.g. through sufficiently detailed letters of support.

*Q6. What is meant by "taking into account gender issues"?*

A6. Where relevant for the proposed action, gender issues should be taken into account as a possible factor influencing consumer behaviour.

*Q7. How should the expected impact be demonstrated?*

A7. In order to be credible, the expected impact should be supported by clear calculations and robust assumptions and baselines, based on recent and relevant data, and clearly linked to the proposed activities.

*Q8. Is the development of ICT eligible in the context of this Topic? (new in v.3)*

A8. The call text explicitly mentions that "the use of social innovations and innovative technologies should be considered when it brings added value". This means that the focus should be on the use of ICT, not on their development (this could be considered under Topic EE-11). If, however, some minor adaptations to existing ICT tools would need to be made to support the action, these can be considered, provided they are clearly justified.

*Q9. Would energy efficient buildings (e.g. NZEB) fall under the scope of this Topic (new in v.3)*

A9. The focus of the Topic is on elements related to energy consumption and products from the small scale renewable energy market. The elements could entail e.g. heating and cooling appliances, lighting, domestic appliances, consumer electronics, and small measures at the building level (e.g. windows, covering door gaps). Deep renovation of buildings towards energy efficiency is addressed under Topic EE5.

## **EE11 - New ICT-based solutions for Energy Efficiency**

*Q1. What is the main focus of the topic?*

A1. All activities must lead to energy savings through behavioural change. The objective is to demonstrate that the ICT-based solutions can contribute as a means to reach the goal of saving energy and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, by motivating and supporting the change of behaviour of citizens. It has to be demonstrated also that the energy savings from this new ICT-enabled solutions are greater than the energy costs associated to the provision of the concerned services.

*Q2. The call text mentions 'systemic energy consumption and production'. What do you mean by that?*

A2. Proposers should be looking at the system as a whole. On the energy production side this includes generation (all sources, including on-site small scale generation) and distribution. For the consumption, all energy carriers (thus including electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and other possible energy sources in the building in question) should be taken into account, where relevant.

*Q3. Do the actions need to lead to emissions reductions and energy consumption reduction, or can they focus on emissions reductions only?*

A3. The overall aim is to save energy, thus contributing also to emissions reduction. The expected impact refers to reduction of systemic energy consumption and also to emissions reduction. Shifting the load to hours when the electricity price is lower or altering consumption patterns will not necessarily lead to energy consumption or emissions reduction. If proposers choose to focus on load shifting, they will need to demonstrate that this will have an overall positive impact in terms of energy savings and of emissions reduction.

*Q4. Should the proposal focus on one particular application/game/web service?*

A4. A proposal should argue the choice of application(s) and service(s) to be used and validated, and their adequacy to the objectives of the project. Furthermore, the list provided in the description of the Work Programme is not exhaustive.

*Q5. What should be the balance between research and innovation activities?*

A5. Proposals have to include socio-economic research to propose and validate innovative business models and social acceptance parameters. Referring to technology, some research activities can be supported by these actions however the main effort should be on the integration and validation of the existing technological elements. Proposals should seek at least TRL 6 (prototype system tested in environment close to expected performance) for the different technology elements to be integrated.

*Q6. Should all solutions be validated in public buildings?*

A6. Solutions must be validated in real life conditions in public buildings to maximise impact and visibility. However, if desired, proposals may go beyond this boundary condition on the basis that related costs for the validation in non-public buildings will not be considered eligible for EC funding and that there is a clear public interest of including such a building in the trial. Buildings of public interest might include, for example, schools, universities, hospitals, administrative offices, town halls, theatres and other cultural public buildings (the list is not exhaustive). Projects could address more than one type of building and in more than one location.

*Q7. How far should the pilot building(s) be known and described?*

A7. The pilot buildings should ideally be known and described as far as possible as a means to provide credibility to the proposal that the work will be done without any further delays and reassurance on the potential results/impact. Moreover, applicants should describe the energy baselines of the building addressed and provide data and information as detailed as possible on the current energy consumptions, in order to allow a proper quantification of the energy savings triggered by the action.

*Q8. How far does the project' impact need to be described and quantified?*

A8. Every proposal should provide a rationale and quantification of the impacts it foresees, using preliminary but credible baselines and benchmarks to substantiate its calculations and how the savings will be reached. Proposals are invited to use eeMeasure (<http://eemeasure.smartspaces.eu/eemeasure/>) methodology to calculate and record energy saving results, however may use their own methodologies if proven sufficiently robust.

Impact should not only be expressed in terms of energy/CO2 savings but also in terms of consumer engagement and behavioural change hand-in-hand with a wider deployment of ICT solutions for Energy Efficiency, sustainability after the project's life and potential of replication.

*Q9. Can savings from replacing equipment, domestic appliances or white goods be accounted for?*

A9. Savings arising simply from the replacement of equipment or appliances are mostly technical savings. The call topic refers to energy savings by changing behaviour hence, the former cannot be accounted for unless behavioural change of users through smart appliances is the purpose of the replacement.

*Q10. What is meant by socio-economic evidence and sustainability after the project?*

A10. Proposals should seek to contribute to a wide deployment of the solutions they are validating during the project (potential to replicate the project in other locations/buildings). It is expected also that the pilot sites will continue to function after the project's end. In this respect, plans for after-project activities (exploitation plans) should be developed having in mind economic and social arguments to prompt the market uptake of the solution and turn it into a commercially viable product after the project timeline.

*Q11. What do you mean by testing Cleanweb solutions?*

A11. Cleanweb is an international movement looking at applying ICT based solutions to resource problems (energy, water, waste, food, air, and other areas). See <http://cleanweb.co/>

### **EE13 - Technology for district heating and cooling**

*Q1. Which technologies can be addressed?*

A1. An important novelty of the work programme is its challenge-based approach which gives applicants the freedom to propose innovative solutions involving any technology which is suitable to address the challenges.

*Q2. Do proposals need to address all the areas mentioned in the scope?*

A2. No, proposals can address one or more areas mentioned in the scope.

*Q3. What is the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for the activities under EE-13? (new in v.2)*

A3. The activities are expected to be implemented at TRL 4-6 (please see part G of the [General Annexes](#)). Briefly:

- TRL 4: technology validated in the lab. This means that a prototype unit has been validated in a testing and monitoring laboratory environment.
- TRL 5: technology validated in relevant environment.
- TRL 6: technology demonstrated in relevant environment.

*Q4. What does the impact on "reduction of the energy consumption of space and water heating by 30 to 50% compared to today's level" refer to"? (new in v.2)*

A4. In the context of this topic, "reduction of energy consumption" refers to primary energy savings achieved at the overall system level. It will be up to the proposers to adequately define the boundaries of the system. The baseline scenario referred to in this topic as "today's level" should use best available technologies, which can include supply technologies, components used in the distribution network as well as management and control systems used for the operation of district heating and cooling systems. It will be up to the proposers to demonstrate how this impact can be achieved by the proposed action and how it can be calculated. In all cases the calculation of this impact needs to be justified, related to the action and underpinned with clear assumptions.

#### **EE14 - Removing market barriers to the uptake of efficient heating and cooling solutions**

*Q1. The topic title mentions "efficient heating and cooling solutions". Are Renewable Energy Sources (RES) only proposals eligible? (new in v.2)*

A1. When a proposal focuses on RES only they will need to demonstrate that the use of RES is in the context of an implementation which is first of all energy efficient. Support to the market uptake of Renewable Heating and Cooling can also be found in the topic [LCE-4](#).

*Q2. The topic title refers to "removing market barriers to the uptake of efficient heating and cooling solutions". How does this topic relate to topic LCE4 on "market uptake of existing and emerging renewable electricity and heating and cooling technologies"?*

A2. Both topics address energy efficiency and RES for heating and cooling, but the focus and the expected impacts of the two challenges are different. EE 14 is focused on Article 14 of the Energy Efficiency Directive on the "promotion of efficiency in heating and cooling", on Articles 14 and 15 of the Energy for Building Performance directive on the "inspection of heating and cooling systems" and on supporting the energy labelling and eco-design directives for heating and cooling products by accelerating the market introduction of more efficient systems. In response to this challenge, proposals addressing EE 14 are expected to deliver ambitious impacts in terms of reductions in fossil fuel consumption, investments, numbers of policy makers influenced, and numbers of people who have increased their skills and/or changed their behaviour.

*Q3. How many areas of the topic scope should proposals address? (new in v.2)*

A3. Topic EE-14 includes several areas. Proposals should clearly focus on one or more of the areas, as necessary. The number of areas of the topic covered by a proposal is not one of the evaluation criteria. In all instances, proposals should demonstrate that they respond to specific market barriers and, in doing so, have the expected impact provided in the topic description.

*Q4. Which are the types of actor that should be involved in proposals? (new in v.2)*

A4. Consortia should include or engage with the relevant market actors, as described in the text of the Call (scope) for the topic EE-14. Depending on the aim of a specific proposal, consortia should involve and/or engage the market actors that are relevant and committed to adopting/implementing the result/s. As described in the Call and depending on the focus of the proposal, market actors can include industry (equipment and fuel suppliers), installers, real estate developers, public authorities, energy services companies, designers and end user groups / consumer associations, etc.

*Q5. What type of impacts are proposals expected to achieve? (new in v.2)*

A5. Proposals should lead to more favourable market conditions for efficient heating and cooling solutions and opening up of new markets. Every million Euro of EU support should in the short term lead to the reduction of at least 25GWh/yr of fossil fuels for heating and cooling. Depending on the focus of the proposal, the work programme lists a number a number of specific impacts that proposals are also expected to achieve. In all cases the description / calculation of impacts needs to be justified, related to the action and underpinned with clear assumptions.

*Q6. Where can I find information on other market uptake type of projects on heating and cooling that the European Commission is supporting? (new in v.2)*

A6. A summary of the projects supported under the former Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Commission on market uptake of heating and cooling solutions is available on the [web](#). Note that this list is non-exhaustive and it excludes projects supported under the Call H2020-EE-2014. For a list of projects supported under the 2014 Call, see the link at the beginning of this document.

*Q7. Where else in the H2020 Energy Challenge could heating and cooling related actions be supported? (new in v.2)*

A7. Support to heating and cooling can be found in other parts of the H2020 Energy Challenge. This list is non exhaustive and proposers should always refer to the most recent version of the H2020 Energy Challenge Work Programme 2015. Some of these topics include:

- [LCE-4](#): Market uptake of existing and emerging renewable electricity, heating and cooling technologies)
- [EE-7](#): Enhancing the capacity of public authorities to plan and implement sustainable energy policies and measures)
- [EE-20](#): Project development assistance for innovative bankable and aggregated sustainable energy investment schemes and projects), [LCE-3](#) (Demonstration of renewable electricity and heating/cooling technologies) and
- [SCC-1](#): Smart Cities and Communities solutions integrating energy, transport, ICT sectors through lighthouse (large scale demonstration - first of the kind) projects).

- [EE-18](#): New technologies for utilization of heat recovery in large industrial systems, considering the whole energy cycle from heat production to transformation, delivery and end use

The challenges addressed by these topics, their scope and the Call deadlines may be different. Therefore interested proposers are advised to have a look at the description of each of these topics.

### **EE15 - Ensuring effective implementation of EU product efficiency legislation**

*Q1. Are tyres eligible as a product group to be addressed in market surveillance activities?*

A1. Yes. Proposals addressing market surveillance of the Regulation (EC) 1222/2009 are eligible (i.e. regulation on the labelling of tyres with respect to fuel efficiency and other essential parameters).

*Q2. Should market surveillance authorities be directly involved in the consortium?*

A2. Not necessarily. The Call text (scope) specifically states that actions must involve the relevant market surveillance authorities, but other organisations may form consortia, which engage and work closely with surveillance authorities to deliver the expected impacts .

*Q3. Are costs for testing and for purchasing products to be tested eligible?*

A3. Possibly. The costs for testing and for purchasing products to be tested for compliance with the ecodesign and/or energy labelling requirements, may be eligible if these costs are duly justified in the proposal.

*Q4. Which staff categories can claim staff costs?*

A4. Staff costs for national public authorities personnel, whose main function is to perform market surveillance in accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EC) N° 765/2008, Article 3 (2) of the Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC, and Article 3 of the Labelling Directive 2010/30/EU, are not eligible unless these costs relate to activities which would not be carried out if the project concerned was not undertaken (e.g. transnational collaboration).

### **EE16 - Organisational innovation to increase energy efficiency in industry.**

*Q1. In the description of the scope there is a list of 4 areas (bullet points) that can also be funded, individually or in combination. Can a proposal address only 1 of the issues? How does this relate to the other elements listed in the paragraph above the bullet list?*

A1. Proposals are invited to address one or more of the areas defined in the 4 bullet points, and/or one or more of the areas defined in the first paragraph of the "scope" section.

*Q2. Should proposals be sector-specific?*

A2. Proposals – unless specified otherwise – can be either sector-specific or cross-sectorial. For instance, when developing technology pathways towards 2050, they should be sector-specific.

*Q3. Is it mandatory to involve energy-intensive industries? (new in v.2)*

A3. No, other industries can be targeted. However, as mentioned in the Work Programme, energy-intensive industries should be prioritized as they account for 70% of industrial energy use. It is the role of the applicant to justify and explain that the industry upon which they aim to focus is energy-intensive. Applicants might base their justification on the definitions provided, for instance, in the Energy Taxation Directive or classification provided by DG Growth based on the NACE codes.

*Q4. May a large public enterprise participate? (new in v.2)*

A4. Yes, there is no specific restriction in the call text of the EE16 topic, therefore the H2020 general rules apply.

## **EE17 – Driving energy innovation through large buyer groups**

*Q1. What are large buyer groups?*

A1. These are groups of companies, institutions or other buyers that gather to create sufficient critical mass so as to reap advantageous conditions when purchasing certain goods.

*Q2. Is the aim of this topic to form the large buyer groups to bring purchase prices down?*

A2. No. The objective is to drive innovation up. The setup of these buyer groups is to bundle sufficient purchase intentions for energy efficient products to generate cost advantages (economies of scale) making possible for manufacturers to go beyond current efficiency levels at affordable prices and have a return on their investment.

*Q3. Can public authorities be part of the consortium?*

A3. Yes, there is no prescription on the composition of the consortium. Public authorities may for example facilitate the constitution of a large buyer group by third parties, or even form themselves a large buyer group.

*Q4. What would such a consortium be delivering?*

A4. The consortium should deliver the expected impacts indicated in the Topic description, in particular new energy-using or energy-producing products with at least 25% better performance than the best available products. Consortia could consist of organizations that would act as 'facilitators' and help setup large buyer groups. This would involve investigating and preparing the innovative minimum energy performance

to be met and the underlying economic and technical feasibility of a given product or product group. Even though the consortium does not need to involve buyers and manufacturers, there should be close cooperation with these actors, also for leveraging their image as market leaders in energy efficiency.

*Q5. Is prototyping eligible?*

A5. EE17 will be implemented through Coordination and Support Actions. Prototyping should not be the core of the proposed action. Proposed actions should focus on setting up the frame conditions for the large buyer group and create linkages to manufacturers which would then take on and bear the costs for the development and production of the requested product.

*Q6. What is the benefit for the large buyer groups?*

A6. There is a multitude of benefits, ranging from lower energy costs, increased competitiveness, innovators and front runner image gains, or even affordable prices for very high efficiency products that would not be reachable without sufficient market demand.

## **EE19 Improving the financeability and attractiveness of sustainable energy investments**

*Q1. Do proposals have to generate investments during the lifetime of the project?*

A1. Projects are not required to demonstrate a higher level of investment in sustainable energy during their lifetime; however, the main purpose of the activities is to increase the levels of investment after the end of the actions.

*Q2. What do you mean by 'financing platform'? (new in v.2)*

A2. A financing platform is a group or body of stakeholders that meet regularly for the purpose of having an organised and open dialogue with and between the key decision makers and stakeholders to identify the barriers to financing energy efficiency investments and to develop (and implement) actions to overcome these barriers in a given Member State or across the EU. The term 'financing platform', as it is used here, does not refer to an IT solution, although it may be possible that IT would be used to support the functioning of the group.

*Q3. Do proposals on financing platforms have to address both energy efficiency and renewables?*

A3. No, there is no specific requirement to address both energy efficiency and renewable energy.

*Q4. Can proposals on financing platforms be submitted by entities from several countries?*

A4. Yes, proposals aiming to create financing platforms can be submitted by entities based in different countries; but this is not a general requirement. (Note: all other proposals to EE 19 must be submitted by at least three independent legal entities established in different eligible countries.

*Q5. Are there specific requirements regarding the composition of the consortium?*

A5. No, Consortia should provide the key skills required for implementing the project, but there are no specific requirements for the composition of the consortium

## **EE21 Development and market roll-out of innovative energy services and financial schemes for sustainable energy**

*Q1. What do you mean by 'energy services'?*

A1. The term "Energy services" is defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm)

*Q2. What do you mean by energy performance contracting?*

A2. The term "Energy Performance Contracting" is defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) [http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/eed/eed_en.htm)

*Q3. Do all proposals need to develop and roll-out innovative energy services/financial schemes or capacity building?*

A3. No, the proposed actions should respond to one (or more) of the three funding priorities that are defined in the scope.

*Q4. What is the difference between the bullet point on replication of financing schemes in topic EE 21 and Project Development Assistance (EE 20)?*

A4. EE20 (Project Development Assistance) is exclusively designed to fund technical and financial assistance leading to new concrete investments in projects or programmes. The bullet on replication of financing schemes in EE 21 is intended to fund projects aiming to replicate innovative financing solutions which have already been used successfully across the EU. This sub-topic does not require projects to sign investment contracts as in EE20, but instead to put in place sustainable mechanisms which will enable investments in the future.

*Q5. What is the difference between the bullet point on large-scale capacity building in topic EE21 and EE7?(new in v.2)*

A5. While the bullet point on capacity building on innovative financing in EE7 is focussing on public authorities, the bullet point in EE21 is targeting both public authorities and SMEs who use or are in the process of setting-up innovative financing schemes for sustainable energy projects or programmes.