



Guidelines for applicants

Call for proposals 2025 (incl. annotated application form)



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Introduction

Who is this document for?

This document has been prepared for communities looking to apply for a grant from the European Energy Communities Facility (ENERCOM Facility or the Facility).

These guidelines aim to provide you with a clear sense of the application process, the eligibility and evaluation criteria, how to fill in the application form, and what documents to provide in the process.

If you want to find out more about the European Energy Communities Facility, we invite you to visit our website: <https://energycommunitiesfacility.eu/>

Why should you apply to the European Energy Communities Facility (ENERCOM Facility)?

The ENERCOM Facility provides numerous benefits to energy communities in the EU, including but not limited to financial and capacity-building support. The visual below provides you with an overview of the services the ENERCOM Facility will provide to its beneficiaries:

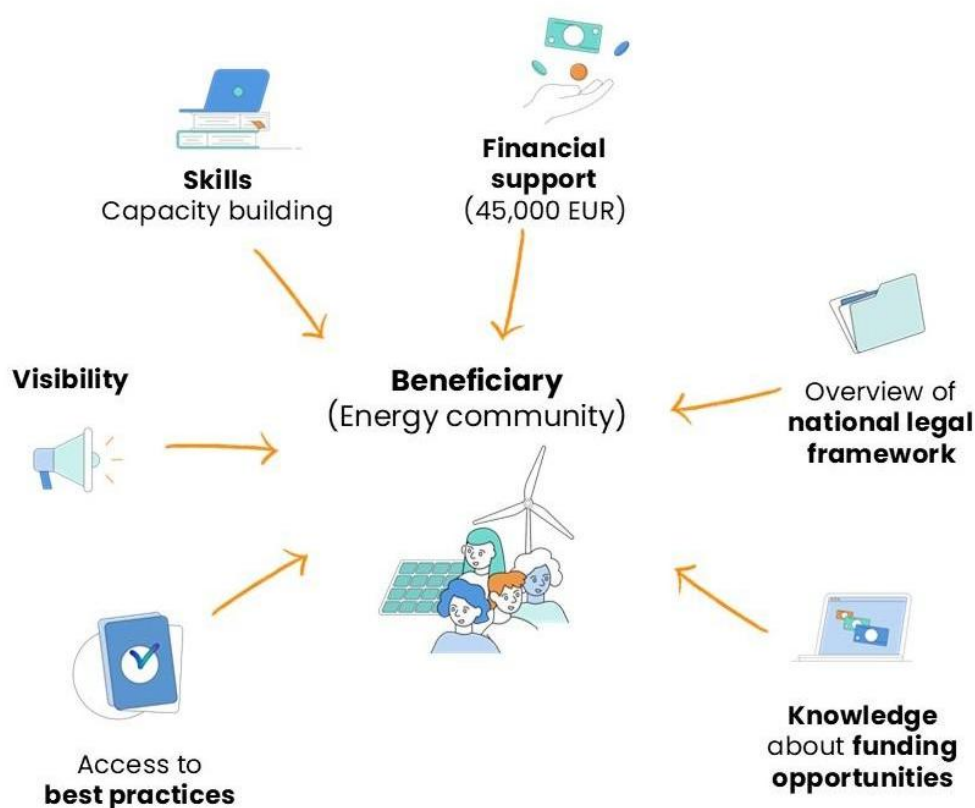


Figure 1 – Benefits of being selected as a grantee for the ENERCOM Facility

Who can apply to receive support from the ENERCOM Facility?

Applying communities must

- be established as a legal entity¹,
- comply with the European definitions of Citizen Energy Community or Renewable Energy Community,
- be located in one of the EU's 27 Member States, Iceland, Ukraine, Moldova or North Macedonia,
- commit to completing the monitoring and impact assessment questionnaires,
- commit to following the capacity building programme during their collaboration with the ENERCOM Facility.

To help you understand whether you are eligible to apply for ENERCOM Facility support, we have developed an eligibility self-check, which applicants will be asked to complete before being able to access the application form. This check takes the form of a few, simple questions. You can find more information about this self-check further down in this document (pp. 9-10).

Our support offer

What types of support does the European Energy Communities Facility provide?

The ENERCOM Facility will support at least 140 communities. It will do so by two means:

- **Financial support:** Each beneficiary will receive a lump-sum grant of 45,000€ to develop a business plan and receive professional support.
- **Capacity building programme (mandatory):** Beneficiaries will participate in a capacity building programme designed to help them mature their projects and improve their readiness for investment. The programme is a mandatory element

¹ The legal entity may have been established with a different purpose but decided to expand its activities to include energy later on.

as part of the Facility's support. It includes a complete set of training modules as well as a business management guide to support the development and implementation of business plans. Additionally, beneficiaries will be able to participate in national peer-to-peer exchanges to facilitate knowledge-sharing, overcoming shared challenges, and fostering collaboration.

What activities can be funded by the ENERCOM Facility grant?

The financial support provided by the European Energy Communities Facility is specifically intended to fund activities required for the development and implementation of the business plan of energy community initiatives. This includes assessing the technical and financial aspects of the project and supporting essential pre-development work such as feasibility studies, obtaining permits, legal agreements, and other preparatory activities necessary to structure a solid and bankable business plan.

The business plan is developed by the energy community either completely in-house, or they can engage external experts for support. National Experts will assist beneficiaries in their respective countries in this process, but cannot be sub-contracted to develop business plans.

Will my community compete against all other communities in the EU?

The short answer is “no”. In order to avoid putting countries with few energy communities in competition with countries where there are many energy communities, the ENERCOM Facility has divided participating countries into **high-uptake countries** and **low-uptake countries**². This way, we aim to establish as fair a playing field as possible. You can find an overview of the distribution according to the ENERCOM Facility below:

² The split between high and low uptake countries considers several factors, including the current development stage of energy communities, the number of existing initiatives, the degree of transposition of the REC/CEC definitions, the presence of an enabling legal and policy framework, and the availability of support structures such as one-stop-shops and national federations. The split between the two country groupings may be revised for the second call if there are changes in the above factors.

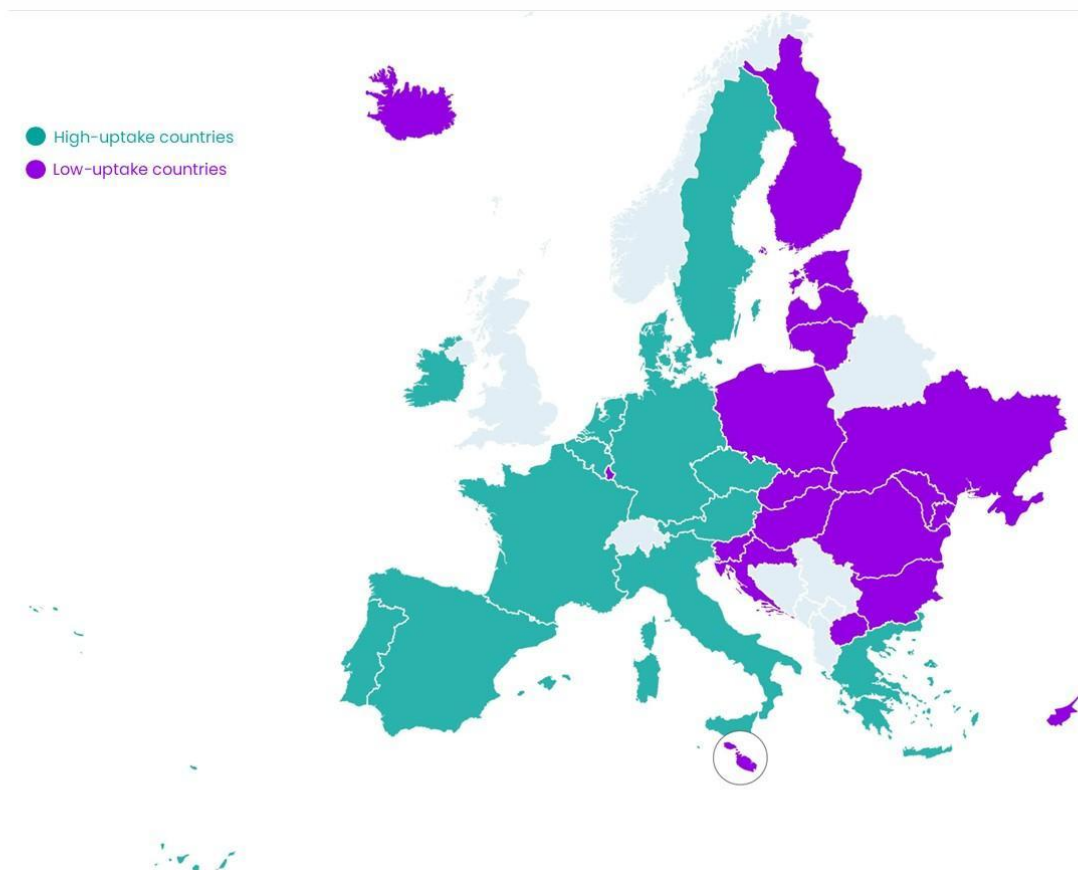


Figure 2 – Map of high-uptake and low-uptake countries under the ENERCOM Facility.

Group	Countries
High-uptake countries	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Netherlands, Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Czech Republic.
Low-uptake countries	Bulgaria, Hungary, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus, Finland, Luxembourg, Malta, Ukraine, Iceland, Moldova, North Macedonia.

Table 1 – Eligible applicants for high-uptake and low-uptake countries under the ENERCOM Facility.

Application process

The visual below provides an overview of the application process and key deadlines to help you navigate the process. Each of the steps is explained in further detail below.

The dates refer to the ENERCOM Facility's first call for proposals. A second call for proposals will be organised in the first semester of 2026, the timelines for this call will be communicated in due course.

In case you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your [national expert](#).

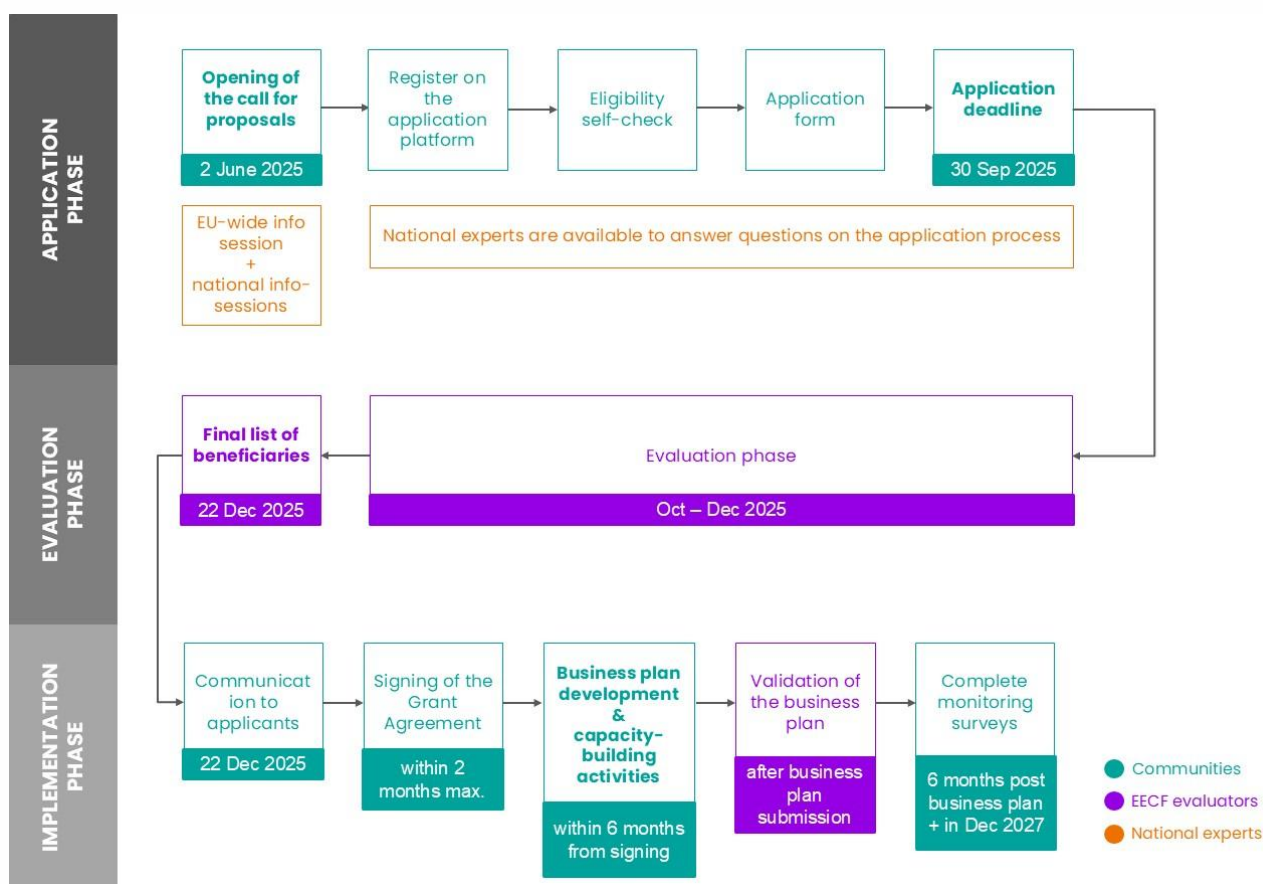


Figure 3 – ENERCOM Facility application process for the first call for proposals

Step	Date
Opening of the call for proposals	2 June 2025
EU-wide info session	3 June 2025, 11:00–12:30 CET
Application deadline	30 September 2025
Evaluation phase	October – December 2025

Final list of beneficiaries and communication to applicants	by 22 December 2025
Signing of the grant agreement	within 2 months of receiving notification
Development of the business plan and completion of the capacity building programme	within 6 months of signing the grant agreement
Validation of the business plan	within 2 months of receiving the business plan
Monitoring surveys	6 months after validation of the business plan + in December 2027

Table 2 – ENERCOM Facility application process for the first call for proposals

Step-by-step explanation of the process

Opening of the call for proposals

The first call for proposals will open on 2 June 2025 and will close on 30 September 2025.

The Facility will organise an EU info-session on 3 June 2025 from 11:00–12:30 CET.

[Register for the info-session here](#)

In addition to this EU-wide info-session, national experts will organise national info-sessions in their respective languages.

Make sure to keep an eye out on the Facility's [website](#) to stay informed on the date for the info-session in your country.

A second call for proposals will open in the first semester of 2026. The exact dates and application deadlines will be communicated with sufficient lead time.

Register on the application platform

In order to access the Facility's application platform, you will need to create a user account and password.

[Register on the ENERCOM Facility application platform](#)

Eligibility self-check

A crucial step before you can apply to the Facility is to understand whether your community project is eligible for

funding according to the Facility's criteria. The main purpose of this step is to save you time – if your project is not eligible, the eligibility self-check will avoid making you go through the whole application process in vain. You can only access the application form if your community meets all the eligibility criteria.

Please note that the ENERCOM Facility evaluators will verify your eligibility during the evaluation phase based on the information you provide in the application form. If it turns out during this check that your community does not comply with the eligibility criteria, your application will be rejected. The community in question will be able to reapply in the second call in case the relevant elements have been resolved in the meantime.

The table below provides an overview of the eligibility criteria and the questions you will need to answer. The answer options in the questionnaire are 'yes' and 'no'.

Criterion	Question
1. Legal entity	Are you a formally organized legal entity such as a cooperative, association, limited company, or similar organization?
2. Applicants must be based in one of the eligible countries under the LIFE programme	Is your legal entity established and operating in any of the EU-27 Member States, Iceland, Ukraine, Moldova or North Macedonia.
3. The legal entity complies with one of the EU energy community definitions Note: Any legal entity that complies with the EU energy community definitions can apply, even if it was not originally set up to be an energy community.	<p>Activities</p> <p>Are the activities you are currently undertaking or planning to undertake aligned with the types of activities that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RECs: Operate in renewable energy across electricity and heating, enabling production, consumption, storage, and sales. • CECs: Operate within the electricity sector, covering renewable energy, with activities including generation, distribution, supply, aggregation, storage, energy efficiency, and EV charging. <p>Membership structure</p> <p>Are your membership criteria aligned with the membership rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p>

	<p>For your reference, the EU definitions consider as eligible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For RECs: natural persons, micro, small, and medium enterprises (SMEs), and local authorities in proximity to the community, provided energy is not their primary economic activity. For CECs: all types of entities, including public companies and large enterprises, as long as energy is not their main economic activity.
	<p>Open and voluntary participation</p> <p>Is your participation structure aligned with the participation rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REC: Participation is open based on open and voluntary participation. CEC: Follow voluntary and open participation principles but restrict decision-making power to members not engaged in large-scale commercial energy activities.
	<p>Governance and effective control</p> <p>Is your governance structure aligned with the governance rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> REC: Controlled by participants located near renewable energy projects owned by the community, ensuring the energy sector is not their primary economic activity. CEC: Controlled by natural persons, local authorities, or small enterprises.
	<p>Primary purpose</p> <p>Is your primary purpose aligned with the purpose rules that, according to European definitions, qualify an initiative as an energy community?</p> <p>For your reference, the EU definitions state that the main purpose of energy communities should be to provide environmental, economic, or social community benefits to its shareholders, members, and/or the local areas where the community operates, rather than financial profits.</p>
4. Applicant commits to completing the monitoring and impact measurement questionnaires and to follow the capacity building programme	<p>Do you commit to completing the monitoring and impact measurement questionnaires and providing any requested information? Do you commit to assigning human resources to follow the capacity building programme?</p>

Table 3 – ENERCOM Facility eligibility self-check questionnaire

The Facility will launch a second call for proposals in 2026. If the element(s) due to which you are not eligible can be resolved – e.g. you do not have a legal entity yet, you need to adjust certain elements to be compliant with the EU definitions for energy communities – you can apply to the second call after having resolved it.

[Take the eligibility self-check](#)

Application form

If you pass the eligibility self-check, you will be able to access the application form in the Facility's portal. For most questions, you will find some further clarification directly below the question in the application form, where we tried to clarify as much as possible any doubts that may arise.

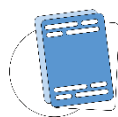
To help you anticipate and prepare for the information the Facility will request in the application form, you will find an annotated application form below in this document.

Should you still have questions, we encourage you to contact your national expert for further clarification.

[Contact your national expert](#)

The deadline for applications for the first call is 30 September 2025 at 23.59 CET.

Please note that each community can only submit one single application. You can enter the platform and review your application as many times as you like before submission. However, once you press "submit", you will no longer be able to change your application.



Documents you will need for the application form

Mandatory

- **Official/legal document** proving your status as a legal entity
- **Signed letter of commitment** to answer all the monitoring and impact assessment questionnaires and participate in the capacity building programme of the Facility (signed by legal representative)

Optional

- Visual of your governing bodies and decision-making structure (e.g. organizational chart)

Evaluation phase

After the submission deadline **(30 September 2025)**, the ENERCOM Facility's independent evaluators will review all applications received and score them according to clear and specific evaluation criteria.

As a general rule, any eligible community that is rejected during the first call can reapply during the second call for proposals.

Evaluation criteria

The visual below shows the evaluation criteria as well as the sub-criteria that will be used by evaluators. The overall minimum pass threshold for a proposal is 15 out of 25 points. In addition, proposals need to reach the minimum pass threshold under each criterion in order to be considered for the grant.



Figure 4 – ENERCOM Facility evaluation score system

Evaluation process

As a first step, the evaluators will **confirm the eligibility** of the applicant by double-checking the information provided in the questions related to the eligibility criteria. If at this stage it turns out that your community is not eligible (despite having answered all questions in the eligibility self-check according to requirements), the application will not move forward. Your community can reapply in the 2026 call for proposals in case you are able to resolve the elements that made you not eligible.

As a second step, the evaluators will perform an assessment of the applications based on the evaluation criteria outlined above. Applications will then be sorted according to their overall score. **Communities whose score remains below the minimum threshold of 15 points will not be considered eligible for the grant, as the Facility estimates that the community is not yet ready to use the grant for the development of a business plan effectively. For the same reasons, if a community remains below the minimum threshold for any evaluation criterion, the application will not move forward.** The 80 communities with the highest scores will then move to the feasibility check.

As a third step, national experts will step in to review the highest-scoring communities in light of

- their compliance with the national/local definition of energy communities
- the plausibility of the proposed solution in the local/national context
- the coherence of the stakeholder engagement approach to support project implementation
- the coherence and plausibility of the implementation timeline.

National experts will flag proposals for which they have concerns on the points above to the independent evaluators, explaining their concerns. This evaluation step will be anonymous.

Based on the feedback by the national experts, the ENERCOM Facility's independent evaluators will have the option to review (or not) their original scoring. After that, they will **establish a final ranking of potential beneficiaries**.

Communication to applicants

&

signing of the grant agreement

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the evaluation during the third week of December 2025.

All applicants will receive a feedback form to help them understand their scoring and, in the case of an unsuccessful applications, to help them improve their proposal for the second call.

Any questions/complaints on the outcomes of the evaluation can be raised within 5 working days from the date the notification email is sent. After this period, any appeals on the evaluation results cannot be considered anymore. Questions or complaints on the outcomes of the evaluation and provided feedback can be sent through the [ENERCOM Facility's Helpdesk](#).

Successful applicants will be listed on the ENERCOM Facility website. Each community will receive their personal scores and evaluations via the application platform.

Selected communities will receive an automatic notification to submit a Beneficiary Identification Form, which requests the following information of the selected communities:

- Contact details of the legal representative who will be in charge of signing the grant agreement
- Legal address of the energy community
- Name and address of the bank where to issue the payment
- IBAN
- BIC/SWIFT code.

This form will be made available to them on the platform. The information provided via this form will be used to generate the grant agreement. Once the grant agreement is ready, communities will receive a notification and a request to sign the agreement. Signature will need to happen within 2 weeks of the receipt of the grant agreement.

Please make sure your legal representative is available to complete and send back the Beneficiary Identification Form by 9 January 2026.

Once you upload the grant agreement signed by your community representative, the project collaboration officially begins.

Payment schedule

The first payment (50% of the total amount, 22,500€) will be made within 60 days of signing the grant agreement. The second payment (50% of the total amount, 22,500€) will be made by October 2027 for the first call for proposals, and by summer 2028 for the second call for proposals.

Business plan development and implementation

Successful applicants will receive the ENERCOM Facility's business model template, which includes a financing model and a business plan strategy.

Communities will have 6 months to submit their final business plan. **The plan can be written in the local language but must include an English summary.**

Capacity- building activities

ENERCOM Facility beneficiaries will have access to a capacity-building programme, which will be available on the Facility's platform. **The completion of the capacity building programme is compulsory.** A completion certificate will be delivered and will enable the submission of the business plan.

For communities that require additional introductory information, the Facility will develop a voluntary introduction module.

Reporting and monitoring

The submission of the business plan is considered the main element of reporting expected by beneficiaries. All submitted business plans will be reviewed and validated by the ENERCOM Facility's team of independent evaluators.

Once the business plan is validated, beneficiaries will be asked to fill in the ENERCOM Facility's **monitoring and impact assessment surveys**. This step is mandatory. The purpose of this survey is to track the progress of the communities beyond the grant, and to allow the European Commission to assess the impact of the ENERCOM Facility.

Beneficiaries are asked to notify the ENERCOM Facility about key milestones and impacts of the implementation process by submitting **two simple monitoring forms** – one 6 months after validation of the business plan, and one by December 2027.

Annotated application form

The aim of providing you with an annotated application form is to give you a preview of the information that will be requested once you pass the eligibility check. To make sure questions are as clear as possible, we have added additional explanations directly in the application form. In cases where we felt it might be helpful to provide communities with further guidance, you will find it in the right-hand column of this form.

If you have any questions on the application form, please do not hesitate to contact your [national expert](#).

Section 1: Applicant identification	
Subsection	Additional guidance for applicants
1.1 Name of your energy community <i>What is the official name of your energy community?</i>	
1.2 Name of legal representative <i>Full name of the energy community's legal representative as stated in their ID.</i>	
1.3 Main contact person <i>Please provide the main contact person's details. This person can be the same as, or different from, the legal representative.</i>	Elements to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• full name (first name and last name(s)) of the contact person• e-mail address of the contact person
1.4 Country <i>Country where your legal entity is established and operates</i>	
1.6 Address <i>Official of the legal entity</i>	Elements to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Street name and number• Postal code• City• Region (if applicable/relevant)
1.7 Tax identification number	We request this information to avoid confusion between communities with the same or similar names.

	<p>This number may be called something different depending on your country (e.g. VAT number). It is the number that is given to you upon establishing a legal entity, and which you use for invoicing and tax purposes.</p>
<p>Section 2: Overall description of the energy community operation</p> <p>To ensure an anonymous review of your application by the national experts, please refrain from using the name of your energy community in this section.</p>	
Subsection	Additional guidance for applicants
<p>2.1 Date of legal establishment</p> <p><i>What date was your community legally registered?</i></p>	<p>Day/Month/Year</p>
<p>2.2 Legal form</p> <p><i>What is the legal form of your energy community?</i></p>	<p>Drop of menu (only one option can be selected):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative Association Limited company Other (please specify) → here you will have free text to specify if you select 'other'
<p>2.3 Primary purpose of your energy community</p> <p><i>Please describe the main purpose/reason of existence of your energy community</i></p>	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is your primary purpose to generate environmental, social, economic benefits? Is it to generate financial profits for your shareholders? Who benefits from these activities (local community? large investors/companies?)
<p>2.4 Are you an emerging energy community?</p> <p><i>Is this your community's first energy-related project?</i></p> <p><i>Note: The ENERCOM Facility is committed to supporting emerging energy communities in their first project/activity as well as more established energy communities who may plan to develop an additional activity.</i></p>	

<p>2.5 Number of members</p> <p><i>How many members does your energy community currently have?</i></p>	<p>Please list the total across all types of members of your community: individuals, municipalities, associations, businesses</p>
<p>2.6 Types of members</p> <p><i>Please tell us who can become a member of your energy community.</i></p>	<p>Drop-down list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals/citizens • Small- and medium-sized companies • Large companies • Not-for-profit organisations and associations • Local authorities • Regional authorities • Energy agencies • Energy companies
<p>2.7 Governance structure and decision-making processes</p> <p><i>Please provide an overview of your energy community's governance structure and decision-making processes. Your answer should:</i></p> <p><i>1) Describe the governing bodies, their roles, and responsibilities. If available, please attach a visual representation (e.g., an organizational chart) to illustrate this structure.</i></p> <p><i>2) Explain the membership rules, describing the process for joining your energy community, and the criteria for joining each governing body.</i></p> <p><i>3) Describe how decisions are made within your energy community. Include details on strategic, operational, and administrative decisions—clarifying who takes them, and through which voting systems or consultation processes.</i></p>	<p>Energy communities are meant to follow principles of open participation and democratic governance. The objective of this question is to understand to what extent your community follows these principles.</p>
<p>2.8 Working structure - roles, responsibilities and previous experience</p> <p><i>Please provide a description of your energy community's working structure, clearly identifying the individuals currently involved in its day-to-day operations. For each person, please specify their role, responsibilities, and relevant previous experience.</i></p>	<p>The purpose of this section is to help us understand the prior experience of your organisation and your capacity to follow through with the creation of the business plan.</p>
<p>Section 3: Description of the proposed project</p>	

To ensure an anonymous review of your application by the national experts, please refrain from using the name of your energy community in this section.

Subsection	Additional guidance for applicants
<p>3.1 Project title (if applicable)</p> <p><i>If your energy community is proposing a specific project or initiative as part of this application, please provide a short and descriptive title.</i></p>	
<p>3.2 Local context</p> <p><i>Describe the local context in which your project will be implemented in as much detail as possible. Your answer must include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An overview of the local context in which your project will be implemented.</i> • <i>The local challenges you aim to address.</i> 	<p>We are looking to understand the situation of your local community. What are the challenges you aim to address? Who is already involved (either directly in your community or actors that are currently not a member of your legal entity)? What has already happened in your area to try to address the challenge you want to solve (whether this was your community or another actor)? Who is opposing to your project, and why? What assets do you have on your side (within your legal entity or the culture of your local area) to achieve your objective?</p>
<p>3.3 Objectives and innovation factor of your project</p> <p><i>Describe your project in as much detail as possible. Your answer must include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Description of your project and how innovative or novel it is in the local context.</i> • <i>The objectives of the project</i> 	<p>This question aims to provide us with an understanding of what your project will look like, what activities you plan to implement.</p> <p>Examples (non-exhaustive) of objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • installing X kW of renewable energy (to be specified) • installing X charging stations • acquiring X electric vehicles • developing an application to achieve a specific outcome (e.g. carsharing application, energy saving application) • renovating X dwellings
<p>3.4 Implementation approach</p> <p><i>Describe in as much detail as possible your approach to achieving your project objectives and how it will help address the specific local challenges/needs.</i></p>	

<p>3.5 Technology</p> <p><i>Which technology (or technologies) do you intend to use in your project?</i></p>	<p>Drop-down menu (possible to choose one or more):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar • Wind • Storage • Hydropower • Biogas • Biomass • Heat Pump • Mobility • Electric vehicles • District heating • Building renovation • Energy efficiency • Other – please specify which (text box)
<p>3.6 Expected size of investment.</p> <p><i>Please provide an estimated size of investment for your project. We understand this is a preliminary figure, so it does not need to be exact. However, it should reflect the estimation you have used to assess the viability and potential impact of your project.</i></p>	
<p>3.7 Use of grant resources</p> <p><i>Taking into account your working structure, describe how you plan to use the grant funds (€45 000). Outline the specific tasks to be carried out and indicate who will be responsible for each one. If you intend to hire external consultants to carry out any of these tasks, please specify which ones and provide relevant details.</i></p>	<p>We appreciate that you may not have clarity on all the elements at this point. We ask applicants to outline as much of the planning as is possible to you at this stage. For the elements on which you do not have full clarity yet, please try to describe how you plan to resolve them.</p>
<p>3.8 Funding sources</p> <p><i>Explain how you plan to finance your project once you have finalized your business plan development and enter the implementation phase, specifying the funding sources you intend to use.</i></p>	<p>We do not necessarily expect you to have full clarity on this aspect during the application phase. What we are looking for is to get an idea of how much scoping and investigation you have already conducted into possible funding sources, and how advanced you are in this process.</p>
<p>3.9 Expected energy savings, renewable energy production, and CO2 emissions reduction (time frame)</p> <p><i>Select which of the following impacts your project</i></p>	<p>Avoid double counting impacts in energy savings and renewable energy production.</p> <p>To give you an example: The share of renewable energy in the energy mix is not</p>

<p><i>will generate and provide a yearly estimation for each once the project is operational:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Energy savings: (kWh/year)</i> • <i>Renewable energy production: (kWh/year)</i> • <i>CO₂ emission reductions: (tons/year)</i> <p><i>We understand this is a preliminary figure, so it does not need to be exact. However, it should reflect the estimation you have used to assess the viability and potential impact of your project.</i></p>	<p>part of the indicator on energy savings for your project. This means you cannot count the generation of renewable energy as a reduction of primary energy consumption.</p> <p>The double-counting of impacts for intended measures will be considered in the evaluation of criterion 3 – coherence and plausibility (see evaluation table in the next section for further information).</p>
<p>3.10 Replication and/or up-scaling potential</p> <p><i>Does your project have the potential to be scaled up or replicated in other contexts or communities? If so, briefly describe how and under what conditions this could happen.</i></p>	<p>Example for clarification: The scaling-up potential can for instance refer to the impact your work might have on nearby communities, or the potential to replicate your approach in similar types of communities (irrespective of their geographic location).</p>
<p>3.11 Stakeholder engagement strategy</p> <p><i>Describe your strategy for engaging stakeholders. Please be as specific as you can and make sure to include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identification of relevant stakeholders</i> • <i>Their needs and expectations</i> • <i>Your engagement approach</i> • <i>Any stakeholder engagement activities already conducted.</i> <p><i>While a fully detailed plan is not required at this stage and its absence will not be penalized, your response will help us understand the level of analysis and preparation you have carried out—and how this may affect the feasibility and success of your project's implementation.</i></p>	
<p>3.12 Implementation plan and timeline</p> <p><i>Provide an estimated timeline for the implementation of your project. This should reflect your initial expectations regarding the main phases and milestones, following the development of your business plan. We understand this is a preliminary timeline and that it may evolve depending on the outcomes of the business planning process. Our goal is to understand your current expectations regarding project delivery.</i></p>	

Section 4: Expected impact on the local community	
Subsection	Additional guidance for applicants
<p>4.1 Re-investment strategy of economic benefits</p> <p><i>Does your energy community plan to reinvest the economic benefits generated by the project? If so, please describe your reinvestment strategy, including how these funds will be allocated to support the community, enhance project sustainability, or finance future initiatives.</i></p>	<p>We are aware that particularly new projects will need time for the initial investment to be recovered. The aim of this question is to understand how you plan to use any potential profits your project may generate in the future for the benefit of the wider community in your area. We appreciate that the strategy of some communities may be to simply reduce energy bills as much as possible rather than generate profits for future investments.</p>
<p>4.2 Inclusive practices</p> <p><i>Do you have or intend to promote inclusive practices within your Energy Community? If so, please describe them. These could include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strategies to support and enhance the competitiveness of local SMEs</i> • <i>Membership rules that encourage inclusive community participation</i> • <i>Gender balance strategies</i> • <i>Plans to alleviate or eliminate energy poverty among target groups</i> • <i>Any other relevant inclusion strategies</i> 	
Section 3: Required documents	
Subsection	Additional guidance for applicants
<p>5.1 Proof of legal status</p> <p><i>Please upload an official document proving your legal establishment in your country of operation, such as a registration certificate, an extract from the national business registry, or equivalent proof.</i></p>	<p>The document can be submitted in your national language.</p>
<p>Signed letter of commitment to answer all the monitoring and impact questionnaires and complete the mandatory capacity-building programme.</p> <p><i>Please upload the letter of commitment, duly signed by the legal representative, confirming your participation and agreement to complete all</i></p>	

monitoring and impact questionnaires, using the template provided on the platform.	
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Table 4 – Annotated application form

Letter of commitment template



Letter of commitment

I, the undersigned, [Name and Surname], in my capacity as [Legal representative title, e.g. President, Director] of [Full legal name of the Energy Community or Organisation], hereby confirm our formal commitment to the **European Energy Communities Facility**.

In particular, we commit to:

- Actively participate in the activities of the Facility as described in our proposal and the guidelines of the call;
- Implement the validated Business Plan developed with the support of the Facility to the best of our ability and in line with our organisational objectives;
- Submit all required surveys and information related to the implementation and impact of the Business Plan, as requested by the Coordinators of the Facility;
- Cooperate in monitoring and evaluation activities after the completion and validation of the Business Plan, including providing timely and accurate data regarding implementation progress, investment mobilisation, and outcomes achieved.

We understand that the submission of these surveys is essential to support the assessment of the impact of the Facility and the effectiveness of the support provided.

This commitment is made with full awareness of its implications and with the authority to represent the above-mentioned Energy Community.

Signed in [City], on [Date]



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