INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2011




Call identifier:
CIP-IEE-2011

CLOSING DATES:

Thursday 12 May 2011, 17:00 (Brussels local time)

Except for Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative:
Wednesday 15 June 2011, 17:00 (Brussels local time)

Electronic submission only.

For further information:
http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2011 FOR ACTIONS UNDER THE PROGRAMME "INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE"

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1. THE INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE PROGRAMME

The objective of the Intelligent Energy - Europe II Programme ("IEE II") is to contribute to secure, sustainable and competitively priced energy for Europe, by providing for action[1]:

- to foster energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources;
- to promote new and renewable energy sources and to support energy diversification;
- to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources in transport.

The Programme in particular contributes to the EU Energy 2020 Strategy[2], and facilitates the implementation of the EU action plan for energy-efficiency[3] and of the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources[4].

Intelligent Energy – Europe builds on the experience gained from its predecessor, the first Intelligent Energy - Europe (2003-2006) Programme[5]. This Programme has become the main EU instrument to tackle non-technological barriers to the spread of efficient use of energy and greater use of new and renewable energy sources. From 2007, Intelligent Energy – Europe has been included in the overall Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)[6] in order to contribute to achieving the objectives of EU energy policy and to implementing the Lisbon Agenda.

The Programme is managed by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI, formerly known as Intelligent Energy Executive Agency) under powers delegated by the European Commission.

In operational terms the Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme aims to[7]:

a) provide the elements necessary for the improvement of sustainability, the development of the potential of cities and regions, as well as for the preparation of the legislative measures needed to attain the related strategic objectives; develop the means and instruments to follow up, monitor and evaluate the impact of the measures adopted by the EU and its Member States in the fields addressed by the Programme;

b) boost investment across Member States in new and best performing technologies in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources and energy diversification, including in transport, by bridging the gap between the successful demonstration of innovative technologies and their effective, broad market uptake in order to attain leverage of public and private sector investment, promote key strategic technologies, bring down costs, increase market experience and contribute to reducing the financial risks and other perceived risks and barriers that hinder this type of investment;

c) remove the non-technological barriers to efficient and intelligent patterns of energy production and consumption by promoting institutional capacity building at, inter alia, local and regional level, by raising awareness, notably through the educational system, by encouraging exchanges of experience and know-how among the main players concerned, business and citizens in general and by stimulating the spread of best practices and best available technologies, notably by means of their promotion at EU level.

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[1] Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013), OJ L 310/15, 9.11.2006, Article 37.
[2] "Energy 2020 - A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy". COM(2010) 639 final
[3] Action Plan for Energy Efficiency: Realising the Potential, COM(2006)545 of 19.10.2006
[4] Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC.
[5] Decision 1230/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26.06.2003
[6] Articles 37 to 45 of Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24.10.2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013).
[7] Articles 38 of Decision No 1639/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24.10.2006 establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007 to 2013).

Intelligent Energy - Europe covers action in the following fields:

Energy efficiency and rational use of energy resources (SAVE), including:

- improving energy efficiency and the rational use of energy, in particular in the building and industry sectors;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

New and renewable energy resources (ALTENER), including:

- promoting new and renewable energy sources for centralised and decentralised production of electricity, heat and cooling, and thus supporting the diversification of energy sources;
- integrating new and renewable energy sources into the local environment and the energy systems;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Energy in transport (STEER) to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energies sources in transport, including

- supporting initiatives relating to all energy aspects of transport and the diversification of fuels;
- promoting renewable fuels and energy efficiency in transport;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Integrated initiatives combining several of the specific fields referred to SAVE, ALTENER and STEER or relating to certain EU priorities. They may include actions integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in several sectors of the economy and/or combining various instruments, tools and actors within the same action or project.

Actions supported in the framework of the IEE programme have a significant impact at European level, a high profile and the broadest possible relevance to European citizens and policies. In this context, preference is given to proposals of outstanding quality that present cost-effective arrangements and a significant dimension.

The above fields, objectives, and instruments are valid for the whole Programme duration, i.e. from 2007 to 2013. However each annual work programme sets a number of more specific, action-related objectives. Those relative to the call for proposals 2011 have been set in the annual work programme 2011, adopted by the European Commission on 18 January 2011[8]. They are summarised hereafter.

It is expected that this call for proposals will result in about 60 projects being supported.

For the priorities and types of action for this Call 2011, see chapter 10.

For further details on the priorities, please consult the annual Work Programme 2011 available on the programme website together with all relevant Call documents.

2. BUDGET, FUNDING RATES AND ELIGIBILITY OF COSTS

The indicative total amount available for this call is about **EUR 67 million**. The European Commission, through the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI), plans to grant funds which are complementary to contributions made by the beneficiary, the national, regional or local authorities and/or other bodies. The sources of co-funding must be transparent and stated in such a way that they are clearly

[8] C(2011)93

identifiable and accountable.

Accordingly, the amount granted will be **up to 75% of the total eligible costs** (except for the projects funded under the *Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative* (see section 10.4.4) where EU funding can be up to 90% of the total eligible costs).

The EU contribution to reimburse eligible costs must not give rise to a profit. Contributions in kind are not eligible costs. One action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the EU budget to any one beneficiary. Action which receives financial support for the same purpose from other EU financial instruments will not receive funding from the IEE Programme.

Eligible costs can be incurred only after signature of the grant agreement by all the parties, save in exceptional cases, and under no circumstances before submission of the application for a grant.

For the initiative on *Mobilising local energy investments*, IEE grants for technical assistance will only be paid in full if planned investments are launched or relevant investment contracts/permits are signed before the end of the project period, up to 36 months from the signature of the contract. In the event of failure to deliver the planned investments, the EU contribution will have to be reimbursed by the beneficiary, although some costs may be eligible for support if adequately justified, on a pro-rata basis.

The maximum duration of a project is 3 years.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility criteria will be checked by the EACI on receipt of the proposals. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the proposal not being evaluated further.

3.1. Which organisations and countries are eligible?

All applicants must be legal entities, whether public or private, established in the territory of the EU Member States, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Croatia.

A grant agreement with legal entities established in other countries will only be signed under the condition that the country has undertaken the necessary steps to join the IEE programme. Up-to-date information on which countries are part of the programme is available on the programme website (see chapter 8).

The IEE programme is also open to the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC). It is also open to international organisations – subject to the conditions set out above. They may, if necessary, receive funding. If one of the participants is the JRC or an international organisation, it is deemed to be established in a Member State or associated country other than any Member State or associated country in which another participant in the same action is established.

Local and regional energy agencies which were established with and are still beneficiaries of EU contributions from the IEE Programme are eligible to participate in IEE projects (a) if they provide evidence that their resources are sufficient to cover the additional activities and that those additional activities do not overlap with the work programme of their existing IEE grant agreement or (b) if the submission deadline for the call for proposals lies at least 24 months after the starting date of their activities, as specified in the relevant grant agreement.

Applicants that do not have legal personality may apply for grants provided that the representatives of these applicants prove that they have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on behalf of the applicant and provided that they offer financial guarantees equivalent to those provided by legal entities.

“Legal entity” means any entity created under the national law of its place of establishment, EU law or international law, which has legal personality and which, acting under its own name, may exercise rights and be subject to obligations.

"International organisations" means legal entities arising from an association of States, other than the EU, established on the basis of a treaty or similar act, having common institutions and an international legal personality distinct from that of its Member States.

Natural persons are not eligible.

3.2. How many applicants are required?

Applications must be submitted by a **team of at least three independent[9] legal entities, each established in a different eligible country** (see section 3.1).

Exceptions:

1. ***Integrated Initiative on Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy — Pillar I actions (see section 10.4.4)***: applications must be submitted by a team of independent legal entities, established in the same country.

2. ***Integrated Initiative on Mobilising Local Energy Investments (see section 10.4.2):*** Proposals must be submitted by one or more local or regional public authorities (municipality, city, province, region) or other public bodies based within a single country or in more than one country. Groupings of local authorities must represent neighbouring local authorities located in a determined geographic area.

3.3. Specific provisions for Integrated Initiative on *Mobilising Local Energy Investments see section 10.4.2)*:

1. Proposals must include full technical details and costs of the preparatory and finance mobilisation tasks to be supported by IEE under the proposed technical assistance, together with technical details and estimates of costs of the proposed mobilised investments in plant and equipment. (IEE will not provide financial support for hardware investments.)

2. Grants for technical assistance within this priority must lead to investments with a minimum leverage factor of 15 (each Euro of technical assistance costs must lead to investments of at least EUR 15).

3. Proposals must involve minimum technical assistance costs of EUR 400 000, leading to a minimum investment of EUR 6 000 000.

3.4. Themes and funding priorities

All priorities mentioned in **chapter 10** are open for submission of proposals.

Exceptionally, and if properly justified, proposals that meet the eligibility criteria but do not directly respond to the priorities defined in the Call may also be considered.

3.5. Submission

Proposals must be submitted by the closing date and time (see chapter 7), using the online application system and the templates provided therein and must be complete.

3.6. Grounds for exclusion

Applications will not be considered for a grant if the applicants are in any of the following situations:

a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings

[9] Definition of independent: In case of two undertakings A and B; A may control not more than 50% of B, and vice versa; A and B may be controlled not more than 50% by a third undertaking C.

concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;

b) they have been convicted of an offence concerning professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of res judicata;

c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify;

d) they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;

e) they have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the European Union's financial interests;

f) they are currently subject to an administrative penalty referred to in Article 96(1) of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Union[10];

g) they are faced with a conflict of interest;

h) they are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in the procedure or fail to supply this information.

The cases referred to in point 3.6 (e) cover:

- cases of fraud as referred to in Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Union's financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995[11];
- cases of corruption as referred to in Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Union or officials of Member States of the European Union, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 May 1997[12];
- cases of involvement in a criminal organisation, as defined in Article 2(1) of Joint Action 98/733/JHA of the Council[13];
- cases of money laundering as defined in Article 1 of Council Directive 91/308/EEC[14].

Applicants shall supply evidence that they exist as legal entities and that they are not in one of the above-listed situations. For that purpose, applicants shall submit a declaration on their honour as part of the application forms.

3.7. Administrative and financial penalties

Candidates who have made false declarations, have submitted substantial errors, irregularities or fraud, may be subject to financial penalties representing 2% to 10% of the total estimated value of the contract being awarded. Contractors who have been found in serious breach of their contractual obligations may be subject to financial penalties representing 2% to 10% of the total value of the contract in question. The rate may be increased to 4% to 20% in the event of a repeat infringement within five years of the date on which the infringement is established as confirmed following an adversarial procedure with the contractor.

[10] Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1) as amended by Council Regulation (EC, EURATOM) No 1995/2006 of 13 December 2006 (OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1).

[11] OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

[12] OJ C 195, 25.6.1997, p. 1.

[13] OJ C 351, 29.12.1998, p.1. Joint action of 21 December 1998 on making it a criminal offence to participate in a criminal organisation in the Member States of the European Union.

[14] OJ L 166, 28.6.1991, p. 77. Directive of 10 June 1991, as amended by Directive 2001/97/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 December 2001 (OJ L 344, 28.12.2001, p. 76).

Without prejudice to the application of penalties laid down in the contract, candidates and contractors who have made false declarations, have made substantial errors or committed irregularities or fraud, or have been found in serious breach of their contractual obligations may also be excluded from all contracts and grants financed by the EU budget for a maximum of five years from the date on which the infringement is established as confirmed following and adversarial procedure with the contractor. That period may be extended to ten years in the event of a repeated offence within five years of the date referred to in the first subparagraph.

The Commission uses an internal information tool (Early Warning System (EWS) to flag identified risks related to beneficiaries of centrally managed contracts and grants with a view to protecting the EU's financial interests.

Furthermore, the Commission manages a Central Exclusion Database (CED) which registers all the entities that may be excluded from participation to any grant or procurement procedure allocating EU Funds, in accordance with the Financial Regulation applicable to the General Budget of the European Union. This Central Exclusion Database is accessible by all authorities entitled to allocate EU Funds.

Grant applicants and, if they are legal entities, persons who have powers of representation, decision-making or control over them, are informed that, should they be in one of the situations mentioned in:

- the Commission Decision of 16.12.2008 on the Early Warning System (EWS) for the use of authorising officers of the Commission and the executive agencies (OJ, L 344, 20.12.2008, p. 125), or
- the Commission Regulation of 17.12.2008 on the Central Exclusion Database – CED (OJ L 344, 20.12.2008, p. 12),

their personal details (name, given name if natural person, address, legal form, registration number and name and given name of the persons with powers of representation, decision-making or control, if legal person) may be registered in the EWS only or both in the EWS and CED by the Accounting Officer of the Commission, and communicated to the persons and entities listed in the above-mentioned Decision and Regulation, in relation to the award or the execution of a procurement contract or a grant agreement or decision.

EWS and the CED are managed by the Accounting Officer of the Commission to whom legal entities may exercise their rights as laid down in the Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001).

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

The applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out and to participate in its funding. The applicants must have the professional skills and qualifications required to complete the proposed action.

The selection criteria will be assessed as a first step by the evaluation committee. Failure to comply with these criteria will result in the proposal not being evaluated further. Applicants may be asked to provide additional proof or to clarify the supporting documents related to the selection criteria within a specific time limit.

4.1. Financial capacity of applicants

Applicants must show that they have the financial capacity and operational capability to complete the action to be supported. Unless they are a public body or an international organisation, they must complete a 'Simplified Financial Statement' Form and provide their annual financial statements comprised of the balance sheet, the profit and loss statement and any annexes to those for the last financial year for which the accounts have been closed (details available with the Guide for Proposers and Application Forms).

On the basis of these documents the EACI performs a financial viability check, upon which the EACI

might ask for a financial guarantee in line with Article 182(1) of the rules implementing the Financial Regulation.

In accordance with Article 173(4) of the rules implementing the Financial Regulation, if the application concerns grants for action which exceed €500 000, an audit report produced by an approved external auditor must be submitted. That report must certify the accounts for the last financial year available. In the case of agreements with a number of beneficiaries this threshold will apply to each individual beneficiary.

4.2. Technical capacity of applicants

Applicants must have the technical capacity and operational capability to complete the action to be supported and should provide supporting documents. Guidance on the supporting documents required (e.g. CVs of those responsible for carrying out the action, description of projects and activities undertaken in the last three years, etc.) can be found in the Guide for Proposers.

5. AWARD CRITERIA

The Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation will base its selection of actions and the rate of EU co-financing on the written presentation. The actions will be evaluated against each award criterion which will carry equal weighting within the overall assessment. Within the general conclusions, the evaluation will provide a qualitative judgment on the overall value for money, comparing the outcomes based on the award criteria with the costs and efforts involved.

If a proposal is to be classified as worth funding, the grand total of the marks for all the award criteria should be at least 70% of the maximum total score. In addition, a mark of over 50% will be required for each criterion. Proposals that pass these thresholds will be considered for funding. A ranking will be established by the Evaluation Committee and approved by the authorising officer.

Funding decisions will be made on the basis of this ranking and within the limits of the available budget. Proposals with an identical score next to the cut-off limit of the available budget will be sub-ranked, taking into account the indicative distribution of the 2011 budget by field, as indicated in the Work Programme 2011. A limited number of proposals may be placed on a reserve list, following the sub-ranking.

The following five criteria apply to project proposals

1. **Relevance of the proposed action (score 0-10),** including:
   - a extent to which the proposed action is consistent with the IEE Call priorities;
   - b extent to which the proposed action responds to important user needs and market barriers;
   - c extent to which the proposed action complements other related activities.
2. **Quality of implementation methodology (score 0-10),** including:
   - a suitability of the proposed approach and extent to which the proposed action engages the target groups and stakeholders;
   - b clarity of the work packages, project planning and suitability of performance monitoring;
   - c quality of communication plan for the uptake of solution(s).
3. **Ambition and credibility of the impacts of the proposed action (score 0-10),** including:
   - a services / outcomes produced by the action (deliverables, hours of training, etc.);
   - b impact within and beyond the project lifetime assessed with specific, measurable, accepted, realistic and time-dependent (SMART) indicators;
   - c sustainability of the solutions offered by the proposed action beyond the project lifetime.

4. EU added value (score 0-10), including:

a evidence that collaboration / team working across national borders will lead to greater benefits than separate actions at national / local level in the same countries (Note: Sub-criterion 4.a is not applicable to proposals for the Integrated Initiative on Mobilising Local Energy Investments);

b appropriate geographical focus of the proposed action including learning and exchanges among stakeholders;

c transferability of the solutions offered by the proposed action.

5. Resources allocated to the proposed action (score 0-10), including:

a management and composition of the team, balance of skills, experiences, and responsibilities;

b appropriate levels of hours per partner and per work package;

c justification of costs (sub-contracts, travel costs, and other specific costs) and co-financing.

Specific provision for the Integrated Initiative - Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy :

The following four award criteria will carry equal weighting within the overall assessment.

1. Relevance of the proposed action (score 0-10), including:

1.a extent to which the proposed action is consistent with the objectives of the initiative;

1.b extent to which the proposed action builds on existing national training frameworks and initiatives and takes into account existing policy initiatives in the energy and building fields.

2. Capability of the proposed action to mobilise the relevant market actors (score 0-10), including:

2.a extent to which the proposed action effectively engages the relevant market actors (e.g. industries, public authorities, chambers of commerce, trade associations) in the Member State, as regards drawing up the roadmap and setting up the platform;

2.b extent to which the proposed action ensures that the national roadmap is endorsed by the relevant actors (e.g. national or regional authorities) at the end of the process.

3. Quality of implementation methodology (score 0-10), including:

3.a suitability of the proposed approach to drawing up the roadmap and its associated implementation plan;

3.b clarity of the work plan (description of work packages and tasks, allocation of responsibilities, time schedules).

4. Consortium composition and resources allocated to the proposed action (score 0-10), including:

4.a extent to which the consortium[15] includes essential skills, such as moderating and communicating, life-long learning and energy expertise;

4.b appropriate levels of hours per partner and per work package; justification of costs, and transparency of co-financing.

[15] Organisation involved in developing and awarding qualifications as well as providing education and training which aims to equip people with knowledge, know-how, skills and/or competences required in particular occupations or more broadly on the labour market or representing such organisations.

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AWARDING GRANTS

The general conditions for awarding grants, particularly the definition of the eligible costs and the methods of payment, are set out in the draft grant agreement, available on the website of the IEE programme (see chapter 8). The budget for the action attached to the application must have revenue and expenditure in balance and show clearly the costs which are eligible for financing from the EU budget.

Depending on the size and other risk factors of the action, the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation might request a financial guarantee of the beneficiary for pre-financing.

If the successful applicant is an international organisation, the model Contribution Agreement with an international organisation or any other contract template agreed between the international organisation concerned and the Contracting Authority will be used instead of a text based on the draft grant agreement.

7. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted using the **on-line submission system** and **application forms** indicated on the IEE programme website (see chapter 8).

Applications which fail to comply with this formal requirement will not be evaluated further. In particular, proposals arriving at the EACI by any other means will be regarded as "not submitted" and will not be evaluated.

The closing date for submission to the main IEE Call is 12 May 2011, 17:00 (Brussels local time).

Closing date for submission to the Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative is 15 June 2011, 17:00 (Brussels local time).

Applications submitted after the closing date and time will NOT be taken into consideration.

Proposers are strongly advised to start their submission process well in time and not to leave it to the last hour in order to avoid the risk of a failed submission.

Should changes occur regarding formal requirements for submission of applications, they will be highlighted on the website of the programme. Applicants are therefore advised to check this website prior to submitting their application.

8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Applicants should consult the website of the programme at: **http://ec.europa.eu/intelligentenergy.**

The IEE website contains all information and forms in relation to this call for proposals, such as the IEE annual work programme 2011, guides for applicants, application forms, and information about projects supported by the programme. Furthermore the website informs about information days which will be held during the duration of the call for proposals.

Any questions regarding this call for proposals should be sent to the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (stating, if applicable, the technical field, as indicated in chapter 10) using the online enquiry form available on http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/contact/enquiries_en.htm.

9. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Closing date for submission of Main IEE Call applications:	**12 May 2011, 17:00 Brussels local time**
Estimated date of completion of the evaluation:	November 2011
Estimated date for the notification of applicants:	from mid November 2011 onwards
Estimated date for signature of contracts	from January 2012 onwards

Closing date for submission of applications to the *Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative*:	**15 June 2011, 17:00 Brussels local time**
Estimated date of completion of the evaluation:	July 2011
Estimated date for the notification of applicants:	from early August 2011 onwards
Estimated date for signature of contracts	from September 2011 onwards

10. PRIORITIES AND TYPES OF ACTION FOR 2011

The 2011 priorities are summarised below.

In order to assess the impact of each project, the following main indicators will be used:

- Investments made by European stakeholders in sustainable energy triggered by the project (measurement unit: EUR).
- Cumulative renewable energy production triggered by the project (measurement unit: toe).
- Cumulative energy savings triggered by the project (measurement unit: toe).
- Cumulative reductions of greenhouse gas emissions triggered by the project (measurement unit: tCO_2e).

10.1 SAVE: Energy efficiency (indicative budget: 12 million €)

Energy efficiency is a cornerstone of European energy policy. It is by far the most effective way to improve the security of energy supply, to reduce carbon emissions and to foster competitiveness.

Activities funded under SAVE aim to tap the large potential for energy savings by improving energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources, in particular in buildings, products and industry. Activities to promote energy efficiency in transport are covered separately under STEER.

Activities under SAVE may facilitate implementation of the EU legislation relating to energy efficiency, support preparation of new legislative measures and influence energy behaviour, so that society uses less energy while enjoying the same or an even better quality of life.

In 2011 SAVE will cover the two following Key Actions:

- **Energy-efficient products**: for actions to help transform the market towards more energy-efficient products and systems, supporting and complementing the legislation in this area.
- **Industrial excellence in energy**: for actions to increase the competitiveness of European industries, in particular of SMEs, by empowering them to save energy.

Note: Energy efficiency in buildings is also addressed separately under the two integrated initiatives (see Sections 10.4.3 and 10.4.4).

10.1.1 SAVE — Energy-efficient products

Explanatory Note
The aim of this Key Action is to help transform the market towards more energy-efficient products and systems, supporting and complementing the main EU policy tools namely: the Ecodesign Directive to ban the least efficient products from the market and the Energy Labelling Directive to allow consumers to consider energy efficiency in their purchasing decisions. The new Regulation on the labelling of tyres will enter into force in 2012 and initiatives to facilitate implementation of the Regulation were announced during the adoption process in the European Parliament and the Council.

The adoption of twelve ecodesign measures over the period 2008-2010 and the recent adoption of a revised energy label for energy-related products (including new classes) and for tyres call for strengthening market surveillance and networking between national enforcement authorities. The IEE Programme can support national market surveillance authorities to develop and coordinate checks on compliance with the EU requirements, protect compliant producers from free riders and build confidence among consumers.

The new Energy Labelling Directive encourages Member States to facilitate take-up of the most energy-efficient products by means of public procurement. The IEE Programme should provide support for replication of the best energy-efficiency procurement practices across Europe, including joint procurement initiatives.

Energy-efficient products — Priorities for action in 2011

- Actions resulting in a **higher market share of** sustainable and energy-efficient products covered by relevant EU legislation (Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Directives, Energy Star and Tyre Labelling Regulations).

- Actions fostering **procurement** of the most sustainable and energy-efficient products, in particular by public authorities.

- Actions for **market surveillance** of the ecodesign and/or labelling requirements.

10.1.2 SAVE — Industrial excellence in energy

Explanatory Note
Over the last twenty years, industry has improved its energy efficiency more than any other sector. However, the potential for savings remains high[16]*, so there is still a strong case for carefully focused actions in this sector.*

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), for instance, are generally aware of the importance and benefits of using energy more efficiently, but often lack the information and resources to do so. Better information and advice, along with funding schemes and financial incentives, would deliver considerable improvements in energy-efficiency among Europe's 20 million SMEs.

A twofold approach is proposed in order to make an effective impact in terms of savings and associated benefits.

The first approach consists of targeting and engaging specific branches of industry. This approach builds on successful IEE projects specifically targeted at individual industry sectors. The sectors covered so far include the wider food and drink industry, dairy farming, textile producers and finishers, plastics processors and polymer producers, wine producers, graphic media (print and packaging), the ceramics industry, surface-finishing industries, metal foundries and chemical SMEs. There is scope to cover other sectors where the potential savings are large (see database on energy-saving potential at: www.eepotential.eu).

[16] In the order of 25 % in manufacturing industry according to the EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2006).

The second complementary approach consists of establishing energy-efficiency schemes across several sectors, in particular for SMEs (e.g. audit or financing schemes) or for waste heat recovery (e.g. partnerships between district heating companies and industry seeking demand for their waste heat). A sine qua non for these schemes is that they should be large-scale and sustainable in the medium to long term. This approach builds on the success of IEE projects establishing, for example, training schemes with an interest in/commitment to sustaining the schemes and associated networks beyond the end of the project.

In both approaches, the involvement of trade and industry associations (multipliers) is considered essential. By showing a strong commitment to supporting energy efficiency in their sector, they have the capacity to increase the outreach of the project and to help sustain the activities.

Industrial excellence in energy — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Sector-specific actions** to reap the maximum savings in specific branches with large untapped potential. These projects should show a sound understanding of the sectors concerned and of their relevant energy issues.

- Establishment of **cross-sector large-scale energy conservation schemes**, in particular audit or financing schemes targeted on SMEs or waste heat recovery schemes. These projects should aim to continue and expand the schemes beyond the duration of the project.

Both types of projects should involve industrial associations and ensure a strong commitment from business leaders. They should aim to add value and employ existing tools and resources and should achieve a 'critical mass' or multiplier effect at industry level. They should convincingly demonstrate improved value for money, going beyond the pilot scale in terms of the number of companies and other stakeholders affected and actual energy savings achieved. The latter should be quantified and significant. Every Euro contributed by the EU is expected to lead to primary energy savings of several hundred kWh per year.

10.2 ALTENER: New and renewable energy resources (indicative budget: 16 million €)

Renewable energy sources (RES) can provide a wide range of sustainable energy services. Renewable energy can be produced locally within the EU, delivering secure supplies of electricity, heating and cooling and energy for transport without additional greenhouse gas emissions or negative effects on climate change. RES are becoming more competitive. Policies supporting use of RES are making manufacture and supply of RE technologies and production of bioenergy sources (solid, gaseous and liquid) more attractive as business opportunities. Action supported under ALTENER should build on existing EU policies and legislation and help to increase use of RES in the EU.

The new RES Directive sets an overall binding target of a 20% share of renewable energy sources in energy consumption by 2020 with binding national targets in line with the overall EU target of 20% and a 10% binding minimum target for renewable fuels in transport to be achieved by each Member State. Details of how these targets will be achieved in each Member State are given in National Renewable Energy Action Plans (NREAPs).

The new RES Directive makes recommendations for specific action to be taken by the public and private sectors across the EU and puts in place a number of legal obligations, which require the Member States to implement policies and support measures aiming to increase use of renewable energy sources at national, regional and local levels.

Grid infrastructure development will be a key factor for further deployment of renewable energy plants in Europe, both small and large-scale, onshore and offshore. Apart from a strong increase in small decentralised production, large-scale projects making massive use of renewable resources — wind energy in the northern seas, solar in the south, hydro in the centre and the north — will be needed.

Offshore wind will be an important part of the solution. However, this requires building offshore grids and adapting onshore infrastructure to transport electricity to the major consumption centres. The Commission Communication on the new energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond includes guidance on

preparation of a blueprint for the northern seas' offshore grid. This will analyse future offshore wind scenarios and grid development options, identifying the action necessary to construct such a grid.

From 2011 onwards ALTENER will focus on action contributing to implementation of the new RES Directive and on accelerating the growth of renewable energy markets to meet the EU 2020 target.

ALTENER projects may include one or more of the following Key Actions:

- **Electricity from renewable energy sources (RES-e):** for actions to increase the share of renewable electricity in Europe's final energy consumption.

- **Renewable heating/cooling (RES-H/C):** for actions promoting use of RES for heating and cooling applications.

- **Bioenergy:** for actions promoting increased production and use of biomass, bio-liquids and biogas in energy markets.

Note: Renewable energy in buildings is also addressed separately under the two integrated initiatives (see Sections 10.4.3 and 10.4.4).

10.2.1 ALTENER — Electricity from renewable energy sources (RES-e)

Explanatory Note

In previous IEE calls, this Key Action supported strategic analyses helping to formulate the new RES Directive and sector-specific action aiming to remove market barriers. However, there is now a need for more market analysis and firm action to support implementation of the RES Directive and the new infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond[17]*..*

In 2011 priority will be given to supporting implementation of Article 16 of the RES Directive by addressing access to electricity grids and by introducing smarter grid management. Other priorities in 2011 include increasing the social acceptance of new grid developments and of new RES generators along with supporting strategic initiatives which address the objectives of the new infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond. Action aiming to simplify construction and licensing procedures for new grid developments and for new RES-e generators and to remove other market barriers will also be supported.

Intelligent management of the European grid, including more storage capacity, is needed to accommodate larger supplies of renewable electricity, from offshore and onshore. Grid management must become more flexible, allowing larger supplies of energy from renewable sources and incorporating new energy demand technologies and new demand patterns, such as plug-in electric vehicles or hydro-pumped storage. Intelligent grid management must accommodate smart meters and generators with different response capabilities. Training, exchanges of information and coordination between stakeholders at national and international levels must be fostered.

Social acceptance of future renewable electricity-generating plants and of new constructions to reinforce and expand the electricity grid is important to minimise delays in authorisations, to encourage investment and to achieve the EU 2020 commitments. Both the general public and competing stakeholders must be well-informed and engaged so that they will give positive responses without delay to public consultations on construction of new renewable generators and new grid enhancements.

Approval and licensing procedures often lead to long delays before access is given to the grid. Procedures may need to be revised in order to address more efficiently the requirements of both the RES Directive and of the applicable environmental legislation.

[17] Communication from the Commission —Energy infrastructure priorities for 2020 and beyond -A Blueprint for an integrated European energy network, COM (2010) 677/4

Electricity from renewable energy sources (RES-e) — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Grid issues**: intelligent approaches to management of transmission and distribution grids, including the introduction (but not technological development) of innovative market instruments, smart meters, structures and codes. Implementation of the new EU infrastructure *priorities for 2020 and beyond*, including offshore authorisation procedures and approaches to integration. Support for analysis, introduction and monitoring (but not for technological development) of intelligent grid developments and schemes for electricity storage, including dynamic storage, which aim to optimise the input from onshore and offshore wind and other RES generators. Consortia should include utilities and grid management organisations which are committed to adopting/implementing the results of the work.

- **Social acceptance**: promotion of RES-e generation by collecting, analysing and disseminating via trusted sources high-quality, objective and relevant information on environmental and other impacts of RES generators and grids. In particular, action should address local community participation along with appropriate compensation and follow-up with multiplier organisations and experienced mediators to achieve social acceptance (public support) for new grid construction and/or construction of large-scale wind, ocean and PV generators. Owners/operators/developers of grid networks should be engaged in the work.

- **Simplification of regulatory and administrative procedures**: removal of administrative barriers by providing support tools and training for the authorising officers and by revising those procedures which currently delay market growth by slowing down the delivery of authorisations, both for large renewable electricity generators and for small generators such as PV systems on buildings.

- **Strategic initiatives** aiming to analyse, monitor, plan and streamline market and regulatory frameworks, for example training, exchanges of experience and cooperation at regional level. This may include strategic analyses addressing the new cooperation mechanisms provided for in Articles 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the RES Directive, along with specific grid network analyses and planning initiatives that involve the relevant authorities, grid operators and other stakeholders. Projects must ensure active participation and engagement by relevant market actors and authorities.

[Note: Strategic initiatives which address RES electricity in combination with other renewable energy sources and uses, such as heating and cooling, and cross sector aspects may also be submitted under this Key Action.]

10.2.2 ALTENER — RES in heating/cooling

Explanatory Note

Article 13(4) of the RES Directive requires MS to introduce in their building regulations and codes appropriate measures to increase the share of energy from renewable sources in the building sector, while at the same time taking into account energy-efficiency measures. By 2014, MS must introduce requirements for minimum levels of RES in new buildings and buildings subject to major renovation, and from January 2012 new public buildings and public buildings subject to major renovation must set an example. These obligations will be supported by the integrated initiative in this Work Programme on nearly zero-energy buildings (see Section 10.4.3).

Article 13(3) of the RES Directive requires MS to encourage use of renewable energy sources in district heating and cooling systems. Article 13(2) also requires MS to use eco-labels and other certificates or standards to encourage use of RES systems and equipment in buildings. In particular, it requires MS to promote use of biomass with high conversion efficiency, heat pumps which fulfil eco-labelling requirements and certified solar thermal systems based on European standards. This key action on RES-H/C therefore focuses specifically on initiatives which will support implementation of these aspects of the RES Directive.

Article 14(3) requiring training of RES system installers is addressed in the Integrated Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative (see Section 10.4.4).

Since the main markets for RES systems in buildings (today and in the period up to 2020) are in existing buildings (new and extensively refurbished buildings make up only a small percentage of the EU building stock), in 2011 priority will be given to support for implementation of Article 13(2) of the RES Directive by addressing the use of eco-labels and other certificates or standards to encourage use of RES systems and equipment in existing buildings and for district heating and cooling.

Integrated solutions employing combined heat and power should be given priority wherever appropriate in district heating and cooling systems which use RES.

RES in heating/cooling — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Biomass, heat pumps and solar systems in existing buildings**: active engagement and support of public authorities and other owners of large numbers of buildings and/or setting up professional business services with users' clusters to facilitate the changeover to biomass with high conversion efficiency, heat pumps which fulfil eco-labelling requirements and certified solar thermal systems based on European standards and equipment in existing buildings. Consortia should include authorities and building-owners who are committed to adopting/implementing the results of the work.

- **District heating and cooling**: intelligent approaches to facilitate the changeover of district heating and cooling networks to RES and management of district heating networks which already use RES, including smart meters, innovative market instruments, structures and codes. Active engagement and support of urban planners, local and regional administrative bodies and the building sector (designers, property developers and contractors), with the aim of including district heating and cooling systems using RES when planning, designing, building and renovating residential, commercial or industrial areas. Action on biomass for district heating should also address options involving CHP. Consortia should include public authorities, district heating companies and building-owners who are committed to adopting/implementing the results of the work.

- **Strategic initiatives** aiming to analyse, monitor and streamline support schemes, guarantees of origin (including reliability and protection against fraud) and to ease application procedures for construction and planning permits, while also addressing environmental *impact* and social acceptance, to reduce lead times and speed up approval rates. Projects must ensure active participation and engagement of relevant market actors and authorities.

10.2.3 ALTENER — Bioenergy

Explanatory Note

The Bioenergy Key Action provides a coherent framework for proposals addressing this prominent and complex sector and addresses sustainable bioenergy only[18].

It is important to expand supply chains and to trigger increases in demand for solid biomass (for heating and CHP), liquid biofuels (for transport) and biogas (for CHP, transport and grid injection). Initiatives and activities are needed to support implementation of national and European policies and regional/local bioenergy action plans. For all types of bioenergy, priority will be given to feedstocks that minimise the environmental impact, land-use changes and competition with other markets.

Action aiming to expand supply chains should focus on one type of bioenergy only (solid, liquid or gas, depending on the proposed activity) and not only on promoting demand.

[18] The report from the Commission on sustainability requirements for the use of solid and gaseous biomass sources in electricity, heating and cooling recommends that sustainability criteria for solid and gaseous biomass should be almost the same as those set out in Directive 2009/28/EC.

Strategic initiatives and action in support of policy implementation may include one or more types of bioenergy. For example, implementation of local/regional bioenergy action plans may require a comprehensive approach taking into consideration all the different types of bioenergy and involve all links in supply chains, including end-users.

Directive 2009/28/EC highlights the importance of biofuels produced from waste, residues, non-food cellulosic material and ligno-cellulosic material. Consequently, priority will be given to action addressing these feedstocks, promoting the most sustainable bioenergy production pathways and mobilising resources which minimise competition with other markets for bio-resources (e.g. food, paper, construction, furniture, cosmetics, etc.).

Bioenergy — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Solid biomass**: mobilisation of stakeholders to achieve additional supply and use of solid biomass from sustainably managed forests, from agricultural residues or from recovered waste and materials[19]. Consortia should include multiplier organisations, such as associations of farmers, forest-owners and potential providers and users of solid biomass.

- **Liquid biofuels:** activation and strengthening of the most sustainable liquid biofuel supply chains from producers to end-users, in particular of non-land-using biofuels (e.g. from waste cooking oil and residues including non-food cellulosic and ligno-cellulosic wastes and residues), which are already available on the market. Consortia should include local authorities, waste management companies and/or multiplier organisations, such as associations of farmers, fuel producers, food industries and user groups.

- **Biogas:** promotion of biogas production from waste and agricultural residues and of use of biogas for energy production, grid injection and/or as transport fuel. Consortia should include waste management companies and/or multiplier organisations, such as associations of farmers and other potential providers of biomass residues along with final users of biogas.

- **Strategic initiatives** aiming to analyse, monitor, plan and streamline market and regulatory frameworks in order to support implementation of bioenergy policy at national and European level, with a focus on sustainability issues, including practical implementation of existing regional and local bioenergy plans. Projects must ensure active participation and engagement of relevant market actors and authorities.

10.3 STEER: Energy in transport (indicative budget: 12 million €)

Transport is the fastest growing sector in terms of energy use. It is therefore essential to tap the potential for energy-efficiency gains in this sector. Transport plays a central role in the European economy and accounts for almost 20% of total gross energy consumption in Europe. 98% of the energy consumed in this sector is fossil fuel. Investments in the economically recovering new Member States in particular offer significant opportunities to promote a shift towards low-carbon transport and a new, more sustainable mobility culture.

STEER supports projects which promote, build on and/or implement the existing EU policy and legislative frameworks for energy efficiency and renewable or alternative fuels in transport. STEER takes into account the recommendations made in the EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan, in the Green Paper 'Towards a new culture for urban mobility', in the Action Plan on Urban Mobility[20], in the Freight

[19] 'Recovered waste and materials' include waste of biological origin from construction and demolition and from discarded equipment and components (such as discarded treated wood), in line with Commission Decision 2000/532/EC of 3 May 2000 establishing a list of hazardous waste, plus non-hazardous discarded untreated wood and furniture.

[20] COM(2009)490

Transport Logistics Action Plan[21], and in the Strategy on Clean and Energy-Efficient Vehicles[22]. In addition, STEER considers relevant legislation such as the Directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles and the regulatory framework setting emission performance standards for new passenger cars[23] and new light commercial vehicles[24]. Projects should build on tried-and-tested strategies and technologies and aim to achieve energy savings by removing the non-technological market barriers to wider application thereof.

Priority will be given to projects which go beyond raising the awareness of individual citizens, householders and decision-makers and actually achieve measurable changes in behaviour. Projects should deliver and apply existing knowledge in a convincing and motivating way to the relevant target groups. They must contribute to wider dissemination and use of proven, transferable strategies and technologies.

Transport of goods and people are both addressed. However, action aiming specifically to shift freight from road to short-sea shipping, rail and inland waterways, which can be supported by the Marco Polo II Programme[25], will not be funded.

In 2011 STEER will cover the two following Key Actions:

- **Energy-efficient transport:** for actions to reduce the demand for travel by car and transport by road freight, and to shift travel and transport to more efficient transport modes.

- **Clean and energy-efficient vehicles:** for actions to help transform the market towards more energy-efficient vehicles, supporting and complementing the recent legislation in this area.

10.3.1 STEER — Energy-efficient transport

Explanatory Note
Integrated solutions are needed to curb current trends in the transport sector. In line with the first priority of the recent Action Plan on Urban Mobility, this Key Action will support local authorities in developing sustainable urban mobility plans covering freight and passenger transport in urban and peri-urban areas, and giving particular emphasis to the reduction of transport energy use.

Urban freight transport in particular accounts for a significant portion of urban vehicle-miles travelled and plays a key role in delivering incoming goods and transporting goods within urban areas or to external destinations. Urban freight transport also faces a number of specific challenges that have an impact on the energy efficiency of deliveries, such as congestion, road network design, space and parking restrictions. This Key Action will look for more projects in this area.

Finally, leisure travel has received less attention in transport policy, especially from an energy-efficiency point of view. Such trips do not generally coincide with morning and evening peak traffic periods and the purposes are less homogenous, hence making them more difficult to target. However, leisure travel can generate significant traffic peaks at particular times and places and, overall, accounts for a larger share of trips than, for example, commuter journeys. What is more, reliance on the car for leisure trips will also increase people's reliance on the car for other purposes. This is a relatively new area where ideas will be piloted by the IEE Programme, by looking for proposals aiming to increase energy efficiency in leisure transport.

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21 COM(2007) 607.

22 COM(2010) 186.

23 Regulation (EC) 443/2009

24 COM (2009) 593

25 Regulation (EC) No 1692/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing the second Marco Polo programme for the granting of Community financial assistance to improve the environmental performance of the freight transport system (Marco Polo II) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1382/2003.

Energy-efficient transport — Priorities for action in 2011

- Actions reducing transport energy use by supporting the take-up of **Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans** (SUMPs), building on the guidance and materials developed by the European Commission's ELTIS platform[26]. Projects should assist cities and regions with developing SUMPs by facilitating networking, mutual learning and sharing of experience and best practice across countries. *[Note: No EU funding will be available to implement these plans.]*

- Targeted actions to increase the energy efficiency of **freight distribution in urban areas**, bringing together local authorities and local stakeholders, such as fleet operators, distributors, retailers and customers, to develop schemes to coordinate, manage and inform urban freight operations better.

- Actions increasing energy efficiency in **leisure travel** by implementing new approaches, initiatives and services to change people's travel behaviour and reduce energy use for leisure travel. Such action should seek the involvement of relevant private- and public-sector stakeholders, for example tour operators, public transport operators, tourist information centres, travel agencies, attractions, etc.

10.3.2 STEER — Clean and energy-efficient vehicles

Explanatory Note
A number of recent initiatives at European level, including on promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles (Directive 2009/33/EC) and on setting of emission performance standards for new passenger cars (Regulation (EC) No 443/2009), are influencing the environmental performance of vehicles and the uptake of clean vehicles. This Key Action will support fleet operators to review and adapt their fleet management and procurement policies and procedures in line with the changing market conditions, in order to increase the market share and optimise operation of the most energy-efficient vehicles.

Clean and energy-efficient vehicles — Priorities for action in 2011

- Actions to assist fleet operators and authorities with **implementation of the Clean Vehicle Directive**[27] — where applicable, making use of the European Commission's Clean Vehicle Portal[28], for example by networking, mutual learning and sharing experience and best practice.

- Actions to address specific issues related to the safety or eco-driving of clean and energy-efficient vehicles.

10.4 **Integrated Initiatives** (indicative budget: 27 million €)

Action combining several of the specific fields (SAVE, ALTENER and STEER) or relating to certain EU priorities may include:

(a) integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in several sectors of the economy;

(b) combining various instruments, tools and actors within the same action or project.

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[26] www.eltis.org.

[27] Article 8 of Directive 2009/33/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles states 'The Commission shall facilitate and structure the exchange of knowledge and best practices between Member States on practices for promoting the purchase of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles by contracting authorities …'

[28] www.cleanvehicle.eu.

10.4.1 Local energy leadership

Explanatory Note

Sustainable energy management and GHG emission mitigation actions at regional and local level are the key to sound implementation of EU energy policy. In recent years, local and regional authorities have responded to the global challenges with unprecedented dynamics and demonstrated their willingness to implement sound local energy and climate policies. The number of signatories to the Covenant of Mayors Initiative[29] and many local and regional initiatives demonstrate the commitment of local and regional authorities to a low-carbon future in Europe and to integrating intelligent use of energy into all areas of life on EU territory. Nevertheless, lack of technical and financial capacity remains an obstacle to efficient implementation of sustainable energy measures. This initiative therefore aims to strengthen the overall capacity of public authorities in the field of sustainable energy planning and implementation and to overcome barriers for local/regional communities to reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to meeting the EU energy policy targets.

The technical capacity of public authorities can be reinforced by peer-to-peer approaches, which are crucial to ensure proper take-up of sustainable energy policies by local/regional authorities. This approach carries on the efforts initiated under the Programme last year.

While developing and implementing sustainable energy action plans, local and regional communities need comprehensive and reliable energy data. In view of the difficulties faced by these public authorities to gain access to data, it is important to stimulate efficient cooperation between public authorities and utilities that will facilitate complete energy baseline assessments (covering industry, public/private buildings, transport, etc.) and monitoring of progress on the sustainable energy action plans.

Local energy leadership — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Integration of sustainable energy policies in public authorities' operations:** actions targeting direct exchanges of experience and capacity-building between experienced local authorities and 'learning' local authorities demonstrating the institutionalisation of sustainable energy policies in their operations. As a result, effective development and implementation of Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) must be ensured in 'learning' local authorities during the project. The twinning approach between local authorities (e.g. shadowing or staff exchanges) is expected to last on a long-term basis. This action is targeting bringing individual experienced local authorities together with 'learning' local authorities from EU-12 countries in particular.

- **Facilitating cooperation between public authorities and other local actors, in particular energy utilities:** actions fostering effective collaboration between public actors (local authorities, energy agencies, etc.) and other local stakeholders, in particular energy utilities. The objective of this action would be to stimulate cooperation in the form of regular sharing of energy data between public authorities and utilities for use in developing, implementing and monitoring sustainable energy action plans. Action supported under this priority should also include cooperation with other relevant local actors, e.g. energy service companies (ESCOs), housing associations, consumer groups, etc. in order to develop and implement socially accepted and sound SEAPs.

10.4.2 Mobilising local energy investments

Explanatory Note

Actions by committed local and regional authorities aiming to mobilise investment in sustainable energy projects is the key to achieving the EU's ambitious 2020 climate change and energy targets.

One of the biggest challenges for such authorities, especially for small and medium-sized authorities, is to prepare integrated packages of sustainable energy projects which are big enough to be considered 'bankable' by financing institutions and/or suitable for grant funding by EU financing facilities such as

[29] www.eumayors.eu.

the cohesion or structural funds. This Key Action complements the other financing instruments established under this Work Programme).

While financing instruments established under the market replication projects provide financial support for technical assistance implemented via financial institutions, targeting large-scale investments (EIB-ELENA Facility) or small and medium scale investments (CEB-ELENA Facility and KfW-ELENA Facility), this Key Action is designed to enable direct technical assistance to support eligible public authorities and their groupings, via standard open calls for proposals managed by the EACI.

This Key Action will support technical assistance for individual public authorities (municipalities, cities, provinces, regions) or other public bodies or their groupings (preferably representing a combined population of more than 200,000 inhabitants), located in a clearly defined geographical area to work together with local financial institutions and/or fund managers and/or ESCOs to prepare, mobilise financing for and launch investments in sustainable energy projects within their geographical area, provided specific requirements are met (see Section 3.3.2).

Mobilising local energy investments — Priorities for action in 2011

- **Mobilisation of local investments in energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects**, which have been identified by public authorities in their Sustainable Energy Action Plans. IEE support for project development must result in the launch of tangible investments, which produce concrete, measurable results in terms of energy saved, RES supply increased, GHG reduced, investments mobilised and/or local jobs created. Support will also be provided under this priority to projects demonstrating improved access to and use of EU funding and existing EU financing facilities for sustainable energy investments.

10.4.3 Energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings

Explanatory Note

Europe has adopted an ambitious vision for the energy performance of its buildings. By 2020 all new buildings shall be nearly zero energy buildings[30], with intermediate targets by 2015. In parallel, Member States shall draw up national action plans for increasing the numbers of nearly zero-energy buildings. These national action plans shall include policies and measures to stimulate the transformation of existing buildings, which are refurbished, into nearly zero-energy buildings. In addition, by 2015 all new buildings and buildings undergoing major renovation[31] must have minimum levels of energy from renewable energy sources. Therefore, a major transformation must occur in the building sector during the next few years, in which the role of the public sector will be reinforced. Actions launched in the period 2011–2013 should support and facilitate this transition, in particular by paving the way for the transformation of the existing building stock into nearly zero energy buildings. In the first year, a window of opportunity also exists to support Europe with effectively reaching ambitious intermediate targets for new buildings. Since the most effective time to incorporate both energy-efficiency measures and renewable energy technologies in buildings is in the specification and early design phases of both new buildings and major renovations initially the focus will be on this area. In addition, to trigger an effective market transition, the issue has to be addressed both from the demand side and from the supply side that is across the value chain. This will allow the construction sector to adapt quickly to rising demand, by raising awareness and reducing the risks of investing in the business opportunity offered by energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings. In parallel, the public sector is called on to lead by example. Actions should therefore support

30 'Nearly zero-energy building' means a building which has very high energy performance, determined in accordance with Annex I to the EPBD (recast). The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a very significant extent by energy from renewable sources, including renewable energy produced on-site or nearby (see Article 2: 'Definitions').

31 'Major renovation' means renovation of a building where (a) the total cost of the renovation relating to the building envelope or the technical building systems is higher than 25% of the value of the building, excluding the value of the land upon which it is situated, or (b) more than 25% of the surface of the building undergoes renovation.

public authorities in their leadership role. It also remains imperative to capture the market for small-scale renovations[32] and improvements to the existing building stock[33], which should be revisited from 2012 onwards[34].

A further essential requirement is to qualify the building workforce. This is addressed by a dedicated integrated initiative (see Section 10.4.4).

Energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings —
Priorities for action in 2011 — Nearly zero-energy buildings

- Actions resulting in widespread market adoption of integrated energy design of buildings, for both **new build and/or renovation,** e.g. promotion and guidance for use of existing tools in everyday working practices of designers, engineers and contractors, voluntary commitments and sectoral agreements in the public or private sector (developers, large property owners and large consultancies), etc.

- Actions increasing the visibility of front-runners, for both **new build and/or renovation**, with the aim of capacity- and confidence-building in the public or private sector, by means of practical exposure to operational success stories (incorporating both the technical solutions and the financing and procurement aspects), *inter alia* those supported under other EU programmes such as INTERREG[35] and CONCERTO[36], e.g. via study tours, site visits, etc. (Proposals addressing consumer behaviour will not be supported.)

- Actions supporting preparation and implementation of measures and instruments, including those of a financial or regulatory nature (i.e. in building codes), for increasing the proportion of the existing building stock converted into nearly zero-energy buildings, i.e. **renovation only** (e.g. in support of Article 10 of the recast EPBD and Article 13(4) of the RES Directive).

- Actions assisting the public sector to set an example and resulting in more nearly zero-energy buildings in the public sector, including activities which go beyond the requirements of both Directives[37] (e.g. not only buildings which are occupied and owned).

- Actions aiming to get industry on board, resulting in solutions to supply the market effectively with a complementary range of energy-efficiency and renewable energy solutions, e.g. by exchanges amongst industrial and sector stakeholders with the aim of providing market-oriented solutions, quality guarantees for systems and services, etc.

[32] Defined here as renovations which are not 'major renovations'.

[33] Either by energy management and/or inspection of the building systems (e.g. heating systems, air-conditioning, renewable energy systems, etc.) and/or by changes in user behaviour.

[34] In the 2010 call, energy efficiency in buildings was addressed by operational performance and consumer behaviour, including stimulating consumer action in response to energy performance certificates at the time of sale or rent.

[35] http://www.interreg4c.net/.

[36] http://www.concertoplus.eu/.

[37] E.g. not only those buildings which are 'occupied and owned by public authorities and frequently visited by the public'.

10.4.4 The Building Workforce Training and Qualification Initiative in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy (indicative budget: 8 million)

Explanatory Note

The large contribution expected from the building sector to the 2020 objectives is a major challenge to the construction sector and to industry as a whole, which needs to be ready to deliver renovations offering a high energy performance as well as new (nearly zero-energy) buildings. This calls for a major effort to increase the number of qualified workers on the market along with measures that facilitate decision-making for building-owners. As qualification is an 'upstream' measure, it is time to act now, so that a qualified workforce can deliver by 2020. The substantial need for training and certification is also acknowledged by the RES Directive[38], Article 14(3) of which places an obligation on the Member States to make provision for training and certification of installers. Input to help formulate this initiative was provided by an ex-ante evaluation of the initiative carried out by external experts for the Commission[39].

IEE therefore aims to unite forces to increase the number of qualified workers in the building workforce in Europe. This Initiative will contribute to the objectives of the two flagship initiatives of the Commission's 'Europe 2020' strategy[40] — 'Resource-efficient Europe' and 'An Agenda for new skills and jobs'. It will also enhance interactions with the existing structures and funding instruments like the European Social Fund and the Lifelong Learning Programme.

- *Objectives of the Initiative*
  - *Initiate national (regional, where appropriate) energy-efficiency and renewable energy training and qualification platforms/partnerships that bring together all relevant stakeholders;*
  - *Identify and quantify the need for a qualified workforce in energy efficiency and renewable energy in each Member State by 2020 (and beyond);*
  - *Set up national qualification road-maps to achieve the 2020 sustainable energy policy objectives;*
  - *Develop and facilitate financing of energy-efficiency and renewable energy qualification schemes and training in the Member States.*

- *Scope and timeframe of the Initiative*

The Initiative focuses on continuing the education and training of 'blue collar' workers in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings, covering the qualifications of craftsmen, construction workers, etc. after initial education and training or after they have entered working life, including qualification of the unemployed workforce.

The Initiative will be carried out under the 2011-2013 IEE Work Programmes.

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[38] Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC.

[39] This evaluation covered an initiative proposed under the IEE Programme to address the perceived lack of skills related to, *inter alia*, installation, maintenance and inspection of RES and EE equipment in buildings.

[40] COM(2010) 2020 of 3.3.2010: 'Europe 2020 — A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth', Communication from the Commission.

- *Content of the Initiative*

The Initiative has two main pillars:

I. National qualification platforms and roadmaps to 2020 (open in Call 2011)

The first pillar — 'National qualification platforms and roadmaps to 2020' — should trigger processes to gather all relevant stakeholders in a country and should result in a strategy and roadmap, e.g. on quantified needs, measures, priorities, accreditation, etc. One action per country is expected (exceptions possible), lasting for a duration of 18 months.

II. Qualification and training schemes (not open in Call 2011)

The second pillar — 'Qualification schemes' — will invite proposals for introducing new or upgrading existing qualification schemes. These should be based on an established roadmap to 2020 as developed under pillar I.

Activities under pillars I and II will be complemented by targeted Europe-wide networking and support activities organised by the EACI.

Building Workforce Training and Qualification — Priorities for action in 2011

National qualification platforms and roadmaps to 2020

The objective of national roadmaps is to embed training on intelligent energy solutions for buildings in the mainstream curricula and practice of building professionals, taking into account the expected contribution of the building sector to the national 2020 targets and the requirements for 'nearly zero-energy buildings'. They should focus primarily on training the existing workforce as craftsmen (continuing education) but could also address initial education. The roadmaps could focus on a selected number of crafts and professions. However, they should be based on a complete analysis of the national situation and be designed in a way that will facilitate replication of the schemes and processes to other crafts.

To benefit from the initiative, national platforms will need to establish a convincing and inclusive process for consultation of and participation by the relevant recognised stakeholders in both the building and the education/training sectors (representatives of the relevant crafts, industry associations, educational and vocational training institutes and relevant public authorities). As a result, national roadmaps should be endorsed by relevant authorities and stakeholders with a commitment to carry out and implement the proposed strategy.