New Energy Solutions Optimised for Islands

# EUROPEAN ISLANDS FACILITY





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# THE CHALLENGE FOR ISLANDS

The European Commission set the goal to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80–95% by 2050. The EU 2050 Energy Strategy includes therefore new opportunities for a full energy transition.

Despite tremendous potential, too few islands in Europe succeed in developing and scaling up investment in energy transition projects. Indeed, a high degree of organisational, technical and financial innovation is needed to reach significant scale.

A key challenge for local authorities on islands is to transform their overall long-term ambitions into a credible set of plans and project outlines as many do not have the expertise to concretely launch investments, access finance and kick-start their projects.

The European Islands Facility NESOI aims at filling this gap through a hands-on approach allowing local authorities to get the necessary technical financial capacity towards the effective implementation of islands' energy transition plans.

# Unlocking the potential of islands

The European Islands Facility NESOI aims to unlock the potential of EU islands to become the locomotives of European Energy Transition by mobilising more than €100 million of investment in sustainable energy projects to give EU islands the opportunity to implement energy technologies and innovative approaches in a cost-competitive way.

The Facility will issue two rounds of calls for application to support projects at different stages of development starting from early-stage ones requiring a high-level technical and economic assistance to more advanced ones asking for specific contributions on various fields (technical, legal, financial). NESOI selected projects will receive customised on-site support from consortium experts and direct funding to select additional local experts thanks to a cascade mechanism, supporting the structuring of solid projects with the potential to attract investors.

The project has been awarded by the European Commission with a Horizon2020 Programme grant of €10 million, out of which €6.2 million are meant to support directly islands in their energy transition process. It will run for 4 years.

#### **GOALS**



Promote investments for energy transition in the islands

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Facilitate the decentralization of energy systems



Contribute to EU policies and achieving 2030 climate targets

# **EXPECTED RESULTS**

#### €100 mln

of investments activated

#### 440 GWh

primary energy savings per year

#### 160.000 kt CO

of GHG avoided per year

# A one stop shop for islands

The NESOI Facility works in close contact with the European Commission and its initiatives, including the Clean Energy for EU Islands Secretariat – created to facilitate the clean energy transition on EU islands from the bottom up. NESOI will bring it one step forward by providing islands with training, technical support, cooperation opportunities and robust funding opportunities to concretely convert Island Sustainable Energy Action Plans into Renewable Energy Sources (RES) plants, building and energy infrastructure retrofitting, energy bills reduction, local job creation and more.

To achieve this, NESOI is in the process of building a platform able not only to provide fist-step funding technical assistance to project structuring and development, but also a one-stop-shop for islands where to find ideas and effective organisational, technical and financial instruments for the whole value chain of a project.

Moreover, other capacity buildings information and toolkits will be provided via the platform and training workshops.

NESOI offers concrete support to the energy transition process, both at European level and in the implementation of intervention on (at least) 60 beneficiary islands.

#### **EU level**



Needs mapping through **surveys** 



Creation of a platform for exchange of best practices and communication and dissemination activities



Coaching and capacity building for local entities

#### **Islands** level



€3.1 million to be allocated to Local Authorities to finance technical assistance activities (max. grant €60k)



Complementary offer of on-site technical assistance and fund matching by the Consortium (worth €60k)

# A list of potential eligible projects



Lighting



Electrical equipment



Co-generation plants



Electricity generation and distribution



Electricity production from RES



Thermal energy production from RES



Retrofitting of existing buildings' envelope



HVAC systems (Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning)



Industrial heat production



Low carbon vehicles acquisition



Urban sustainable mobility measures



Energy storage



Facility monitoring, consumption accounting and energy management



Deployment of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles

# Steps of the implementation process

# 1. Call for proposals

- · Local entity participation
- · Selection of beneficiaries



#### 2. Technical assistance

 Provision of financial resources and technical support



#### 3. Implementation

- Carrying out of planning and project implementation
- · Activate additional investment





# The Consortium

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