



## The first call for Technical Assistance: Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can apply for the call?

**The first call for Technical Assistance is limited to applicants from five focus countries (Croatia, Finland, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland). When will Technical Assistance be offered to applicants from other countries?**

- This first and second call for Technical Assistance are a way to pilot advisory services and understand how the Covenant of Companies for Climate and Energy (CCCE) can support and encourage companies to step up their contribution to a clean energy transition, energy savings and related climate objectives as set out in the European Green Deal. Based on the results of the first call for Technical Assistance, we will prepare a second call for Technical Assistance for March 2023. It is not yet decided which countries will be able to participate in the second call for Technical Assistance. Stay up to date with the CCCE [by signing up to our newsletter](#).
- For countries which are not subject to the first call for Technical Assistance, we offer the information sheet where entities can find other opportunities for funding and support.

### What type of company is considered an SME?

In line with the EU definition of an SME, two factors determine whether a company is defined as an SME: 1) staff headcount; or 2) turnover or balance sheet total. If your company has fewer than 250 employees and makes a turnover of less than € 50 million or has a balance sheet total under € 43 million, then it qualifies as an SME. [Check out the full definition of an SME](#).

### Can large companies apply as a single applicant?

No. Large companies can apply together with other companies as a “Group of companies”. A Group of companies includes any group of companies. It is primarily aimed at companies which are co-located in a building or an industrial park.

### If a group of companies applies for support, does this group have to have a legal personality, or can the cooperation be carried out in the form of a consortium?

Applicants applying as a group of companies do not need to have a single legal personality. A “group” can form a consortium, or just apply as a group of separate entities. All entities will need to sign a Technical Assistance agreement.



## Evaluation of the applications

### **If someone is not accepted for direct assistance in the first call for Technical Assistance, is the application directly forwarded to the second call for Technical Assistance?**

No. The first and second call for Technical Assistance are completely separate processes. The information about the second call for Technical Assistance will be available from February 2023. Stay up to date with the CCCE [by signing up to our newsletter](#).

## The Technical Assistance process

### **Is there already a template agreement on the basis of which support will be granted?**

Yes. A template of the Technical Assistance agreement is provided as a link under the introduction of the [Application Form](#).

### **What documents/information should the applicant provide to the CCCE after qualifying for support?**

The type of documents/data depends on what is needed for the requested Technical Assistance. The required documents/data will be agreed upon with the applicants accepted for direct Technical Assistance.

### **What will the cooperation between CCCE and applicants as a group of companies look like?**

This will be agreed upon during the initial meeting and depending on the requested Technical Assistance. In general the assistance will be aimed at the group as a whole.

### **Is Technical Assistance provided online or in-person?**

Technical Assistance is provided online. No in-person meeting is foreseen.

### **Is Technical Assistance provided in the local language?**

In the application form, the applicant indicates language needs for the technical assistance. Mostly Technical Assistance will be provided by the CCCE in English with limited availability of the local language. However, the CCCE aims to collaborate with intermediaries (associations, network organisations or authorities) to help support the applicant in the process of Technical Assistance.

### **Who will provide the advisory service?**

The advisory services will be provided by the CCCE experts.

### **What would the involvement of an enabler in the project look like in terms of administration, information and reporting?**

All necessary administration, information and reporting will be discussed during the initial meeting when the applicant has been accepted, and will depend on the requested services.

**More questions?** Contact us at [info@covenant-of-companies.eu](mailto:info@covenant-of-companies.eu)