

EUROPEAN COVENANT OF COMPANIES FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY

Quick Guide to Application for Technical Assistance

First call: June 2022

Public



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Covenant of Companies for Climate and Energy

The Covenant of Companies for Climate and Energy (CCCE) is a European Commission pilot initiative aimed to encourage and support companies to step up their contribution to a clean energy transition, energy savings and related climate objectives. The CCCE pilot provides practical, step-by-step guidelines and technical assistance to European companies, in particular small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Through these actions the CCCE aims to evaluate and derive the most impactful format for support to European SMEs and large companies in their energy transition.

The first call for Technical Assistance

The first call for Technical Assistance includes proposed support services, which should be seen as menu of assistance from which the applicants can choose. Proposed advisory services are defined based on the scope of support that the CCCE can provide. In their application form, applicants should choose one of the proposed advisory services. Alternatively, an applicant can define the advisory service they are seeking. Please note that even if choosing a specific advisory service, the applicant is expected to provide a description of the needed support as applications will be evaluated. The final scope and details of technical assistance will be agreed with the CCCE experts during the selection process (including specific tasks, required data, deadlines, etc.).

More information and a list of all services, the application process and evaluation criteria can be found in the [full guide for applicants for Technical Assistance](#).

Who can apply?

The goal of the first call for technical assistance is to pilot a range of direct advisory services that the CCCE can provide to **50 entities from four different target groups coming from 5 focus countries**.

- **Four types of applicants:**
 - **SMEs** as per the EU¹ definition.
 - **Groups of companies** – companies co-located in the same area (industry parks) or in the same building.
 - **Authorities** – national, regional or local authorities that are responsible for setting up or implementing support schemes for SMEs.
 - **Enablers** – any entity that provides support to decarbonisation of SMEs, such as local energy agencies, business associations and networks, one-stop shops, energy service companies.
- **Focus countries** are Croatia, Finland, Italy, the Netherlands and Poland.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition_en

The online application process

The first Call for Technical Assistance is **launched on 15 June 2022. The deadline for submission is 31 August 2022 at 18:00 CET.** The applicants accepted for direct support will be announced in September 2022. The assistance will be provided between September 2022 and January 2023.

Preparation

This **Quick Guide to Application**, [the Guide for Applicants](#) for the first call for Technical Assistance, and [the Online Application Form](#) are all relevant documents. The Guide for applicants explains which applicants are eligible for the call, the application process, how applicants are evaluated, how technical assistance is implemented, and finally the process of evaluating the received technical assistance. For additional questions the CCCE can be contacted at heldpesk@covenant-of-companies.eu.

On **23 June 2022**, a **launch webinar** will be organised by the CCCE. The goal of this webinar is to explain how CCCE advisory services and the first call for Technical Assistance can help SMEs transition and decarbonise their businesses. The webinar will include a presentation from the SME Climate Hub. **The registration link for the Launch webinar is provided [here](#).**

In **July 2022** a **Webinar on the application process** will be organised by the CCCE. The goal of this webinar is to explain in detail the application process for the first call for Technical Assistance.

Submission

For the submission of an application, a simple online form needs to be filled in and the applicant SMEs (not applicable for authorities and enablers) need to prepare two documents: self-assessment tool results and proof of registration of the entity.

The [Application Form](#) is available online. Please note that **the Application Form can only be submitted through this link.**

The [Self-Assessment Tool](#) consists of 5 questions, based on which it provides the evaluation of the steps the companies have already taken in their energy transition. Therefore, the self-assessment tool is only to be used by SMEs or Group of Companies. Once completed, the self-assessment tool (Excel table) should be uploaded into the online application form.

The applicant SMEs or groups of companies also need to submit **additional documentation** in the form of their VAT number and the Certificate of registration (or similar entity registration document). These documents are submitted in original language in .pdf format.

Technical Assistance agreement

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted in September 2022 for a meeting with CCCE experts to discuss the scope, tasks and the timeline for the Technical Assistance. Based on the application form and the outcomes of this meeting, a Technical Assistance agreement will be proposed. Once a Technical Assistance agreement is signed, the selection of directly supported applicants is completed and Technical Assistance can start.