



*Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia
PRE - CHALLENGE CALL FOR PROPOSALS*

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November 2020



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*The consultations conducted by
UNDP/UNEP Global Support Programme
indicate that the only way to attain the
Paris Agreement 1.5 °C goal would be if the
World become circular¹*

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¹ <https://vimeo.com/344373458>



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About the Project

This Pre-Challenge Call is being published as part of the preparatory process for the GEF funded project “Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia”, to be implemented by the Ministry of Environmental Protection with support of UNDP and other project partners. The project goal is to catalyze and boost innovative circular economy project and business ideas that contribute to the low carbon development and to leverage co-financing for them. The biggest identified challenges are the lack of investments, incentive measures and sustainable business models, followed by the lack of legal procedures, general lack of information as well as the unfavourable behavioural habits of citizens. The Ministry of Environmental Protection, with support of UNDP and other stakeholders, has already started preparatory work on the initiation of Circular Economy actions for Sustainable Development in Serbia. This work implies shifting from current linear ‘take-make-dispose’ to a system that is restorative and regenerative by design, fosters "closing the loop" of product lifecycles through higher recycling and reuse and promotes sustainable consumption patterns. Activities are being conducted in collaboration with both traditional and non-traditional partners, from the private sector (circular business), over public sector (circular change) to citizens (circular culture and mindset). **Firstly**, this initiative mobilizes basic ecosystem to start up transformative activities, scale up piloted innovation, catalyse resources and sustain established partnerships for advancing circular economy agenda in Serbia. This is an initial step for promoting strategic partnership between the public and private sector for accelerated circular economy transition in Serbia, including guidelines for business actions along the value chain, as well building cases for private sector investments. **The second** action will result in enabling finance to support change toward the circular economy, through testing and deploying innovative financial mechanisms and developing a pipeline of circular economy projects. Finally, **the third** action will result in building the stakeholder network and facilitating transformative dialogue. Such actions will provide basic ground for the future work on reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia.

In Serbia, the circular economy is mainly perceived from the perspective of resource and energy efficiency, while also recognized as one of the main approaches for the transition towards a carbon-neutral economy. Still, major steps need to be taken in order to set enabling policy framework, incentives and mechanisms at both, national and local level. This includes strategies of dematerialization (savings, reduction of material and energy use) and re-materialization (reuse, remanufacturing and recycling) in a system-wide approach to a circular economy, as well as infrastructure transitions within sustainable urbanization. Key actors such as ministries, development agencies, chamber of commerce and a few circular knowledge centres are aligning efforts towards this common goal.



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Besides waste reuse and recycling and setting up the secondary raw materials markets, the project should build upon the **Roadmap for Circular Economy in Serbia** (MoEP, 2020. [Link](#)). It will expand the narrative and focus on advancing the circular economy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by promoting:

1. Solutions that increase the share of the re-use of non-hazardous, secondary materials in production processes (focusing more on re-use than on the energy recovery)
2. New circular design that prolongs longevity, reduces toxicity and overall carbon footprint, reduces demand for and consumption of materials (dematerialization), uses alternative resources (substitutes critical raw materials), increases repairability, upgradability and disassembly, and focuses on material and energy efficiency of product use.
3. Novel solutions to increase resource and energy efficiency in production;
4. Innovation in the decarbonization of logistics (inbound, outbound or last-mile delivery and sales);
5. New business models that focus on sharing, pooling, increased longevity, intensity and repeatability of use, likewise on virtualization of usage;
6. New end-of-life solutions that bring products, components and materials from their End of Life stage to repeated use, repairs, remanufacturing, refurbishment, recycling; and
7. Solutions that increase visibility and traceability of materials and energy throughout the lifecycle or across their spatial distribution.

The objectives of the UNDP/GEF funded project „Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia“ are:

- to support the Government of Serbia to achieve a more comprehensive strategic focus on developing the circular economy concept in the country, and
- to catalyze and boost innovative circular economy projects and business ideas & leverage co-financing for them.

The project puts forward an innovative Challenge-based approach, centered around active engagement of citizens, communities and businesses – as a tool to jointly identify challenges, propose, develop, finance and implement a portfolio of new, carbon-neutral (or close to carbon neutral) pilot/demonstration projects and business ideas based on resource efficiency and circular economy approach. Seed funding will be provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Ministry of Environmental Protection and project partners, pending final approval of the above-mentioned UNDP/GEF project for Serbia. The UNDP/GEF project is expected to start in the second half of 2021.



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The importance of Circular economy in green agenda and climate change crisis

An economy based on the principles of the circular economy contributes to the reduction of the negative effects of the production-consumption patterns that accelerate global warming and increase the greenhouse effect. While assessments indicate that 55% of climate-related effects can be reduced with alternative energy systems, the remaining 45% falls under the domain of how and what resources we use in everyday life (EMF, 2020). Sustainable and circular cities and communities are recognized as part of the solution since built environments consume almost 50% of all global materials annually and generate around 20% of GHG emissions. These negative effects can be mitigated if we take the whole lifecycle of products into account and plan future products, services, and processes to enable easy recovery of energy, water and materials and putting them back to consumption. These challenges and opportunities represent building blocks of the circular economy.

The Circular Economy Pre-Challenge Call creates enabling environment for green and circular transition & green recovery, and Serbia's alignment with the EU Green Agenda by taking into account the following:

- COVID-19 pandemic and its societal and economic impacts,
- The European Green deal and the EU Green Recovery plan (Europa.eu, 2020. [Link](#)), which insofar places circularity at a prominent place;
- EU Western Balkans Green Agenda that extends the European Green Deal policy to the candidate countries of the Western Balkans (Europa.eu, 2020. [Link](#));
- A new EU industrial policy that contains a circular economy as one of the main pillars of development (Europa.eu, 2020. [Link](#)); and
- A new EU Circular Economy Action plan (Europa.eu, 2020. [Link](#)).

The “Lifecycle perspective” is perhaps the most important element of all strategic documents that refer to the circular economy. The “Lifecycle perspective” takes into account all impacts of materials, components and products, starting with the initial production of raw materials, their processing and disposal of products at the end of their lifetime. Besides providing a complete overview of the environmental and other impacts of the products under consideration, it also draws attention to their regenerative aspects.

The lifecycle of a product is a line of intertwined, but consecutive stages of one product- service system consisting of 7 stages:

- (Raw) material acquisition /extraction
- Design
- Production/processing
- Logistics (Supply chain transportation and delivery)



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- Use
- End-of-Life (EOL) treatment and
- Final disposal.

The life cycle is an EU recommended perspective to ensure minimization of product/service environmental impact from the moment it was designed to the moment it has to be re-used, recycled or landfilled. It is standardized under the ISO 14000 series of standards and emphasized by the 14001 LCA related standard (ISO,2020. [Link](#)).

Figure 1 below can be used to illustrate what the circular economy is about and what are the lifecycle aspects that should be tackled to enhance resource efficiency and reduce negative environmental and other impacts of a product.

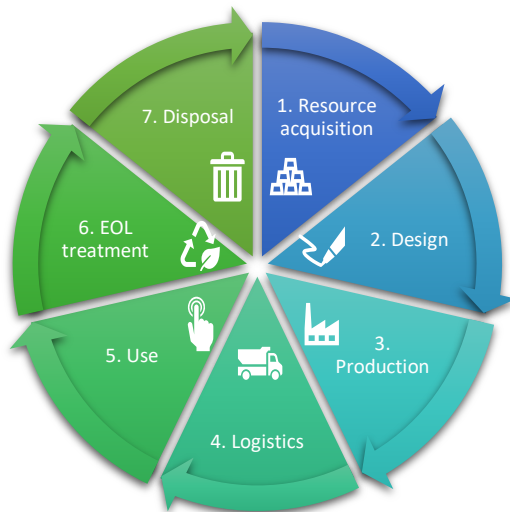


Figure 1 - Lifecycle stages

Some examples of how to tackle negative effects on the environment, while reducing resource consumption and raw material dependency are as follows:



Types of strategies to minimize GHG emissions and improve circularity at different lifecycle stages

1. Resource acquisition:	4. Logistics and delivery:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary material sourcing • Waste reuse and recycling • Industrial symbiosis • Bill of materials • Resource track and trace • New, nature-based materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New business models including reverse logistics • Virtual shops and e-commerce • Hub and spoke logistics • Vehicle tracking systems • Route optimization • Electrification of fleets • New fleet business models • Bulk shopping and “milkman” logistics model (returnable packaging)
2. Design:	5. Usage:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature based solutions • Biomimicry (mimicking biological systems in final product design) • Design for repair/maintenance, disassembly, upgrade, recycling • Digitization - virtualization of products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing (platforms) • Pooling business models • Leasing • Access over ownership business models • Predictive maintenance • Field-to-fork (digital) solutions
3. Production:	6. EOL solutions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cascading • Industrial symbiosis • Industrial ecology (production optimization) • Clean production • Lean production • Smart production (Industry 4.0) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business models for product upgrade • Refurbishing • Remanufacturing • Second purpose usage and cascading • Reuse and Recycling
	7. Landfilling:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste to energy solutions



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Pre-Challenge Call for Innovative Circular Economy Project Proposals

The Call seeks to solicit ideas and innovative project proposals from public and private companies, cities and municipalities and non-governmental organizations on how to contribute practically to greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate change mitigation by applying principles of the circular economy.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and the United Nations Development Programme UNDP are launching a **Pre - Challenge Call** for sourcing proposals for community-driven, innovative and cost-effective business models and technical solutions for reduction of GHG emissions by applying principles of the circular economy, while simultaneously generating social, economic and environmental benefits for the community and its citizens.

Pre –Challenge Call consists of two sub-challenges:

1. Call for the private sector and CSOs
2. Call for local self-governments, public companies.

Proposed innovative projects should promote circular, resource-efficient, low-carbon or carbon-neutral and otherwise environmentally friendly solutions and business models that would have potential for high-impact, scalable and sustainable results.

Why this challenge is initiated?

- Serbian economy and society need to accelerate the transition to a circular economy and low carbon development to meet the EU accession goals, the EU standards and maintain competitiveness;
- Circular business models represent an opportunity for the sustainable recovery of the corporate sector, in particular the SMEs, from the consequences of Covid19 pandemic. By initiating or re-investing in green and circular businesses, corporate sector ensures long term sustainability and resilience to similar shocks;
- Financing schemes, including those of IFIs, commercial banks, bilateral donors and vertical funds are increasingly promoting lending, grants, even ODAs, that are driven by low-carbon development and carbon neutrality principles;
- The EU green agenda for the Western Balkans will trigger investment and financing opportunities for green businesses and projects. This challenge, among others, aims to support industries & corporate sector to increase their capacities to attract such financing and investment opportunities;



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- The term “circular economy” refers to a dynamic & systemic transformation in resource & energy management towards closed material cycles with no losses. This can only be achieved with innovative production and product design approaches, new technology and creative business models;
- Strengthening circular economy ecosystems and value chains will eventually generate economic, social and environmental benefits and lead to lowering the carbon footprint of local communities and the entire country;
- Serbian cities, public and private companies are identified as frontrunners in shaping and implementing circularity in the context of low-carbon development.

Circular economy solutions in Serbia need technical, business and financial support to reach the local and international markets. Serbia needs projects that have the potential to generate high impact & scalable results, to optimize resource and energy consumption, make it sustainable in the long run and respond to low-carbon development challenges at the local and national level. Those should be win-win, innovative approaches and solutions of benefit to users, operators, financiers, and policymakers.

Why to participate in the Innovation Challenge?

- To help solve a pressing social, economic and environmental challenge in your local community;
- **To access co-funding** for further project development and actual implementation;
- **To gain new knowledge and skills** for developing an idea for innovative business models or products for a market with longer-term benefit for your organization and environment, for competitiveness development of your idea and your organization in line with consumption needs;
- **To receive free expert coaching and mentoring** - for ideas and concepts selected for further development;
- **To network and find partners** for your ideas who share a common vision;
- To increase the visibility of your ideas domestically and internationally

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and UNDP will set a **Project Accelerator** to provide **technical assistance** for the projects which will pass the technical evaluation. Assistance will include mentorship and experts' support in developing novel technical or business solutions that will apply circular & low carbon approach in design, production or consumption stage of a product/service lifecycles. The assistance could include legal, economic and financial, engineering support, to assist the projects to achieve the level of bankability needed to mobilize funds for implementation.



What kind of projects will be sought?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Projects applying new technologies or new application of existing technological solutions (the first-of-its-kind in Serbia), while also having a concrete greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction impact that can be monitored and verified; 2. New/improved business models or organization/production processes that are connected to measures that can also demonstrate tangible and concrete direct GHG reduction impact. 3. Circular design (design for a prolonged lifecycle, design for recyclability, design for disassembly and ease of repairs, design for energy and water efficiency, design for durability, toxic-free design, design for upgradeability, modular design, zero-waste production, clean production) to the extent they can be linked to tangible and direct GHG emission reduction. 4. New business models over products/services that promote shared use, increased intensity of usage, or models that promote access over ownership, if proposed together with measures that also produce concrete greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction, which can be monitored and verified. 5. Models, technologies or methods of repetitive use of end-of-life products and materials (practical reuse of waste and by-products) with verified GHG reduction impact. 6. Urban solutions that increase resource, and energy efficiency by utilizing the current waste streams of materials, and/or energy. 7. Urban design solutions, including circular construction and buildings with clear and scalable contribution to direct GHG emission reduction; 	<p>Additional aspects to be taken into account in project design</p> <p><i>For all applicants:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solving social challenges (gender equality, marginalized groups, unemployment etc.), if recognized within the project, should be presented and the effects explained. • Raising transparency over resource flows (including water, energy, materials and waste) will produce a better overview of resources availability and valorization and accelerate the creation of a secondary material market. <p><i>For Cities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New governance, exploitation or maintenance models of urban/rural infrastructure that promote circularity principles, in particular if models prolong the lifespan of the infrastructure. • Implementation of new policy frameworks, planning for systemic circular transition, a resource governance models also contributing to systemic transition and creation of circular cities and communities.
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Application process

Interested applicants shall apply online with a simplified project proposal describing the innovative idea and the evidence-based approaches, providing information on objectives, key activities, expected outputs and outcomes and a detailed budget. Where applicable, additional information requested by evaluators can be included on separate files. Selected applicants will have an opportunity to participate in the project Accelerator, upon initiation of the UNDP/GEF project.

Jurying and selection

All eligible entries received during the application phase will be screened by the jury (review committee) for completeness and adherence to the Project Pre- Challenge Call Objective and criteria.

Who can apply?

- Local self - government (city and municipality)
- Public utility company
- Commercial organization/business (Ltd, entrepreneurs)
- Civil society organization

All applicants have to be registered in Serbia, according to national legislation.

Applicants can apply independently or in Consortia. If applying in Consortia, the Lead Applicant has to be clearly identified, to represent the Consortia and serve as the main point of contact throughout the application process. The lead applicant will also be the main recipient of the co-financing funds.

Applicants can submit up to two applications as a lead applicant and can participate in an unlimited number of applications as a consortium member, for this pre-challenge call for proposals.



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Timeline of the Pre-Challenge Call

December 1 , 2020	CALL OPENS
December 11,2020 December 23, 2020 January 12, 2021	On-line Info days for potential applicants
February 01, 2021	Deadline for submission of applications
February 15, 2021	Evaluation process completed
Upon the official start of the Project „Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia“	ACCELERATION PHASE
2022	Selection of the most mature projects and signing co-financing agreements
2022 – 2024	IMPLEMENTATION
2025 – 2026	MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

Call Opens

December 1, 2020 – February 01, 2021

Applicants are requested to fulfil the application online and submit them by the deadline. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to upload the correct information through the application portal on the Challenge Call webpage.

Reviewers will do a technical evaluation of the application form to ensure they are completed correctly meet the eligibility criteria, before submitting them to an independent evaluation panel of judges. Eligible applicants are local self-government; public utility company; commercial organization/businesses (Ltd, entrepreneurs); civil society organizations registered in Serbia, according to national legislation.

Deadline for applying is January 29, 2021.



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What are the main Categories of the Projects that we seek?

Based on a financial plan and total project budget value, proposals will be divided into 3 categories:

1. Small projects (up to 100.000 USD) – financial resources for the implementation of such projects can also be provided through alternative sources of funding (for example crowdfunding).
2. Medium projects (up to 1 mil USD),
3. Large projects (investment values exceed 1 mil USD).

Important Note on co-financing: All projects that are expected to be financed through individual grants, either through bank loans or other sources of financing (bilateral, multilateral, private etc.), have to present by the end of the Acceleration phase a contract with the bank and/or other documents confirming the co-financing commitments. Also, it is important to note that there is a need in the application form to provide at least an indication of financing sources and co-financing. If available, the applicants can confirm this by letters of intent, MoUs, Bank guarantees etc.). Value of the individual co-financing per project will be defined based on cost-benefit analysis and project impact.

Evaluation process

From February 1 until February 15, 2021

The project will provide a team of qualified Judges (covering all aspects of the proposed ideas – technical and managerial) to review and evaluate the proposed ideas. Based on the evaluation criteria, the Panel of Judges will select up to 20 best ideas for the Acceleration phase. Only projects which successfully finalize acceleration process will be considered for co-financing.

Acceleration phase

Acceleration phase will be initiated only upon the official signature and start of the Project „Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia“.

The Circular Economy Accelerator will be both co-working space and a help desk for project applicants. With the support of the project’s technical staff, consultants and dedicated mentors, applicants will have an opportunity to further elaborate their project concepts, test pilot and further develop the proposed solutions. The selected teams will receive the coaching support free of charge. The acceleration support will also include specific analyses, assistance in the development of project-related documentation, workshops, boot camps, participation in events, including possible site visits and study tours. The accelerator will also assist the participants in learning more about the lifecycle perspective and will conduct a simple lifecycle assessment if deemed relevant. This Acceleration phase will last for at least **6 (six) months**.



Investment Grant Support Mechanism - co-financing grant

The **Life cycle assessment** is a method of evaluating climate related impacts of a particular product during its whole life cycle. The process is standardized in ISO 14001. Different tools were developed to measure the specific impacts of a product and guide production and consumption in a more climate-friendly manner.

Some most recognizable tools are [Open LCA](#), [SimaPro](#), [Gabi](#), [CMLCA](#), [One Click LCA](#) (for construction and building industry).

This programme will use the life cycle perspective and aforementioned to assess claimed GHG emission reductions if deemed necessary, but also to help participants determining the impact of a project to the climate change and bring closer this novel assessment model.

Therefore, applicants are asked to evaluate the impact on climate in terms of GHG emissions over the whole lifecycle of a proposed product/service or project.

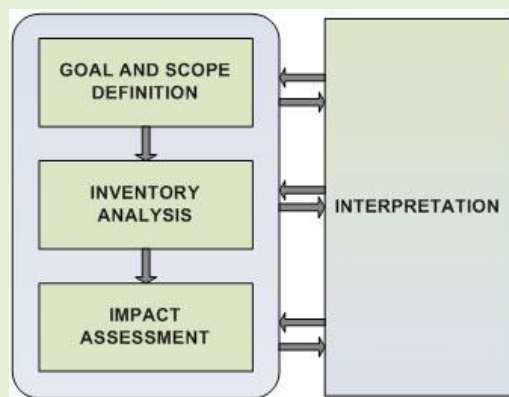


Figure 2 - LCA methodology by ISO 14001 standard.

More on LCA can be seen on this [link](#)

*The project lifecycle is determined as a number of months/years until proposed goals are reached and proven.

**Considering that the LCA method is complex and time consuming and must be done by experts to evaluate precise results, applicants are not required to use any LCA software but to understand and assess GHG emissions over the lifespan of a product/service/project taken from Figure 1. Through the acceleration phase, UNDP will contract experts for LCA if it deems necessary, to further support the applicants in elaborating the LCA approach.

Upon completion of the Acceleration phase, for the selected projects which are considered to be ready for actual implementation, appropriate **co-financing** will be provided (e.g. innovation award, the Low-value Performance - Based Payments Agreements (PBPA)). UNDP will assess the value of financing per project depending on the foreseen impact. However, it is important to mention that co-financing will serve only as seed funding. The co-financing is to be used as equity



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participation of the Applicant in the financing scheme which the applicant will mobilize and should be considered as a de-risking mechanism for the overall investment. The applicant is responsible to identify other sources of financing for their particular project. The number of projects that will be supported in the implementation and value of obtained co-financing can be increased, depending on the availability of additional funding resources.

Individual grants per project will depend on the project investment value and are also limited to up to 20% of the total investment:

Investment value	Individual co-financing per project
Small project (up to USD 100,000)	Up to USD 20,000
Medium projects (USD 100,000 – USD 1 mil)	20% of the total investment, but no more than USD 100,000
Big projects (investment value exceeds USD 1 mil)	20% of the total investment, but no more than USD 200,000

Disclaimer: *The availability of co-financing is subject to the official signature and start of the UNDP/GEF project „Reducing Community Carbon Footprint by a Circular Economy Approach in the Republic of Serbia“. The number of projects selected as finalists for the implementation and value of financing will also depend on the availability of additional funding resources.*

Number of projects selected as finalist for implementation and value of individual co-financing amount can be increased based on the availability of additional funding resources.

The co-financing will be delivered in tranches, upon fulfilment of the indicators that are to be specified for each individual pre-selected project.

The Intellectual Property Rights Disclosure

The sole applicant shall provide a written confirmation to accompany their application confirming to UNDP that they hold all intellectual property rights which are reasonably foreseeable as necessary for achieving the project goals, or a manner in which these rights shall be resolved in conformity with project goals. Furthermore, the sole applicant is required to confirm to UNDP that no intellectual property disputes have arisen from the innovative idea. In the case of consortia, the consortium agreement should appropriately confirm and resolve intellectual property rights between consortium members. In case of other intellectual property issues, the applicant(s) are required to disclose them to UNDP before the evaluation.



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Implementation

In the implementation phase, the selected teams will have to put their ideas into action, their progress will be monitored. The focus of this phase is on achieving successful implementation and evidence of outcomes. Implementation of the project has to be finalized within a maximum of two years.

Monitoring and reporting phase shall take a minimum of 12 months. Field visits will be organized, with the involvement of the Project team and Judges, or at least one visit will be arranged coinciding with the Finalists’ last report. If necessary, a new mechanism will be created to monitor GHG emissions reduction, if those already available are not suitable for specific projects.

How to apply for Innovation Challenge?

Review eligibility and evaluation criteria	Complete the application online	Submit

Applications must be submitted via the webpage at <https://inovacije.klimatskeprome.rs/en/circular-economy/> until January 29, 2021, 5 p.m.



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Application form

The application must be completed in Serbian language and summary of the proposed project idea has to be provided in both languages, in Serbian and in English. It is important that you address and respond to each question clearly. When completing the application form, please note that space available for response to some of the questions is limited (clearly indicated).

The application needs to be submitted through an online platform, which can be accessed at the following website: <https://inovacije.klimatskepromene.rs/en/circular-economy/>.

Please attach the following documents in support of your application:

- Proof of registration in the Serbian Business Registers Agency for private companies and civil society organizations (CSOs, associations, foundations),
- The reference lists and CVs of personnel for both, the lead applicant and the team members (other applicants) and clearly specify their roles (including authorship/co-authorship),
- Draft partnership agreement (if applicable),
- Documents confirming co-financing commitments.

Important:

- **Please ensure that you upload the final and complete version of your application by the deadline.**
- **The application form contains specific fields and it is important that you complete each field. If any of the field is incomplete, application will be rejected.**
- **When populating the application form, please consult relevant evaluation criteria!**

Application details	
Title	Enter the full title of the project idea
Main sectors of interest related to the Pre-Challenge Call	
Project duration	(expressed in months)
Lead applicant	
Name of the Lead applicant	Enter the full registered name of the lead applicant for the project
Contact details of the Lead applicant	Enter the full name, address, postal code, e-mail address and telephone number of the main point of contact
Other project applicants (if applicable)	
Name of project applicant	Enter the full name and type of organization



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Contact person	Enter the full name, address, postal code, e-mail address and telephone number
Summary of the proposed project idea	
Please provide a short summary, including the scope and objective/s of the project Summary should be no more than 300 words. (in Serbian and English)	The summary should present the main description of the project proposal, with sufficient information to provide a clear understanding of the challenge and its overall goal. It should also clearly present how the project will achieve its objective/s.
The project details	
Project description Limit is 2000 words	What specific climate & circular economy related challenge is project tackling? <i>(If possible, please try to quantify the scale of the specific climate problem in GHG terms)</i> How does your project address this (quantified) challenge? Please provide an overview of the approach (technical, technological, business model etc.) and methodology that your project tends to apply to respond to the Pre-Challenge Call. Please describe principles of circular economy which will be applied. What is the expected GHG emission reduction resulting from your project idea (GHG emission reduction potential of the proposed idea)? Please also explain the applied methodology/tool.
What is innovative about the project? Limit is 1000 words	Applicant(s) need to consider some of the following questions: What are the innovative elements of the proposed project? Does it represent the implementation of an existing idea into a new operational setting? Why will your innovation be successful in addressing the problem compared to some other more standard approach?
What are the risks to project success and what is the project's risk management strategy?	Please identify the key risks and uncertainties of the project and how the project would mitigate these risks.
Intellectual property rights disclosure	Please identify the intellectual property rights or describe the model in which they will be resolved and confirm the absence of any legal disputes arising from IP rights.
Do the project applicant(s) have skills	Please explain experience and role of your team members.



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and experience to implement the proposed project?	Please describe the previously implemented projects/activities relevant for the objective of the Pre-Challenge Call.
Activities of the project (including timetable)	Which activities would be required for applicant(s) to implement the proposed Project, how does the proposed Project fit in with your existing activities, how local community will be engaged?
Expected Impact/s and Outcomes	Describe the main impacts and outcomes of the project; Describe impacts arising out of applying circular economy principles; Describe the logic of how the project produces an impact in terms of GHG emissions reduction. What are GHG reduction potential and the average GHG reduction costs by the proposed project? How the project activities will contribute to creating carbon-neutral communities based on the principles of the circular economy? How the applicant(s) intend to ensure the sustainability of the project results and impact created. How the project will impact vulnerable groups (youth, women, marginalized groups)?
Gender approach	Please elaborate on the approach for mainstreaming the gender, acknowledging the complementary roles of both, women and men, in order to obtain gender equality.
Expected project budget	Please indicate the anticipated project costs (against planned activities). The total budget and cost structure must be reasonable, realistic and in line with the project activities. Clearly present the contribution from project partners. How the funds necessary for the project implementation will be secured (include the sources, structure and any supporting documentation as evidence)?



Evaluation criteria and scoring

Criteria	Maximum score	Description
Presentation of the proposal	10	Is the initial information clearly presented in the application form, including the project's innovative aspects as it regards the concept, technology, business model, product or service?
Innovation	15	Can the project be considered as innovative in the Serbian context?
Greenhouse gas reduction impact and its cost-efficiency	20	What are the expected GHG reduction impact of the project and its cost-efficiency calculated by a life-cycle assessment?
Local environmental and social impacts	15	What are the other environmental and social impacts of the project that can be observed at the local level? How does the proposed solution address circular economy-related priorities at the national and local level? What is the project impact on youth, women and/or marginalized groups? What is the project's short- and long-term impact on employment?
Operational and management capacity	15	Do the applicants demonstrate the relevant skills, expertise, experience and other resources to implement the project successfully within the timeframe? To what extent they bring together the necessary expertise?
Sustainability and replicability	10	Does the project have the potential to be scaled up and/or replicated over time and be implemented by other stakeholders in Serbia?
Co-financing	15	What is the project cash co-financing amount and what is the share of it in the total investment?
Total	100	



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PRE - CHALLENGE CALL FOR PROPOSALS*

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information visit:

<https://inovacije.klimatskepromene.rs/en/circular-economy/>

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