

THE SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Through the „programme for promoting investments in the reduction of environmental pollution abroad“, the environmental innovation programme abroad in short, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB) has been funding projects to improve the environment since 1990, first in neighbouring countries to Germany's east and now in Central and Eastern European countries.



Funding is available for environmental protection pilot projects in partner countries when these projects have immediate cross-border environmental effects for Germany or improve climate protection.

The projects are aimed especially at achieving the following:

- ▶ „Philosophy transfer“ for effective environmental protection and climate action in the context of the cooperative relationships to be developed;
- ▶ Multiplier effect with the aid of exemplary cost-effective and innovative solutions to improve the environmental situation in these countries („lighthouse projects“);
- ▶ Demonstration of practical suitability and performance capacity of new production or processing technologies;
- ▶ Increasing the acceptance of environmental protection in the population.

Primarily, common environmental objectives are pursued and not infrastructure improvements, as is the case for example with corresponding EU programmes.

KfW Bankengruppe (KfW banking group) oversees the funding on behalf of BMUB. It reviews the projects and supervises their implementation.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

What measures are funded?

Investments with cross-border environmental effects that can, for example, immediately and measurably reduce the pollution of border waters (e.g. the Elbe, Oder, Baltic Sea) or the air pollution of border regions (e.g. Erzgebirge).

Investments that illustrate paths to development that is both environmentally and climate-friendly and beneficial for the economy.

In connection with the implementation of an investment project, the training of experts can be promoted if required.

Through public relations, the project should encourage other investors to undertake their own projects and contribute to acceptance amongst stakeholders in government, business and the general population.

What are the conditions for promotion?

Funding is provided through interest subsidies in connection with KfW loans or through investment subsidies. Adequate participation on the part of the investors is a prerequisite.

What is the application procedure?

Interested investors must first take their project ideas to the environment ministry, or another competent ministry, in the country where the project is to be carried out. From there, a written funding inquiry should be addressed to the BMUB. The BMUB will make the funding decision, taking into consideration environmental policy aspects as well as the budget available.

A precondition for funding is an agreement between the BMUB and the partner ministry in the respective country. Such agreements are already in place with the Czech Republic, Latvia, Poland and Romania.

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

To assist in the application at the competent ministry in the respective country there is an information sheet and a checklist, which can be downloaded from the website of the BMUB.

The funding application must contain:

- ▶ A detailed description of the project, in particular of the objectives of the environmentally friendly and economic solutions, of their innovative aspects and their transferability to other application scenarios,
- ▶ A complete financial plan for the entire investment, including funding requirements,
- ▶ A reliable timetable for implementation of the project and the funding requirements,
- ▶ An evaluation of the project by the relevant ministry of the respective country.

The funding application must be submitted in German.

In order to implement a project, contracts will be concluded between the beneficiary and the KfW and a general contractor. In the case of loan financing with an interest subsidy, a loan agreement will be concluded with the on-lending bank.

SUCCESS STORIES

- ▶ Wastewater treatment plant Gubin - a clean solution for the cities of Gubin and Guben on both sides of the Neisse
- ▶ Energy-related modernisation of residential buildings in Latvia - CO₂ emissions cut in half, heating costs reduced
- ▶ Wind farm Rusova - for tough winters in the Erzgebirge

Who can you contact in Germany?

Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit

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KfW Bankengruppe

Neugeschäft Kreditervice

NKa3 - Umwelt I

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53179 Bonn

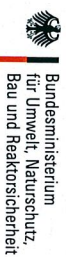
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Where can you get more information?

<http://www.bmub.bund.de/themen/forschung-foerderung/foerderprogramme/umweltinnovationsprogramm-ausland/>



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