

**Merit criteria for assessing the application for co-financing under the
Programme of the EEA FM 2014-2021
Environment, Energy, Climate Change
"Increasing the efficiency of energy generation in existing small
hydropower plants (up to 2MW)"**

MERIT CRITERIA – STAGE I

1ST DEGREE SUBSTANTIVE CRITERIA

Eligibility criterion – To be assessed by the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management

No.	Criterion	Criterion description	Assessment rules: Yes/No	Comment
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	Project eligibility	It will be assessed whether the type of project fits in the catalogue indicated on the open call announcement. Basis for assessment: application form with attachments	Yes/No	

State aid appraisal – To be filled in by the technical unit responsible for the assessment in the field of state aid

No.	Criterion name	Criterion description	Assessment rules: Yes/No	Comments
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	The financing is in line with the state aid rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appraisal if the co-financing constitutes state aid; • if the grant constitutes state aid, appraisal if the aid complies with the provisions/regulations governing the state aid 	Yes/No	

Financial evaluation - To be completed by the technical unit responsible for the financial evaluation of the project

No.	Criterion name	Criterion description	Assessment rules: Yes/No	Comments
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	Applicant's financial standing/situation –current and forecasted - including	As part of the criterion, the following will be assessed, in particular: 1) the applicant's ability to ensure the feasibility and financial sustainability of the project on the basis of analysis	Yes/No/Non-applicable	

	<p>feasibility and financial durability analysis</p>	<p>of the applicant's financial reports and projections;</p> <p>2) the correctness of the assumptions used for financial analysis;</p> <p>3) confirmed, reliable sources of project co-financing (if applicable);</p> <p>4) possibility of establishing a financial security (if applicable).</p> <p>The criterion will be assessed using the provisions of the Instruction: "Securing the NFEPWM's claims arising from contracts for project co-financing", regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rules for setting collaterals for any claims under loans/subsidies arising from concluded contracts and contracts in the process of conclusion for co-financing projects from the NFEPWM, including projects co-financed from non-returnable foreign funds, and - defining the general principles for carrying out financial evaluations of grant applications. <p>Basis for assessment: application form with attachments.</p>		
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Equality criterion – To be assessed by the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management

No	Criterion	Criterion description	Assessment rules: Yes/No/Not applicable	Comment
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	<p>The project is in line with equal opportunities and non-discrimination rules</p>	<p>As part of the criterion, it will be assessed whether the project has a positive (or at least neutral) influence on in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility for people with disabilities. • Gender equality 	<p>Yes/No/Not applicable</p>	

MERIT CRITERIA – STAGE II
2ND DEGREE SUBSTANTIVE CRITERIA

Mandatory evaluation criteria to fill in: proven ability to connect to the power grid (5), costs eligibility (6)

No	CRITERIA	Principles of assessing the criterion	weight	max scoring	max result
1.	Project Implementation Readiness	<p>Possession of administrative permits and decisions necessary to implement the project as well as of financial resources.</p> <p>Number of points awarded for subsequent stages of project preparation (points awarded under the criterion add up - max. 6 points):</p> <p>1 point - the project has a final environmental decision covering the entire investment (if applicable)</p> <p>1 point - the project has a water permit</p> <p>1 point - the project has obtained the final construction permit (if applicable) or other administrative decision equivalent to 100% of the material scope of the project</p> <p>1 point - the investor has documents confirming the disposal of funds to finance the investment</p> <p>1 point - the investor has a documented right to dispose of 100% of the land or objects for the investment</p> <p>1 point - the applicant holds a promise of the concession or concession for energy production within the meaning of art. 12 of the Energy Law</p> <p>Note: If a given readiness stage does not apply to given project, it receives 1 point for given stage</p>	1	6	6
2.	Expenditures from the EEA FM grant for a unit reduction of annual CO ₂ emissions	<p>The value of expenditures planned to be incurred from EEA FM grant, understood as the total amount of funding requested from the EEA FM grant, for the reduction of 1 ton of CO₂/year.</p> <p>Points will be awarded for achieving a given value of the EEA FM indicator (PLN) (X) per an annual reduction of 1 ton of CO₂. Points are awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $X \leq 3\ 000$ - 3 points • $X > 3\ 000$ - 1 point 	2	3	6
3.	Expenditures from the EEA FM grant for 1 MW of installed capacity	<p>The value of expenditures incurred from the EEA FM grant is assessed, understood as the total value of co-financing applied for from the EEA FM grants, per 1 MW of installed (electricity) capacity.</p> <p>Points will be awarded for achieving a given value of the expenditure ratio from the EEA FM grants (PLN million) (X) per 1 MW of the installed capacity. Points are awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $X \leq 7$ - 3 points • $7 < X \leq 13$ - 2 points • $X > 13$ - 1 point 	2	3	6
4.	Expenditures from the EEA FM grant per 1 MWh of energy generated during the year	<p>The value of outlay costs from the EEA FM grant is assessed, understood as the total value of co-financing applied for from the EEA FM grants, per 1 MWh of energy generated during the year (electricity)</p> <p>Points will be awarded for achieving a given value of the expenditure ratio from the EEA FM grant (PLN) (X) per</p>	2	4	8

		<p>1 MWh of planned energy production during the year. Points are awarded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $X \leq 500$ - 4 points • $500 < X < 1\ 000$ - 3 points • $X \geq 1\ 000$ - 2 points 			
5.	Proven ability to connect to the power grid	<p>The Applicant has an valid contract for connection to the power grid taking into account potential changes in the existing installation resulting from the project. 2 points - the applicant has a contract for connection to the power grid 0 points - the applicant does not have a contract for connection to the power grid</p> <p>Obtaining 0 points in this criterion causes the application to be rejected.</p>	1	2	2
6.	Costs Eligibility	<p>Do all costs (incurred or to be incurred) within project are strictly related to the project scope and are necessary to its completion?</p> <p>1 point - all costs planned to be incurred are necessary to project implementation and its effect achievement and comply with eligible costs catalogue 0 points - not all costs planned to be incurred are necessary to implement the project and its effect achievement and comply with eligible costs catalogue</p> <p>Obtaining 0 points in this criterion causes the application to be rejected.</p>	1	1	1
7.	Participation of partners from Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein	<p>3 points – The project is implemented in partnership with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein (letter of intent or partnership agreement) 1 point – The project is implemented in cooperation with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein (other documented partner participation/cooperation) – 0 points – The project is not implemented in partnership/cooperation with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein</p>	1	3	3