

Detailed criteria for the evaluation of grant applications according to the selection criteria

Programme: "Environment, Energy and Climate Change"

Area: Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation

"Implementation of green-blue infrastructure investments in cities"

MERIT CRITERIA – STAGE I

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 feasibility and financial	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 of the applicant's financial reports and projections;	Yes/No/Non-applicable	

	durability analysis	<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.
	The project is in line with equal opportunities and non-discrimination rules	<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 	Yes/No/Not applicable	

MERIT CRITERIA – STAGE II

Application evaluation criteria		Score
Feasibility criteria		
1.1	Applicant's organisational capacity to implement the project	0 - 8
1.2	Risk assessment	0 - 5
Cost efficiency criterion - planned expenses in relation to project tasks		
2.1	The eligibility of expenses planned to be incurred and correctness of estimated cost	0 - 9
2.2	The rationality of expenses planned to be incurred	0 - 9
Planned ecological effect criterion (project overall objective)		
3.1	Project compliance with strategic documents*	0 - 5
3.2	Compliance of the Climate Change Adaptation Plans for cities with the number of residents below 90 thousand with the "Urban Adaptation Handbook" – guidelines to prepare Urban Climate Change Adaptation Plans in Poland, (if applicable) **	0 - 5
3.3	Readiness to implement planned actions	0 - 5
3.4	Evaluation of the planned educational and informational activities in terms of the level of adequacy and attractiveness of the proposed forms, methods, educational tools for the identified educational needs, the specificity of the project's target group and the subject of the project in the context of foreseen educational objectives and results of a project	0 - 10
*It will be evaluated whether the investment covers the scope of tasks planned for implementation based on, e.g. the Polish National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (NAS 2020) with a perspective by 2030, the so-called SPA2020, Low-stack emission reduction programme (PONE), Low-Emission Economy Plan (PGN), Plan for supplying heat, electricity and gas fuels, Air Protection Programme (POP), Municipal Climate Change Adaptation Plan, State Ecological Policy to 2030, etc.		
**The criterion specifies the preferred elements that should be included in municipal climate change adaptation plans for cities under 90 thousand residents/inhabitants making up the project, in order to ensure the adaptation plan contents' exhaustiveness, adequacy and compliance with the EU policy on adaptation to climate change – in line with the Urban Adaptation Handbook – guidelines to prepare Urban Climate Change Adaptation Plans in Poland.		
Impact on the environment and contribution to achievement aims, outcomes and outputs of the Programme ***		
4.1	Number and feasibility of planned activities to be implemented (number of activities) on the scope of adaptation and mitigation	0 - 8
4.2	Number of participants included in educational activities under the project	0 - 5
4.3	Number of experts trained under the project	0 - 5
4.4	Project comprehensiveness***	0 - 12
***Highest scores will go to projects concerning comprehensive adaptation measures and mitigation measures as well as the educational component		
Criterion of bilateral relations ****		
5.1	Participation of partners from Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein	0 - 5
****Highest scores will go to projects with at least one project partner among Donor States, i.e. Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein		
TOTAL		0 - 91

The required minimum score allowing the project to be assessed positively amounts to 45.

The minimum score in each criteria qualifying the application for the subsequent proceeding is more than 0 (except 1.1; 3.2 and 5.1 criteria).

Feasibility criteria – maximum score 13

1.1	Applicant's organisational capacity to implement the project	Score
	The applicant's experience in project implementation covers at least three projects in the "Climate" programme area, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before submission of the application.	8
	The applicant's experience in project implementation covers at least one project in the "Climate" programme area, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before submission of the application.	6
	The applicant's experience in project implementation covers at least three projects outside the "Climate" programme area, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before submission of the application.	4
	The applicant's experience in project implementation covers at least one project outside the "Climate" programme area, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before submission of the application.	2
	The applicant has no experience in the project implementation in or outside the "Climate" programme area.	0

1.2	Risk assessment <i>*Specification of solutions:</i> - "optimal solutions" are deemed as solutions ensuring the most effective risk minimisation to achieve the project's effects/results; - "solutions developed to a sufficient degree" are deemed as solutions minimising risk occurrence and selected sufficiently to achieve the project's effects/results; - "solutions developed insufficiently" are deemed as solutions insufficient to achieve the project's effects/results.	Score
	Risk factors along with their significance and probability of occurrence have been well defined and justified , whereas the risk management plan and counteracting plan for risk that may negatively affect the project includes optimal solutions* .	5
	Risk factors along with their significance and probability of occurrence have been defined and justified to a sufficient degree and the risk management plan and counteracting plan for risk that may negatively affect the project has been developed sufficiently* , but the solutions are not optimal.	3
	Risk factors along with their significance and probability of occurrence have been defined insufficiently or the risk management plan and counteracting plan for risk that may negatively affect the project has been developed insufficiently* .	1
	Risk factors along with their significance and probability of occurrence have been defined incorrectly or have not been specified and there is no risk management plan and counteracting plan for risk that may negatively affect the project.	0

Cost efficiency criterion – planned expenses in relation to project tasks – maximum score 18

2.1	The eligibility of expenses planned to be incurred and correctness of estimated cost	Score
	The project's estimate budget has been prepared on the basis of generally valid price lists or market bids of suppliers and contractors or printouts from websites or historical data (taken from other projects, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before the submission of application). 100% of the eligible costs have been estimated correctly (deviations from the average values of particular costs do not exceed 20%).	9
	The project's estimate budget has been prepared on the basis of generally valid price lists or market bids of suppliers and contractors or printouts from websites or historical data (taken from other projects, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before the submission of application).	6

≥75% of the eligible costs have been estimated correctly (deviations from the average values of particular costs do not exceed 20%).	
The project's estimate budget has been prepared on the basis of generally valid price lists or market bids of suppliers and contractors or printouts from websites or historical data (taken from other projects, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years before the submission of application). ≥50% of eligible costs were estimated correctly (deviations from the average values of individual costs do not exceed 20%).	3
The project's estimate budget has not been prepared on the basis of generally valid price lists or market bids of suppliers and contractors or printouts from websites or historical data (taken from other projects, the implementation of which has been completed within 5 years until the submission of application) or <50% of the eligible costs have been estimated correctly (deviations from the average values of individual costs do not exceed 20%).	0

2.2	The rationality of expenses planned to be incurred	Score
	The expenditure for the project implementation are reasonable and the ratio of costs and expected project effects/results indicate high cost efficiency.	9
	The expenditure for the project implementation are reasonable and the ratio of costs and expected project effects/results indicate sufficient cost efficiency.	6
	The expenditure for the project implementation are reasonable, however the ratio of costs and expected project effects/results indicate low cost efficiency.	3
	The expenditures for the project's implementation are unreasonably high and the ratio of costs and expected project effects/results indicate no cost efficiency.	0

Planned ecological effect criterion (general project's objective) – maximum score 25

3.1	Project's compliance with strategic documents <i>It will be evaluated whether the investment falls within the scope of tasks planned for execution based on, e.g. the Strategic plan of adaptation for sectors and areas vulnerable to climate changes by 2020 with a perspective of 2030, the so-called SPA2020, Low-Stack Emission Reduction Programme (PONE), Low-Emission Economy Plan (PGN), Plan for supplying heat, electricity and gas fuels, Air Protection Programme (POP), Urban Adaptation Handbook, State Ecological Policy to 2030, etc.</i>	Score
	The project is in line with the strategic documents	5
	The project is not in line with any strategic document	0

3.2	Compliance of the Climate Change Adaptation Plans for cities with the number of residents below 90 thousand with the Urban Adaptation Handbook – guidelines to prepare Urban Climate Change Adaptation Plans in Poland, (if applicable) The criterion specifies the preferred elements that should be included in the urban climate change adaptation plans concurred to the project, in order to ensure the adaptation plan contents' exhaustiveness, adequacy and compliance with the EU policy on adaptation to climate change. The study (urban climate change adaptation plan) includes the following elements: 1. evaluation of the susceptibility to climatic factors, including a vulnerability analysis, 2. adaptation options analysis,	Score

	3. adaptation options evaluation, 4. adaptation options selection, 5. monitoring measures and evaluation of adaptation measures. The evaluation is conducted according to the Urban Adaptation Handbook – guidelines to prepare Urban Climate Change Adaptation Plans in Poland.	
The urban climate change adaptation plan includes all required elements		5
The urban climate change adaptation plan includes most of the required elements (at least 3)		3
The urban climate change adaptation plan is in progress and is based on the Urban Adaptation Handbook – guidelines to prepare Urban Climate Change Adaptation Plans in Poland		1
The urban climate change adaptation plan includes < than 3 required elements. The applicant does not have a urban climate change adaptation plan		0

3.3	Readiness to implement planned actions <i>*the value of investment tasks with building permits/decisions on the permit for investment execution in relation to the value of all tasks requiring building permits/decisions on the permit for investment execution</i>	Score
The entity possesses all required permits and decisions for implementation of the project or if implementation of the project does not require a permit/decision, *100%		5
The entity possesses some of the required permits and decisions for implementation of the project, *min 60%		3
The entity has commenced activities aimed at obtaining permits and decisions, i.e. has provided confirmation application submission to the authorised entity		1
The entity does not possess the required permits and decisions for implementation of the project		0

3.4	Evaluation of the planned educational and informational activities* in terms of the level of adequacy and attractiveness of the proposed educational forms, methods, tools for the identified educational needs, specificity of the project's target group and subject of the project, in the context of foreseen educational objectives and results of a project <i>*Educational and informational measures are deemed as measures aimed at broadening the community's knowledge about the problem and methods of solving it via a campaign in traditional media and the Internet on community stimulating measures, e.g. educational events, competitions and through education and knowledge dissemination in the form of a profiled education, e.g. conferences, training courses and workshops, development and publishing of interactive didactic materials</i>	Score
All of the proposed educational forms, methods and tools of measures are commensurate and adapted to the identified: - educational needs, - the project's subject matter, - specificity of the selected target groups. AND All planned measures constitute a logical and coherent whole and are necessary for achieving the project's objective and ecological effects.		10
All of the proposed educational forms, methods and tools of measures are commensurate and adapted to the identified: - educational needs, - the project's subject matter, - specificity of the selected target groups. AND Over half of the planned measures constitutes a logical and coherent whole and is necessary for achieving the project's objective and ecological effects.		8
Two out of three of the proposed educational forms, methods and tools of measures are commensurate and adapted to the identified:		6

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - educational needs, - the project's subject matter, - specificity of the selected target groups. <p>AND</p> <p>Over half of the planned measures constitutes a logical and coherent whole and is necessary for achieving the project's objective and ecological effects.</p>	
<p>One out of three of the proposed educational forms, methods and tools of measures are commensurate and adapted to the identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - educational needs, - the project's subject matter, - specificity of the selected target groups. <p>AND</p> <p>Over half of the planned measures constitutes a logical and coherent whole and is necessary for achieving the project's objective and ecological effects.</p>	3
<p>All of the proposed educational forms, methods and tools of measures are incommensurate and not adapted to the identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - educational needs, - the project's subject matter, - specificity of the selected target groups. <p>OR</p> <p>Over half of the planned measures is pointless and does not contribute to the achievement of the project's objective and ecological effects.</p>	0

Impact on the environment and contribution to achievement aims, outcomes and outputs of the Programme - maximum score 30**

4.1	Number and feasibility of planned activities to be implemented (number of activities) on the scope of adaptation* and mitigation** <i>*green infrastructure measures include, among others, green roof and wall systems, creation/renewal of green areas, restoration of degraded areas, introduction of green developed areas, creation of bio-retention areas, etc.;</i> <i>*blue infrastructure measures include, among others, introduction of small water retention, introduction of drainage, re-vegetation of water courses, re-vegetation of water reservoirs, etc.</i> <i>**mitigation measures include, among others, promoting electromobility, including establishing charging points, stimulating car sharing, preparing and promoting cycling as an alternative to cars, increasing energy efficiency and/or share of renewables used by street lightening, increasing nr of trees by the streets/roads, road lines, introducing green walls including irrigation systems, promoting sustainable consumption, sustainable city development, etc.</i>	Score
	It is planned to implement of >12 measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation	8
	It is planned to implement of 9-12 measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation	6
	It is planned to implement of 6-8 measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation	4
	It is planned to implement of 3-5 measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation	2
	It is planned to implement of 1-2 measures for climate change mitigation and adaptation	1
	During the project implementation no adaptation and mitigation activity will be implemented	0

4.2	Number of participants included in educational activities under the project	Score
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of >20 thousand participants	5
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 15.1-20 thousand participants	4
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 10.1-15 thousand participants	3
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 5-10 thousand participants	2

The project implementation will contribute to the training of at least 4 thousand participants	1
The project implementation will contribute to the training of <4 thousand participants	0

4.3	Number of experts* trained under the project <i>*An expert is deemed as a person who actively deals with the subject matter covered by the project</i>	Score
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 5 and more experts in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	5
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 4 experts in the field of climate changes mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	4
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 3 experts in the field of climate changes mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	3
	The project implementation will contribute to the training of 2 experts in the field of climate changes mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	2
	The project implementation contribute to the training of at least 1 expert in the field of climate changes mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	1
	No expert will be trained during implementation of the project in the field of climate changes mitigation and adaptation and methods to reduce the impacts of climate change	0

4.4	Project comprehensiveness <i>*Definitions and examples of adaptation measures (green and blue infrastructure), mitigation measures and of the educational component were included in the Applicant's handbook</i>	Score
	The material scope of the project includes adaptation measures as well as mitigation measures* and the educational component, including their mutual relationship	12
	The material scope of the project includes adaptation measures as well as mitigation measures* and the educational component, however it does not specify their mutual relationship	10
	The material scope of the project includes two of following measures types: adaptation measures, mitigation measures or the educational component	6
	The material scope of the project includes one of the measures types: adaptation measures, mitigation measures or the educational component	4
	The material scope of the project includes no adaptation measures, mitigation measures or the educational component	0

Bilateral relation criterion - maximum score 5

5.1	Participation of partners from Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein	Score
	The project is implemented in partnership with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein (letter of intent or partnership agreement).	5
	The project is implemented in cooperation with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein (other documented partner participation/cooperation).	3
	The project is not implemented in partnership/cooperation with a partner from Donor States: Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein.	0