

PRIORITY 2

Strengthening the capacity for climate change adaptation, and resource sufficiency in NPA communities

2.1 promoting **energy efficiency** and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Priority 2: Strengthening the capacity for climate change adaptation, and resource sufficiency in NPA communities



2.2 promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account ecosystem based approaches

2.3 promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

Specific objective 2.1: Promoting energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Territories across the programme area have high energy needs linked to their cold and extreme climates. This, in turn requires smart energy solutions, including smart energy storage. Long distances and a lack of access of communities and hubs drives the need to explore community-based systems, for example for islands and remote areas.

The area has a high potential for renewable energy resources and can build on vast expertise and experience in the field and a preparedness to adopt and apply new technologies and new solutions. The main focus is achieving net energy savings and respect of biodiversity and habitats.

Types of actions to be funded:

 Transfer and development of sustainable renewable energy generation and energy efficiency solutions suitable for

Main target groups:

- Local public authority
- Regional public authority
- Sectoral agency
- Infrastructure and (public) service provider
- Interest groups including NGOs



- cold climates and remote communities.
- Facilitating the use of placebased energy surpluses and development of smart energy management concepts in remote communities.

In all activities that are approved by the NPA programme, there should be an integration of the horizontal criteria. This means that the activities should strive for a performance with low carbon footprint, with equal opportunities for men and women and inclusion of underrepresented groups, including indigenous peoples and other culturally and linguistically distinct groups originating from the NPA area.

The objectives of the programme take into account the "do no significant harm" principle.

- Higher education and research
- SME
- General public (including local communities)

Indicators:

- Organisations cooperating across borders (RCO87)
- Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects (RCO 84)
- Jointly developed solutions (RCO116)
- Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations (RCR 79)
- Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations (RCR 104)





Specific objective 2.2: Promoting climate change adaptation and disaster risk prevention, resilience, taking into account ecosystem based approaches

The vulnerability of the NPA regions and their geographies (sparsely populated costal-, mountain-regions and islands) makes combating climate change and climate change adaptation/resilience major challenges for the area. The specific nature and needs of these areas means it is vital to have input from specialists and local input with in depth knowledge of the unique and sensitive natural environments. The programme will support the transfer of knowledge and experiences between the regions in the programme, and the creation of new transnational networks.

Types of actions to be funded:

 Transfer and development of solutions that facilitate the use of community knowledge and builds local capacity for climate change adaptation, risk prevention and disaster resilience in sparsely populated communities.

In all activities that are approved by the NPA programme, there should be an integration of the horizontal criteria. This means that the activities should strive for a performance with low carbon footprint, with equal opportunities for men and women and inclusion of underrepresented groups, including indigenous peoples and other culturally and linguistically distinct groups originating from the NPA area.

The objectives of the programme take into account the "do no significant harm" principle.

Main target groups:

- Local public authority
- Regional public authority
- National public authority
- Sectoral agency
- Infrastructure and (public) service provider
- Interest groups including NGOs
- Higher education and research
- SME
- International organisation, EEIG
- General public (including local communities)

Indicators:

- Organizations cooperating across borders (RCO 87)
- Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects (RCO 84)
- Jointly developed solutions (RCO 116)
- Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations (RCR 79)
- Solutions taken up or up-scaled by organisations (RCR 104)



Specific objective 2.3: Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy

The circular economy requires new solutions and innovations to transform production processes and change consumer behaviour. Crucially responses need to take into account territorial specificities, such as the impact of peripherality and extreme climates, some areas have recognised challenges in dealing with waste management, where distance and transport is an issue. For example waste is one of many aspects that could be included in actions to create circular economy. Other important aspects are resource efficiency in sectors as bio economy, blue economy, the building sector and infrastructure, food, and byproducts from production.

In remote communities, there are already important strengths in this field, e.g a tradition of self-reliance, reusing and repurposing. Therefore circular, green and bio-economy are already integral parts of the NPA area. Another reason for the importance of these sectors are the high impact of pollution on sensitive environments in the NPA area.

The programme can, for example, support concepts for engaging sparsely populated areas in accessing wider networks and capacities for knowledge transfer and skills development.

Types of actions to be funded:

- Facilitating the transfer and development of solutions that promote resource efficiency, end-of-waste, and a better use of by-products in remote, and sparsely populated communities.
- Facilitating the transfer and development of solutions for community planning for the circular economy in remote, and

Main target groups:

- Local public authority
- Regional public authority
- Sectoral agency
- Infrastructure and (public) service provider
- Interest groups including NGOs
- Higher education and research
- Enterprise, except SME
- SME
- Business support organisation
- International organisation, EEIG
- General public (including local communities)



sparsely populated communities.

In all activities that are approved by the NPA programme, there should be an integration of the horizontal criteria. This means that the activities should strive for a performance with low carbon footprint, with equal opportunities for men and women and inclusion of underrepresented groups, including indigenous peoples and other culturally and linguistically distinct groups originating from the NPA area.

The objectives of the programme take into account the "do no significant harm" principle.

Indicators:

- Pilot actions developed jointly and implemented in projects (RCO 84)
- Organizations cooperating across borders (RCO 87)
- Jointly developed solutions (RCO 116)
- Solutions taken up or upscaled by organisations (RCR 104)
- Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations (RCR 79)

