Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government
Ministria e Ekonomisë
Ministarstvo Ekonomije - Ministry of Economy

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PUBLIC CALL

FOR SUPPORT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES TO INVEST IN RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS - Photovoltaic (PV) System for Generation of Electricity for Self-Consumption

Since 2021, the energy crisis affecting Europe has exacerbated the situation of sustainable electricity supply for the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo. Insufficient domestic energy production capacity, dependence on imports, and unstable electricity prices in the international market have created uncertainties in electricity supply. Such a situation is considered to also hinder the economic development of the Republic of Kosovo, consequently incurring high costs for households and businesses.

The reduction of consumption through the increase of Energy Efficiency (EE) influences the reduction of the demand for electricity, helping households and businesses in reducing electricity bills and improving the security of the supply.

Considering this unstable energy supply situation, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has undertaken concrete measures to address it. In line with Decision [1] No. 29/112, dated 13.12.2022, supplemented by Decision [2] No. 03/128, dated 16.02.2023, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has approved the Action Plan on Mitigating the Immediate Socio-Economic Impact of the Energy Crisis, amounting to seventy-five (75) million euros, as a prerequisite for benefiting financial funds from the European Union (EU) for the Annual IPA Program 2023.

This Plan foresees the implementation of measures with immediate and short-term effects, through direct financial support for families in need and with social disadvantage for the winter period, promotion of energy saving by residential consumers, support of families through increasing energy efficiency in residential units and buildings as well as investments in efficient equipment and renewable energy systems for households and Micro, Small and Medium enterprises.

Based on Measure five (5) of the Action Plan on Mitigating the Immediate Socio-Economic Impact of the Energy Crisis, the Ministry of Economy (ME) announces a Public Call for support of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), especially those in need, to invest in renewable energy systems - Photovoltaic System (PV) for generation of Electricity for Self-Consumption.

[1] https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActsByCategoryInst.aspx?Index=3&InstID=3&CatID=30
[2] https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActsByCategoryInst.aspx?Index=3&InstID=3&CatID=30

1 EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE SUBSIDIZED FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs)

Installation of the photovoltaic (PV) system for generation of electricity

To qualify for a subsidy, your enterprise must be Micro, Small or Medium according to Law No. 04/L-220 on Foreign Investments:

- Micro Enterprise (employ up to nine (9) employees[3]);
- Small Enterprise (employ from ten (10) to forty-nine (49) employees [3]);
- Medium Enterprise (employ from fifty (50) to two hundred and forty-nine (249) employees [3]).

Each applicant is entitled to benefit from the subsidy for only one (1) photovoltaic (PV) system per business, and the system purchased must be new.

[3] The number of employees for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is verified directly by the Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK) for the period January – December 2023.

2 TECHNICAL AND GENERAL CRITERIA

In the table below you can find the application criteria, the technical criteria, the value of the subsidy and additional clarifications for the system to be subsidized.

Table 1.0

SYSTEM	APPLICATION CRITERIA	TECHNICAL CRITERIA OF EQUIPMENT	SUBSIDY VALUE	ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATIONS
Photovoltaic (PV) system for generation of electricity for self-consumption	**Application criteria for Phase I**: a. All MSMEs connected at the 0.4 kV voltage level. b. All MSMEs connected at the 0.4 kV voltage level with reactive energy. c. Have the minimum annual consumption in the last year[4] of 4,000[5] kWh/year. d. The proposed capacity for investment at the time of	**Photovoltaic (PV) modules** a. Photovoltaic (PV) modules must be eligible according to the current IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) or other international valid certifications for the European Union market such as: • ISO – International Standardization Organization • EN – European Standards	For installation capacities **3-9 kWp**, **€250/kWp** and up to **2000.00 €** shall be subsidized. For installation capacities **10 kWp or more, 200 €/kWh** and up to **6000.00 €** shall be subsidized.	

[4] Time period January - December 2023

[5] Clarification: The annual electricity consumption requirement of 4000 kWh/year derives from the fact that projects with installed power below 3 kWp have a higher unit cost, and the savings effect is very low.

	application must be in accordance with the applicable Rule on Prosumers of Renewable Sources. e. The project must be prepared by one of the installation companies registered in Kosovo. f. To have consent from the relevant municipality for the project proposed in the application. g. To have consent for connection to the network from KEDS (from the date of entry into force of the Rule on Prosumers of ERO). h. To have proof that the company does not have any obligation or debt to TAK or is in a tax obligations agreement with TAK.	• IEEE – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers b. The nominal power of the photovoltaic modules is > 250 Wp c. The efficiency of photovoltaic modules under standard test conditions (STC) must not be less than 20%. d. Photovoltaic modules must be guaranteed for at least ten (10) years against failures due to defects and quality of materials. e. Photovoltaic (PV) modules must have linear power degradation of no more than 0.8% per year up to the twenty-fifth (25) year of operation (excluding the first year of operation).	For businesses owned or co-owned by women from **51%** shall be subsidized **€200** additional to total, per business. Ownership and co-ownership are evidenced by the business certificate.	

	Application criteria for Phase II: a. To have authorization from ERO (from the date of entry into force of the Rule on Prosumers of ERO). b. To have the report technical acceptance of the capacity installed by KEDS for electrification.	f. The temperature range must not be lower than -30 ºC up to +50 ºC g. The frame of the photovoltaic (PV) modules must be made of corrosion-resistant materials h. Permissible snow/wind load: not less than 5300 Pa / 2300 Pa **Design of the structure for the assembly of photovoltaic (PV) modules** a. The assembly structure must be designed in such a way as to withstand the wind speed in the areas where the photovoltaic (PV) systems are proposed to be installed. The design of the structure for the assembly of the photovoltaic modules on the roof must be suitable with a safety factor of		

		not less than 1.5. **Inverter** a. Inverter/s must be qualified in accordance with the current IEC or other international certifications valid for the European Union market. b. The inverter must have a warranty of ≥ 5 years. c. Maximum inverter efficiency must not be less than 97% d. The temperature range must not be lower than -20 ºC up to +50 ºC e. Frequency variation range within: 45-55 Hz f. The power factor at the rated power must be greater than or equal to 0.99		

		g. Protection rating (according to IEC 60529): IP 65 h. The inverter must have an internal (built-in) protection system: (i) AC and DC side overcurrent protection (ii) AC overvoltage/undervoltage protection (iii) AC overfrequency/underfrequency protection (iv) Protection against reverse polarity of DC side connection (v) Anti-islanding i. The inverter must be equipped with a display/online application to monitor the data shown below: (i) DC power input (ii) DC voltage input (iii) DC current		

		(iv) AC power output (v) AC voltage output (vi) AC current output **Cables** a. Cables must be qualified in accordance with the current IEC or other international certifications valid for the European Union market. b. The cables must be compatible for photovoltaic (PV) systems capable of withstanding challenging environmental conditions, including high temperatures, UV radiation, rainfall, humidity, impurities, exposure to microorganisms, and voltages according to the latest IEC standards. **Distribution boxes** a. All boxes must be equipped		

		with adequate protective elements, proper functionality, and safety features (including fuses, grounding, etc.). b. The boxes must be impermeable to water, parasites, dust, and should be manufactured of thermoplastic/metallic materials in accordance with IEC 62208, resistant to UV (ultraviolet) rays and fire, and have a minimum protection of IP 65 (outdoor environment) and IP 20 (indoor environment).		

3 HOW TO APPLY FOR SUBSIDY

The subsidy application is divided into two (2) phases and in the two (2) phases the application is made online through the e-Kosova platform.

You must have an individual or business account through which the e-Kosova platform will identify the businesses in which you are an owner or authorized representative. The application can be made by the shareholder/s or the person authorized by the company.

Application steps

Phase I

1. Make sure you meet the application criteria regarding electricity consumption here: https://ekosova.rks-gov.net/484
2. Download the "Appendix 1" form from the e-Kosova platform at the link above and with the help of the installation company fill in and upload the form;
3. Upload the proof from TAK proving that the business does not have any obligation or debt to TAK or is in a tax obligations agreement with TAK.
4. Upload the proof of having the municipal consent from the relevant municipality for the project proposed in the application;
5. Upload the proof of having the Consent for Connection to the network from KEDS (from the date of entry into force of the Rule on Prosumers of ERO);
6. Upload photo of the area where the solar photovoltaic panels will be installed;
7. Business certificate proving that the business is owned or co-owned by women from 51% (it applies only in cases when the business is owned or co-owned by women).

After verification by the commission that the required documentation are in conformity with the criteria, you will be notified that you have been qualified for this phase and can proceed with the installation of the photovoltaic (PV) system for the generation of electricity according to the technical criteria specified in the Call. You will be notified about the results of the application in phase I according to the official deadlines, within ten (10) working days.

You will receive the link for application for the second phase in the email address by which you opened your e-Kosova account.

Phase II

After installing the photovolatic (PV) system for generation of self-consumption electricity, in accordance with the criteria specified in the Call, you must apply for the Phase II through the e-Kosova platform in order to be able to benefit from this subsidy, by uploading the following documents:

1. Fiscal coupon or regular invoice with proof of payment through bank transfer of the purchase of the system ***(the date of purchase must be from the date of the announcement of the Call on 06.02.2024);***
2. Photos of the photovoltaic (PV) system for the generation of electricity for self-consumption installed according to the criteria specified in the Call;
3. The data sheet with the technical specifications of the photovoltaic modules that proves the fulfillment of the criteria for preliminary verification (Item V of Appendix 1);
4. The data sheet with the technical specifications of the inverter that proves the fulfillment of the criteria for preliminary verification (Point V of Appendix 1);
5. Evidence of authorization from ERO (from the date of entry into force of the Rule on Prosumers of ERO);
6. Report of technical acceptance of the capacity installed by KEDS for electrification, according to the legislation in force.
7. Your subsidy agreement will be automatically generated on the e-Kosova platform. This agreement must be downloaded, signed, and uploaded along with the above-mentioned documents.

At this stage, you are required to enter the bank account number of the business, which must be in the name of the business and with any of the licensed banks within the Republic of Kosovo.

After uploading the documents listed above on the e-Kosova online platform, you will receive one (1) automatic notification with the follwing content: "*Your application has been successfully completed. Your application will be evaluated by the relevant Commission of the Ministry of Economy, which will review whether the evidence uploaded on the e-Kosova platform is in conformity with the criteria of this Call. You will be notified of the results of the application according to the official deadlines*".

If your application is evaluated positively by the relevant Commission of the Ministry of Economy (ME), you will be notified through the e-Kosova platform and you will receive the funds of the subsidy in your bank account.

The photovoltaic (PV) system for generation of electricity must be installed and ready for inspection by the time you apply for the second phase.

Application deadline

The application deadline for the first phase is until **31 August 2024.** or until spending the budget allocated for this Call. Applications received in the first phase will be reviewed on the "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED" basis, therefore we encourage you to apply as early as possible.

Meanwhile, the deadline for the second phase is until **31 October 2024.**

Right to appeal

Applicants who consider that their application has not been evaluated correctly by the relevant Committee of the Ministry of Economy (ME), can exercise the right to appeal within the deadline of thirty (30) days from the day of receipt of the notice, in accordance with the Law on General Administrative Procedure (LGAP). The appeal shall be addressed to the Ministry of Economy (ME), as the authority that published the Call to the email address: **komisoni.ankesa@rks-gov.net**

Additional clarifications:

For more information and additional clarification regarding the application phases, please contact us in writting via e-mail:

✉ info.subvencionet@rks-gov.net or alternatively, you can contact the following phone numbers:

☏ 038 200 215 89
☏ 038 200 215 55

From Monday to Friday, starting from: 08:30-12:00 and from 13:00-16:00.

Appendix 1: Application form (*completed with the assistance of the installation company*)

I. Applicant details		
Business Name		
Unique Identification Number (UIN):		
Address of the business where the equipment will be installed:		
Place		
Phone		
E-mail		
The following data to be completed by the installation company		
II. Electro-energetic data		
Customer number (KESCO ID):	_____	☐ The proposed PV project has the consent from KEDS
Supply voltage level:	☐ 0.4 kV Category I (consumers with reactive energy) ☐ 0.4 kV Category II	
Minimum annual consumption in the last year:	☐ > 4,000 kWh	
III. Photovoltaic (PV) system data		
PV system capacity:	_____kWp	
Annual output of the PV system:	_____kWh	
Annual consumption of the facility:	_____kWh	
Total cost of the PV system:	_____Euro	
Specific cost of the PV system:	_____Euro/kWp	
Area covered by the photovoltaic modules:	_____m²	

☐ The proposed PV object has the consent from Municipality ☐ The facility has sufficient roof area for the PV system	
IV. Installer and statement on technical standards	
Installer business name	
Installer business number (UIN)	
E-mail address	
Phone number	
V. Criteria selected for verification:	
Device data:	Criterion required for verification (mark with an X if the criterion is met)
Photovoltaic (PV) modules	☐ The efficiency of photovoltaic modules under standard test conditions (STC) must not be less than 20% ☐ Equipped with the CE conformity marking.
Inverter	☐ Maximum inverter efficiency must not be less than 97% ☐ Equipped with the CE conformity marking.

VI. Minimum technical criteria required: ***(mark with an X if the criterion is met)***

Photovoltaic (PV) modules

☐ Photovoltaic (PV) modules must be eligible according to the current IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) or other international valid certifications for the European Union market such as:

- ISO – International Standardization Organization
- EN – European Standards
- IEEE – Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

☐ The nominal power of the photovoltaic modules is > 250 Wp

☐ Photovoltaic modules must be guaranteed for at least ten (10) years against failures due to defects and quality of materials.

☐ Photovoltaic (PV) modules must have linear power degradation of no more than 0.8% per year up to the twenty-fifth (25) year of operation (excluding the first year of operation).

Inverter

☐ The inverter/s must be qualified in accordance with the current International Electrical Code - IEC or other international certifications valid for the European Union market.

☐ The inverter must have a warranty of ≥ 5 years.

☐ The temperature range must not be lower than -20 ºC up to +50 ºC

☐ Frequency variation range within: 45-55 Hz

☐ The power factor at the rated power must be greater than or equal to 0.99

☐ The power Protection rating (according to IEC 60529): IP 65

☐ The inverter must have an internal (built-in) protection system:

(i) AC and DC side overcurrent protection
(ii) AC overvoltage/undervoltage protection
(iii) AC overfrequency/underfrequency protection
(iv) Protection against reverse polarity of DC

☐ The temperature range must not be lower than -30 ºC up to +50 ºC
☐ The frame of the photovoltaic (PV) modules must be made of corrosion-resistant materials
☐ Permissible snow/wind load: not less than 5300 Pa / 2300 Pa

Design of the structure for the assembly of photovoltaic (PV) modules

☐ The assembly structure must be designed in such a way as to withstand the wind speed in the areas where the photovoltaic (PV) systems are proposed to be installed. The design of the structure for the assembly of the photovoltaic modules on the roof must be suitable with a safety factor of not less than 1.5.

Cables

☐ The power Cables must be qualified in accordance with the current IEC or other international certifications valid for the European Union market.
☐ The cables must be compatible for photovoltaic (PV) systems capable of withstanding challenging environmental conditions, including high temperatures, UV radiation, rainfall, humidity, impurities, exposure to microorganisms, and voltages according to the latest IEC standards.
☐ Equipped with the CE conformity marking.

side connection
(v) Anti-islanding
☐ The inverter must be equipped with a display/online application to monitor the data shown below:
(i) DC power input
(ii) DC voltage input
(iii) DC current
(iv) AC power output
(v) AC voltage output
(vi) AC current output

Distribution boxes

☐ All boxes must be equipped with adequate protective elements, proper functionality, and safety features (including fuses, grounding, etc.).
☐ The boxes must be impermeable to water, parasites, dust, and should be manufactured of thermoplastic/metallic materials in accordance with IEC 62208, resistant to UV (ultraviolet) rays and fire, and have a minimum protection of IP 65 (outdoor environment) and IP 20 (indoor environment).
☐ Equipped with the CE conformity marking.

I declare that the project: **Installation of photovoltaic system (PV) for generation of electricity** is in accordance with the requirements of the ERO's Rule on Prosumers of Renewable Sources and that the photovoltaic system fulfills all Technical	_____ *Name and surname, signature of the responsible person authorized by the installation company and*

Standards according to Call No. 01/2024 dated 06.02.2024.	*stamp.*

Completing this form means authorizing the institution to use the data included herein for the purposes of this Project**!**

***Note**: According to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 299 Defrauding purchasers, "Whoever, with the intent to defraud purchasers, distributes products stamped with written data that does not correspond to the content, type, origin or quality of the product, distributes products whose weight or quality does not correspond to what is regularly expected in such products or distributes products without a stamp indicating the content, type, origin, or quality of the product when such a stamp is required by law shall be punished by a fine or by imprisonment of up to three (3) years".*

First and last name of applicant: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:**_____ **Place:**_____