

## LIFE-BECKON

*Boosting Energy Communities massive deployment by equipping local authorities with comprehensive technical assistance cookboOk, integrated services and capacity building*



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# Financial support programs for EC - Bulgaria

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This document provides an outline of the financial support programs available in Bulgaria to finance energy communities and related projects. **May 2023.**

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## 1. Financial support programs for EC in Bulgaria

With regard to subsidies in Bulgaria, although Renewable Energy Communities (“REC”) and Citizen Energy Communities (“CEC”) have been introduced into Bulgarian law, currently there are no specific public financing schemes available to Energy Communities.

However, some programs for the promotion of renewable energy generation and energy efficiency may be of interest to Energy Communities in Bulgaria, which can be found in the [Ministry of Energy webpage](#).

For example, the **National Support Scheme for Households in the Field of Renewable Energy** is a free roof panel programme for households that provides a 100% grant for hot water panels and a 70% grant for solar panels for electricity up to 10 kWp that substitute inefficient heat sources with solid fuel (wood, coal, etc.). The installations under this programme do not require the obtention of a building permit nor design documentation, which reduces the administrative burden for households. Moreover, photovoltaic systems under this programme may also include systems for storing the electricity produced.

Full financing for solar installations for domestic hot water supply is available, but limited to 1960,83 BGN (approximately, 1000€). With regard to photovoltaic systems, financing is limited to 70%, up to 15.000 BGN (approximately 7700€). This support scheme was established under the Recovery and Resilience Plan of Bulgaria.

This programme is available to all natural persons, whether Bulgarian citizens, citizens of another European Union Country and citizens of third countries with the status of permanent resident in Bulgaria. The dwelling applied for must be the main residence of the applicant.

Another available program is the **Support of New Capacity for Renewable Electricity Generation and Electricity Storage with Installed capacity from 200 kW to 2MW**. This program is aimed only at new capacity for production of solar and wind power energy, coupled with local storage facilities. The grant consists of an investment aid for local electricity storage facilities.

The funding is limited to 35.854.000 BGN (approximately, 18.000.000 €) for a single enterprise, with a maximum intensity of 50% of the eligible costs and up to 1.075.706 BGN (approximately 550.000€) per 1MW of installed capacity of the local storage facilities.

The **Support of New Capacity for Renewable Electricity Generation and Storage of Electricity with installed capacity over 200 kW** is aimed at building 940 MW of renewable generation capacity, in combination with a minimum of 200 MW of local storage facilities for the energy generated. The funding is limited to 35.854.000 BGN (approximately, 18.000.000 €) for a single enterprise, with a maximum intensity of 50% of the eligible costs and up to 743.215 BGN (approximately 380.000€) per 1MW of installed capacity of the local storage facilities. Project proposals can be presented until the 12th June 2024.

Additionally, the **National Grant Programme for the Renovation of Buildings** has also positively impacted the establishment of Energy Communities in Bulgaria. Information on this program can be found in the [Ministry of Regional Development webpage](#). This program, which was developed in two stages and ended in March 2024, aimed at improving the energy performance of residential buildings reaching energy consumption class “B”. As a result of the energy consumption reduction, greenhouse emissions would be reduced but also energy poverty, which would improve the living conditions and quality of the residents in the building. Some Energy Communities were established on the basis of flat owners associations created under the Condominium Management Act<sup>1</sup> with the aim of applying for the National Grant Programme for the Renovation of Buildings, even before RECs and CECs were introduced in Bulgarian Law.

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<sup>1</sup> See [CONDOMINIUM MANAGEMENT LAW, Effective from 01.05.2009](#).