**Funding for citizens’ energy projects by German Federal Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt)**

Besides many other funding activities, the German Federal Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt) is currently providing financial support to sustainable citizens’ energy projects in the Baltic and other CEE countries.

These could be renewable or citizen energy communities ("energokopienas"), collective prosumers or any other collective energy initiatives actively engaging local citizens. Initiators might be, for instance, municipalities, groups of citizens, homeowner associations, other associations, energy cooperatives, NGOs, SMEs etc.

The following activities can be supported (examples):

* **Capacity building measures**
* **Development/implementation of citizens'/neighbourhood energy concepts and projects**
* **Information dissemination, awareness-raising, training, networking activities**
* **Development of new business models** **for citizens’ energy or** **adoption of models** from **Germany** or **other countries**
* **Projects related to** **acceptance of citizens'/community projects** or **participation models**

Pure investment projects are not eligible.

DBU is looking for potential project ideas and initiatives interested in this funding. Project proposals submitted by or together with **small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** are given **special consideration**. Involvement **of a German partner** as **lead applicant** is highly recommended.

Regular funding rate: 50%. Universities can receive up to 100% funding.

Maximum funding: 125.000 EUR (maximum project volume 250,000 EUR)

Project duration: max. 36 months

2 step application procedure(1. project outline 4-5 pages, 2. Full application 20 pages after positive feedback by DBU)

Deadline: preferably 31 August 2022

There is also the possibility to apply for funding of **pre-studies** (100% financed by DBU, average amount: 10,000 EUR). For this type of funding, a German partner is not required.

A presentation on the DBU funding scheme can be found here: <https://drive.boku.ac.at/f/77998cd704424b8b90dd/?dl=1>

A respective audio file can be found here:

<https://drive.boku.ac.at/f/9553145360074bd2b6c5/>

Contact: Dr. Volker Wachendörfer, [v.wachendoerfer@dbu.de](mailto:v.wachendoerfer@dbu.de) and Claudia Domel, [claudia.domel@imw.fraunhofer.de](mailto:claudia.domel@imw.fraunhofer.de)