

Report on bi-lateral meetings with regional/national funding institutions

ESV

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Kommunalkredit	Linz, Upper Austria	13.04.2015

What kind of funding is given
<p>The "Kommunalkredit" operates Austrian-wide public investment support programmes. For street lighting, in principle there is a programme available, which supports investment cost in municipalities. For 2014, the following investment subsidy was given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 Euro/lightpoint (0-40 W) / 50 Euro/lightpoint (> 40 W) - up to 30 % of the investment costs <p>Unfortunately for 2015, a decision to continue the programme has not yet been made.</p> <p>There are also investment programmes available which support (LED) lighting in companies. These are available e.g. for companies which refurbish their outdoor lighting.</p>

Main issues discussed/inputs & information received
<p>The main discussion points were on the continuation of the support programme for municipalities.</p>

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Land OÖ	Linz, Upper Austria	13.04.2015

What kind of funding is given
<p>The Austrian-wide public investment support programmes are accompanied in most cases by a regional support programme, which gives, in addition to the national financial support, a support of up to 20 % of the investment costs (up to 45 % of the national financial support).</p> <p>This support programme is tied to the national programme and is operated by the department of Mr. Haider.</p> <p>Also part of the ECP support programme ("Energie-Contracting-Programm") is financed by this department.</p>

Main issues discussed/inputs & information received
<p>Practical details of how to apply best (when – before/after the investment, which documents needed, etc.) were discussed.</p> <p>Practical details of ECP-programme management (when the support is paid, etc.) were explained.</p>

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Austria Wirtschaftsservice (AWS)	Linz	13.04.2015

What kind of funding is given
<p>The Austrian "Wirtschaftsservice Gesellschaft mbH" (AWS) is a bank institute owned by the national administration (federal ministry of science, research and economy and federal ministry of transport, innovation and technology).</p> <p>By giving loans with low interest rates, financial support and warranties, companies are supported by implementing innovative projects, especially, when capital has to be raised for investment which can not be covered by other financing methods.</p> <p>The AWS operates also a programme for internationalisation of technology (programme "Technologieinternationalisierung") which supports the transfer of R&D results of innovative companies to European and global markets. One central topic is thereby are "Smart Cities".</p>

Main issues discussed/inputs & information received
<p>How municipalities can contribute and profit from the ongoing "Smart Cities" activities.</p>

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Energy Commissioner, Upper Austria	Linz	16.04.2015

What kind of funding is given
<p>The Upper Austrian Energy Contracting Programme was re-launched in April 2015. It supports energy efficiency contracting ("Einspar-Contracting") and renewable energy supply contracting ("Anlagen-Contracting"). Clients can be municipalities, companies or institutions. The programme combines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a subsidy - comprehensive promotion activities (awareness raising, training, events, publications) - advice to both ESCOs and clients on their specific projects <p>For street lighting projects for example, a subsidy of up to 20 % of the relevant investment costs can be received.</p> <p>Programme elements, which are partly new, were discussed, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new threshold for maximum investment (250,000 €) – what does this mean in practice? - minimum investment (50,000 €) – how is this calculated? - maximum duration of 10 years – what does this mean for shorter/longer projects?

Main issues discussed/inputs & information received regarding financing ESCOs
<p>ESCOs and clients (municipalities, companies) have to possibility to get personal advice on financing contracting projects and on how to receive public funding.</p>

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Bank Austria Wien, Department Trade Finance Sales & Services	Telephone meeting	13.05.2015

What kind of funding is given
<p>Bank guarantees for ESCOs.</p> <p>To provide proof of their financial viability (this is needed as a funding requirement for the Upper Austrian "ECP-programme"), ESCOs can use bank guarantees.</p>

Main issues discussed/inputs
<p>2 exemplary bank guarantees for 2 LED street lighting projects in Upper Austria (Sierning, Stadl-Paura, ESCO: Elin) were discussed. Main discussion points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - procedures - issuing of bank guarantees - wording - etc.

Name of the institution	Location	Date of meeting
Land OÖ, Department Economy	Linz	08.01.2015

What kind of funding is given

The Upper Austrian Energy Contracting Programme supports energy efficiency contracting ("Einspar-Contracting") and renewable energy supply contracting ("Anlagen-Contracting"). Clients can be municipalities, companies or institutions.

The new programme is now financed by the departments of economy and of environment.

Main issues discussed/inputs

Main discussion points were programme changes and practical programme procedure, as for example:

- programme procedures, which department will check which support applications
- programme changes (e.g. different maximum investment)
- timeline
- etc.