



A Guide to Grants under the Operational Programme Environment

Based on the amount of financial resources, the Operational Programme Environment (OPE) is the second largest Czech operational programme. Between 2007 and 2013, this programme will offer almost **EUR 5 billion** from the Cohesion Fund and the European Regional Development Fund, and an additional **EUR 300 million** from the National Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic and the state budget. **The Operational Programme's main goal is to protect and improve environmental quality throughout the Czech Republic.**

WHO MAY APPLY FOR GRANTS

Almost anyone may apply for assistance with ecological projects. The programme is open to municipalities and towns, public administration and self-government bodies, research and scientific institutes, legal entities, private citizens and non-profit organisations. For an exact listing of subjects, conditions for submitting grant applications and additional detailed information, please see the **Implementation Document**.



WHEN TO APPLY FOR GRANTS

Your grant application can be only submitted during announced calls for each given area of intervention. Continuously updated preliminary plans for calls and calls currently open are published at www.opzp.cz in the Available Assistance section.

AMOUNT OF SUPPORT

Grants can represent as much as 90 % of a project's total eligible expenses. All projects are required to have public co-financing. Beneficiaries may draw financial assistance throughout the project's implementation based on unpaid invoices issued to suppliers. Assistance is also provided during the project's preparation and application stages. Projects may be limited by minimum cost levels, depending on the type of project.

HOW TO PROCEED IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING A GRANT

For detailed information on obtaining grants, see the **OPE Implementation Document, Guide for Applicants, Guideline of the Ministry of the Environment on submitting applications and providing funds**, and the **Binding Instructions for Applicants**. All documents are available at www.opzp.cz.

ESSENTIAL CONSULTING SERVICES FREE OF CHARGE



+420 800 260 500

Green information line free of charge Operated Mon – Fri from 7.30 am to 4.00 pm
Please feel free to contact us at dotazy@sfzp.cz



www.opzp.cz

OPE AREAS OF INTERVENTION ARE DIVIDED INTO EIGHT PRIORITY AXES

1 Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and Reduction of Flood Risks

To reduce the pollution of ground and underground water, improve the quality and supply of drinking water and reduce flood risks.

- 1.1 The reduction of water pollution
- 1.2 Drinking Water Quality Improvement
- 1.3 The reduction of flood risks



2 Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions

To improve air quality and reduce emissions with emphasis placed on using new, environmentally friendly ways of energy production and energy savings.

- 2.1 The improvement of air quality
- 2.2 The reduction of emissions

3 The Sustainable Use of Energy Sources

To use energy sources in a sustainable manner and to promote energy savings. To use renewable energy sources for generating electricity and producing heat and to use waste heat more efficiently.

- 3.1 The construction of new facilities and the modernisation of the existing facilities with the aim to increase the use of renewable energy sources for heat generation, electric energy generation and for combined heat and electric energy generation
- 3.2 The realisation of energy savings and the use of waste heat in the non-business carrying sector

4 The Improvement of Waste Management and the Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens

To improve waste management, to reduce waste production and to rehabilitate old ecological burdens.

- 4.1 The improvement of waste management
- 4.2 The rehabilitation of old ecological burdens

5 The Limiting of Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks

To reduce industrial pollution with emphasis placed on the prevention, research and monitoring of pollutants.

- 5.1 Limiting industrial pollution

6 Improving the State of Nature and the Landscape

To eliminate or mitigate the decrease in biodiversity, to protect endangered plant and animal species, to provide ecological stability of the landscape and to form and preserve natural elements in settled areas.

- 6.1 The implementation and management of the NATURA 2000 network
- 6.2 Support for biodiversity
- 6.3 Recovery of landscape features
- 6.4 Optimisation of the landscape water regime
- 6.5 Support for the regeneration of urbanised landscape
- 6.6 The prevention of landslides and rock avalanches, the monitoring of geofactors and the impacts of mining and extraction activities, and the assessment of non-renewable natural sources, including groundwater resources

7 The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness

To build a broad network of environmental training centres and information centres focused on environmental protection.

- 7.1 The development of infrastructure for the implementation of environmental education programmes, the provision of environmental consultancy and environmental information

8 Technical Assistance

To support the efficient management and monitoring of the implementation of the Operational Programme Environment.

SHARE OF THE INDIVIDUAL PRIORITY AXES OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ENVIRONMENT

More than EUR 5 billion is available in the OPE from European funds for projects aimed at improving the state of the environment in the Czech Republic.

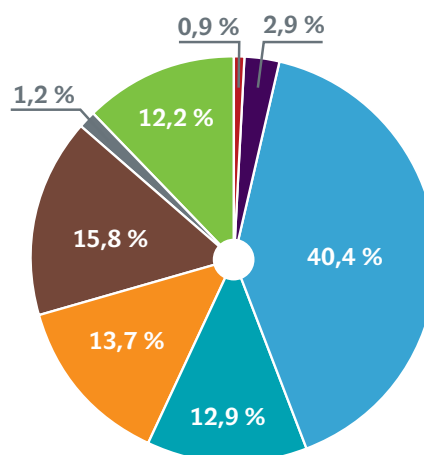


TABLE OF PRIORITY AXES, AREAS OF INTERVENTION, AND QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

Area of intervention →

Priority axis ↓

		Municipalities and towns	Contributory institut. and organis. components of municipalities and towns	Municipality unions	Regions	Contributory institutions and organisational components of regions	National enterprises, organisations	Organisational components and contributory institutions of the state	Public research institutions (PRI)	Non-profit organisations	Other non-entrepreneurial entities with more than 50% of their property owned by municipalities or other public entities, including PRI	Business organisations owned by municipalities or public entities #	Business organisations with less than 67 % of their property owned by municipalities or other public entities	Entrepreneurial entities – individuals	Individuals – non-entrepreneurs
1	1.1 – The reduction of water pollution	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	
	1.2 – Drinking water quality improvement	•	•	•								•			
	1.3 – The reduction of flood risks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•				
2	2.1 – The improvement of air quality	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	
	2.2 – The reduction of emissions	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	
3	3.1 – The construction of new facilities and modernisation of existing facilities with the aim to increase the use of renewable energy sources for heat generation, electric energy generation and for combined heat and electric energy generation	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•			
	3.2 – The realisation of energy savings and the use of waste heat in the non-business carrying sector	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		•			
4	4.1 – The improvement of waste management	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	
	4.2 – The rehabilitation of old ecological burdens	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	
5	5.1 – Limiting industrial pollution	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	
6	6.1 – The implementation and management of the NATURA 2000 network				•			•*							
	6.2 – Support for biodiversity	•	•	•	•	•	•+	•	•	•	•	•			•
	6.3 – Recovery of landscape features	•	•	•	•	•	•+	•	•	•	•	•			•
	6.4 – Optimisation of the landscape water regime	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•
	6.5 – Support for the regeneration of urbanised landscape	•	•	•	•	•	•+	•	•	•	•	•			
	6.6 – The prevention of landslides and rock avalanches, the monitoring of geofactors and the impacts of mining and extraction activities, and the assessment of non-renewable natural sources, including groundwater resources	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•						
7	7.1 – The development of infrastructure for the implementation of environmental education programmes, the provision of environmental consultancy and environmental information	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•				

Notes: # The category of municipality partnerships or public entities includes:

- Partnerships with property wholly owned by municipalities or other public entities
- Partnerships with more than 67 % of their property owned by municipalities or other public entities
- * National park administrations
- + Legal entities to whom the management of state-owned forests has been entrusted

SUPPORTED PROJECT TYPES AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN INDIVIDUAL OPE PRIORITY AXES

Priority axis	Types of projects and activities
1 The Improvement of Water Management Infrastructure and the Reduction of Flood Risks	The reduction of water pollution, for example, from municipal and industrial sources, by implementation of the construction and modernisation of waste water treatment plants and sewer systems
	Projects to improve drinking water quality, such as the construction and modernisation of drinking water treatment plants and distribution networks
	Flood protection projects – the construction and modernisation of forecast systems for the flood information service, river bed adaptations, the construction of dry polders
	The construction of facilities designated for the treatment and decontamination of industrial waste water
	The construction and support of complex monitoring systems and systems used to determine the condition of ground and underground water, including monitoring equipment for operators
	The construction, modernisation and intensification of water treatment plants and drinking water sources supplying more than 2 000 inhabitants
2 The Improvement of Air Quality and Reduction of Emissions	Reducing the emission of particulates and harmful substances into the air by planting green buffer zones to separate residential areas from industrial buildings
	The purchase of environmentally friendly combustion equipment
3 The Sustainable Use of Energy Sources	The construction and modernisation of facilities that use renewable energy sources – the construction of wind and solar power plants, biomass power plants, the modernisation of boiler facilities, the installation of cogeneration equipment
	The realisation of energy savings using waste heat, including insulating buildings, replacing non energy-friendly windows, etc.
	The installation of photovoltaic systems for electric energy generation
	The construction and modernisation of small hydroelectric power plants, biomass burning power plants (solid, gaseous or liquid)
	The construction of wind and geothermal power plants
4 The Improvement of Waste Management and the Rehabilitation of Old Ecological Burdens	The construction of new collection yards, waste sorting facilities, waste separation and recycling centres, the use of biodegradable municipal waste, the construction of new composting facilities, etc.
	The reclamation and removal of old dumps
	The removal of old ecological burdens from the landscape
	Survey of polluted sites from the perspective of integrated transparency of such places; the assessment and maintenance of extremely polluted sites
5 The Limiting of Industrial Pollution and Environmental Risks	Projects to increase the population's awareness of air pollution issues from industrial sources
	The interconnection of information systems on environmental pollution and the making of such information accessible through the Internet
	The creation of user-friendly electronic applications to satisfy obligations to report, approve and other legislative-based obligations in connection with environmental pollution and/or the prevention of industrial pollution
6 Improving the State of Nature and the Landscape	Projects focused on the management of protected areas
	The implementation of individual elements of territorial ecological stability systems – the planting of preserves, windbreaks, reduction of wind and water erosion, establishing and revitalising residential green belts.
	Ensuring the management of protected areas
	Measures to provide protection against water and wind erosion, and reducing the negative impacts of ground water runoff
	Support of Natura 2000 sites, including the monitoring of specially protected areas, selected territories within the Natura 2000 network, and biodiversity
	Stabilization or the maintenance of landslides and rock massifs which, due to their negative manifestations impacts and immediate or imminent threat, pose a threat to the lives, health and property of citizens
7 The Development of Infrastructure for Environmental Education, Consultancy and Awareness	The construction and modernisation of environmental training centres and consulting offices
	Improving the technology and material equipment of environmental training centres
	Creating training aids and materials for environmental education