1. The EU-TR Climate Change Grant Program (CCGP)

Call ID: EuropeAid/182996/ID/ACT/TR - EU-TÜRKIYE CLIMATE CHANGE GRANT PROGRAMME (EU-TR CCGP)

The EU-TR Climate Change Grant Program (CCGP) aims to support climate adaptation and mitigation efforts across local and regional levels in Turkey. The program is designed to enhance local capacities in climate action, particularly through projects that align with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and EU climate policies. By targeting key stakeholders, including local authorities, NGOs, research institutions, and community organizations, the CCGP promotes a multi-level governance approach to climate resilience and carbon reduction.

1. Key Objectives and Priorities

The CCGP's main goal is to increase local climate adaptation and mitigation actions through:

- Supporting urban low-carbon development and resilience strategies.
- Directly contributing to Turkey's National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action Plans (2024-2030).
- Fostering public awareness and community involvement in climate action.

Projects must address at least one priority area, with a focus on enhancing communication and public engagement in climate issues.

2. Funding and Financial Provisions

- **Total Budget**: EUR 14.7 million allocated for this call.
- **Grant Amounts**: Between EUR 250,000 and EUR 750,000, covering 50% to 90% of eligible project costs.
- **Co-financing Requirement**: Applicants must cover remaining costs, which cannot originate from other EU sources.

3. Eligibility Criteria

Eligible entities include:

- Local authorities such as municipalities, regional directorates, and development agencies.
- Universities and research centers.

• NGOs, cooperatives, and other non-profit organizations. Projects must take place in Turkey, though some international activities (e.g., conferences, study tours) may be included if they directly support project objectives.

4. Consortium Requirements

Applicants must form a consortium for their application, with at least one co-applicant. The consortium should ideally include a mix of municipalities, NGOs, and/or other institutions for comprehensive coverage of expertise and stakeholder engagement. A single municipality alone does not qualify as a consortium; at least one additional co-applicant, such as an NGO or research institution, is required to fulfill the partnership criteria.

5. Eligible and Ineligible Actions

Projects should focus on tangible climate adaptation and mitigation activities, such as:

- Resilient infrastructure development, sustainable urban planning, and disaster risk management.
- Energy efficiency, low-emission transport, waste management, and sustainable agriculture pilot initiatives.

Duration: The initial planned duration of an action may not be lower than 12 months nor exceed 24 months.

Sectors or Themes: Sectors or themes can be related to both mitigation and adaptation as follows:

- Sectors for Adaptation to Climate Change: Urban (planning, infrastructure), climate related disaster risk management, transport, water resources management, agriculture and fisheries/livestock, and food security, ecosystem services, biodiversity and forestry, tourism, cultural heritage, energy, industry and other relevant sectors.
- Sectors for Climate Change Mitigation: Energy, industry, agriculture, transport, waste, buildings, Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) and other relevant sectors.
- Themes: Climate change adaptation and/or mitigation.

Types of Action:

The actions must focus on <u>at least one of the priorities stated in section 1.2 and must</u> include a component (set of activities) on strengthening the communication between stakeholders and "extending the knowledge base within the society". Priorities:

- in line with the priorities of the existing <u>national adaptation</u> and <u>mitigation action</u> plans between 2024- 2030,
- promoting resilient and low-carbon cities and sectors,

• implementing adaptation and/or mitigation actions in line with existing local or national climate strategies.

Examples of ACTIONS:

- Implementation of climate change adaptation and/or mitigation actions,
- Implementation of climate change adaptation and/or mitigation actions included in the action plans on national and local climate change,
- Piloting demonstrative actions in the field of climate change adaptation and/or mitigation,
- Implementing actions to reduce vulnerabilities and supply the necessary infrastructure for management of disasters caused by climate change,
- Implementing actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
- Implementing actions to make cities more resilient to the effects of climate change,
- Mainstreaming climate change adaptation and/or mitigation into local and sectoral actions,
- Dissemination of best adaptation and/or mitigation practices in collaboration with organizations and cities within Türkiye and/or the EU,
- Developing and/or implementing technology and innovative tools for climate change adaptation and/or mitigation action,
- Promoting community-based actions in adaptation and/or mitigation to climate change,
- Implementation of R&D and scientific studies for climate change adaptation and/or mitigation action in relevant sectors.

Projects falling solely under certain categories are not eligible, including:

- Preparing an LCCAP and SECAP,
- Actions concerned solely with construction of solar or wind powered plants,
- Actions concerned solely with building of bicycle paths,
- Actions focusing solely on awareness raising and/or extending the knowledge base within the society,
- Actions concerned only or mainly with individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences and congresses,
- Actions concerned only or mainly with individual scholarships for studies or training courses,
- One-off actions such as conferences, round tables, seminars or similar events. These actions can only be funded if they form part of a wider project. For this purpose, preparatory activities for a conference and the publication of proceedings do not in themselves constitute such a wider project.
- Actions for which the applicant is already receiving funding e.g. from the governmental budget, other community programmes or other funds,
- Actions started before the signing of the contract with the contracting authority,
- Actions consisting solely of studies, feasibility studies (unless part of a broader project),

- Commercial activities,
- Actions supporting political parties,
- Financial support activities (i.e. the use of the grant to make further grants (financial or in-kind) or loans to other organisations or individuals such as for those who are establishing their businesses),
- Actions supporting establishment or activities of private or public enterprises, and profiterning activities,
- Social service actions such as provision of food, clothing, health and education fees.

6. Eligible Expenditures

The CCGP allows spending in several specific categories, as long as these costs directly relate to the project's goals and align with grant guidelines:

- **Subcontracting Activities**: Funds may cover external contracts for specialized services that contribute to the project's objectives.
- **Equipment Purchases**: Eligible equipment directly used for project implementation (e.g., measurement tools, software, and IT equipment).
- **Personnel Costs**: Wages for staff dedicated to project activities, in line with applicable employment laws.
- **Travel and Subsistence Costs:** Costs for project-related travel and accommodation.
- **Indirect Costs**: A flat-rate covering administrative expenses (up to 7% of eligible direct costs).

By covering these eligible expenses, the CCGP ensures that project resources are directed toward high-impact, sustainable climate actions in Turkey.