Renewable energy policy database and support – RES-LEGAL EUROPE

National profile: Estonia

Client: DG Energy

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Estonia – summary text

In Estonia, electricity from renewable sources is mainly promoted through a premium tariff. In addition, investment supports are available for specific types of renewable energy production technologies. To encourage the use of renewable energy sources for heating, investment supports are made available for the construction of CHP plants, as well as for private consumers. In transport, the use of renewable energies is currently mainly encouraged through a support scheme to promote the purchasing of electric cars that use power produced from renewable energy sources. A measure for supporting biomethane in the transport sector has been adopted recently.

Access of electricity from renewable energy sources to the electricity grid is granted based on the principle of non-discrimination. The grid operator is obliged to develop the grid to guarantee grid services for all electricity producers and to be able to connect further electricity plants to the grid. The connection of a heat generation plant to the grid is auction based and follows the principle of non-discrimination.

Additionally, there are a number of investment support schemes available to promote the development, installation and use of RES installations. 2014-2020 subsidy period's general measures have been published, however certain subsidy conditions are being currently developed. Total amount of support distributed to renewable energy and energy efficiency related projects during period 2014-2020 will be over € 490 million

RES-E support schemes

Summary of support schemes

Overview	In the Republic of Estonia, renewable energy is promoted mainly through a premium tariff. In addition, investments supports are available for certain types of renewable energy production technologies.
Summary of support system	**Premium tariff.** The operators of renewable energy systems may sell the electricity produced on the free market and receive a bonus on top of the market price. **Investment supports** are granted to develop the technology and infrastructure necessary for the production of energy from renewable sources.
Technologies	**Premium tariff** is in general applicable to all renewable electricity generation technologies. **Investment supports** are granted: • to (re)construct the CHP plants and infrastructure related to it, • to develop the technology necessary for processing and producing energy from biomass, • to develop the energy production from wind.
Statutory provisions	• (ELTS (Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 – Electricity Market Act) • Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies (Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 – Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of Renewable Energy Sources for Power Production • Investment Support for the Production of Bioenergy (Bioenergia tootmise investeeringutoetuse saamise nõuded, toetuse taotlemise ja taotluse menetlemise täpsem kord RT I 2010, 50, 311 - Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for the Production of Bioenergy) • Investment Support for Wind Energy Producers(Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Tuult energiaallikana kasutava elektritootja investeeringute toetus" tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 78, 596 – Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support forWind Energy Producers

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source (original language)	Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ELTS)	Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400	Bioenergia tootmise investeeringutoetuse saamise nõuded, toetuse taotlemise ja taotluse menetlemise täpsem kord RT I 2010, 50, 311	Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Tuult energiaallikana kasutava elektritootja investeeringute toetus" tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 78, 596
Full name				
Name (English)	Electricity Market Act	Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of Renewable Energy Sources for Power Production.	Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for the Production of Energy from Biomass.	Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for Wind Energy Producers
Abbreviated form	ELTS	Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies.	Investment Support for the Production of Bioenergy	Investment Support for Wind Energy Producers
Entry into force	01.07.2003	03.04.2009	26.07.2010	23.10.2010
Last amended on	01.09.2015	12.11.2012	07.09.2012	04.02.2013
Future amendments				
Purpose	Regulating the energy market.	Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU structural funds in the field of	Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU agricultural funds for investment to	Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of investment support for

		renewable energy.	biomass energy production.	wind energy producers.
Relevance for renewable energy	The Act regulates the promotion of renewable energy, its connection and access to the grid, the expansion of the grid and the distribution of the costs arising from this support system. It equally regulates the criteria for eligibility and the amount of support specific to each RES generation technology.	The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production.	The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility and the procedure concerning investments to promote the wider use of biomass energy in power production by farmers.	The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility and the procedure concerning investments available for wind energy plants.
Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/130062015043?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/109112012011?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/104092012002?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/101022013004?leiaKehtiv
Link to full text of legal source (English)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/Riigikogu/act/503072015001/consolide			

Further information

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Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus (KIK) – Environmental Investment Centre	http://www.kik.ee/en		+372 627 41 71	info@kik.ee
Tartu Ülikool (UT) - University of Tartu	http://www.ut.ee/en	Dr. Ain Kull	+372 737 58 26	ain.kull@ut.ee
Eesti Konkurentsiamet (KA) – Estonian Competition Authority	http://www.konkurentsiamet.ee/?lang=en	Külli Haab	+372 66 72 400	kylli.haab@konkurentsiamet.ee

Support schemes

Subsidy I (Investment support for the reconstruction of RES CHP plants)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies	
Contact Authority	Environmental Investment Centre	
Summary	The EU Regional Development Funds and state funds are used to support investments to infrastructure and technology to enhance the production of energy from renewable sources. Through this scheme, investment supports are made available for the construction of RES CHP plants and for the reconstruction of boiler-houses and necessary infrastructure to make them operational for renewable energies.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	The investment supports are available: • for the construction and renovation of RES CHP plants, including the necessary infrastructure for connecting the plant to the grid • for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies • for raising the energy efficiency of the district heating networks, including the construction of new connection grids (§ 5 par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions). Support cannot be allocated: • to the (re)construction CHP plants with a capacity exceeding 2MW outside of Estonian islands, • to boiler-houses with a capacity exceeding 4 MW • to projects with a total budget higher than € 50 million (§ 5 par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions). The allocation of the support is round-based.

	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	Eligible
	Biogas	Eligible
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	Eligible
Amount	Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies is between € 32,000 and 3.2 million depending on the action supported (§ 9 par.1-2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act).	
Addressees	Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs and foundations who are providers or retailers of district heating services in the region (§ 10 par.1Investment Eligibility Conditions Act).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	Procedure concerning the investment supports allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is specified in § 10 and § 11 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act. The maximum duration of the project is 48 months and it has to end no later than by the 31st of August 2015 (§ 7 par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act).

	Competent authority	The competent authority is the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre.
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	The funds are made available through the European Union Structural Funds.
	Distribution mechanism	

Subsidy II (Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy	
Contact Authority	http://www.pria.ee/en/	
Summary	Through this measure, investments are available to support farmers in creating the necessary conditions for processing, production and consumption of energy from biomass.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	
	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	The investment supports for the use of bio energy by farmers are available: • for the growing of an energy culture, • for processing of biomass and for the production of heat,

		electricity and fuel from biomass (In case of investment for the production of energy from biomass, the energy must be consumed by the farmer for business or personal means), • support to the construction infrastructure necessary for the two abovementioned points (§ 5 par.1, 2 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy).
Amount	The investment supports for farmers for the use of bioenergy covers 40% of the eligible investment costs (in certain cases up to 60% of the eligible costs). The total amount of support available per applicant is € 512,000 (§ 8 par.1-8 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy).	
Addressees	The investment supports for the use of bioenergy is addressed to entrepreneurs who got at least 50% of their profit share from the processing and sales of agricultural products (§ 2 par.1 Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	The procedure and requirements concerning the investment supports for the use of bio energy are specified in § 9 and § 10 of the Investment Support for the Production of Bio Energy Act. The allocation of support is round-based; farmers complying with the eligibility criteria are expected to send their application to the Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board. The dead-lines for applications have to be previously made public in the Official Announcements section.
	Competent authority	Competent authority is the Ministry of Rural Affairs in cooperation with the Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board.
Flexibility mechanism		

Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	The measure is funded through the resources from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).
	Distribution mechanism	

Subsidy III (Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy	
Contact Authority	http://www.kik.ee/en	
Summary	The EU Regional Development Funds and state funds are used to support investments to infrastructure and technology to enhance the production of energy from renewable sources. With this support measure, investments are available for wind energy production technologies.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	
	Wind energy	Eligible.
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	
Amount	The investment support allocated for the producers of wind energy is approximately between € 3.2 million and 20 million depending from the scope of the project (§ 8 Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy Act).	

Addressees	The investment support allocated for the investment in wind energy production technology is addressed to wind energy producers.	
Procedure	**Process flow**	The allocation of funds is round-based, the granting of the investment is decided on the basis of the application submitted. The call for applications is published at least 60 days before the application deadline in a nationwide newspaper. The whole amount of support granted for each round is decided by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications (§ 9 Investment Support for the Producers of Wind Energy)
	Competent authority	The competent authority is the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre.
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	The program is financed as a part of the Green Investment Scheme by the resources the government obtained through the sales of the Assigned Amount Units.
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	

	Distribution mechanism	

Premium tariff

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Electricity Market Act	
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en	
Summary	Where an electricity producer sells electricity on the free market and exports it to the electricity grid, the transmission system operator shall pay a bonus on top of the selling price (§ 59 par. 1, 2 ELTS). However, as the renewable energy sector development has been faster than initially foreseen and with the currently applicable support system Estonia is expected to exceed its foreseen targets for 2020, the Government is currently in the process of reforming the system. The draft of the new legislation is currently being reviewed and coordinated by the Ministries.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	All renewable electricity generation technologies are eligible; however, for some technologies eligibility is subject to compliance with certain requirements (§ 59.1 par. 2 ELTS). Electricity produced for the power plants' own use is not eligible for support (§ 59.1 par.2.5 ELTS).
	Wind energy	Eligible with the following restrictions: • The tariff scheme will be suspended for the current calendar year as soon as a total of 600 GWh of electricity from wind energy has already been supported. The amount of support available for calendar year is € 76,694,000 (§ 59.1 par. 5, 6 ELTS). • Electricity generated by a wind power plant is not eligible if

		the plant operator has received other investment subsidies from the state for the same plant (§ 59.1 par. 2.3 ELTS).
	Solar energy	Eligible.
	Geothermal energy	Eligible.
	Biogas	Eligible.
	Hydro-power	Eligible.
	Biomass	Eligible under the following condition: The electricity must be generated by high-efficiency CHP plants (§ 59 par. 1.2 § 108 par. 1.2 ELTS). Electricity generated by conventional thermal power stations is not eligible (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS).
Amount	**General information**	The bonus amounts to 5.37 €ct per kilowatt hour and does not differ for the individual technologies (§ 59 par. 2 no. 1 ELTS). However, CHP plants with a production capacity below 10 MW using waste, peat or oil-shale retorting gas are eligible for a tariff amounting to 3.2 €ct per kilowatt hour (§ 59 par.2 no. 2 ELTS).
	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	

	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	
Degression	**General information**	Statutory law does not provide for an adjustment mechanism.
	Wind energy	
	Solar energy	
	Geothermal energy	
	Biogas	
	Hydro-power	
	Biomass	
Cap	The amount of electricity from wind energy to be supported is limited to a total of 600 GWh per calendar year. The whole amount of support available for one year is € 76,694,000 (§ 59.1 par. 5, 6 ELTS).	
Eligibility period	Eligibility to the bonus system is limited to a maximum of 12 years from the date of commissioning (§ 108 par. 1 ELTS). The commissioning date of a plant or system is the day on which it reaches 80% of its nominal capacity for the first time (§ 108 par. 3 ELTS).	
Addressees	**Entitled party:** The persons entitled are the energy producers (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS). **Obligated party:** The person obligated is the transmission grid operator (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS).	

Procedure	**Process flow**	Plant operators are statutorily entitled against the transmission system operator to the payment of a guaranteed bonus for every kilowatt hour of electricity produced (§ 59 par. 1 ELTS). The transmission system operator shall pay the support to electricity producers by the 21st of each month (§ 59.2 par.9 ELTS).
	Competent authority	No authority is responsible for implementing the bonus scheme as the legal framework established by the ELTS applies to private individuals, system operators and grid operators and not to authorities. **Obligation to inform.** By the 5th of each month the electricity producers must provide the transmission system operator with the data concerning the amount of electricity produced from renewable energies/CHP plants that were sold using the Premium tariff (§ 58 par 3).
Flexibility Mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Consumers	In the end, the costs arising from the premium tariff system are borne by the consumers, who are obliged to pay an additional renewable energy fee as part of their electricity bill. (§ 59.2 par. 1 ELTS).
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	

	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	Every 1st of December, the transmission grid operator shall publish an estimate of the costs of the bonus scheme on its webpage. This estimate is the basis on which the transmission grid operator calculates the costs for the year to come. These costs are proportionally added to every single kilowatt hour of grid services and grid use. Thus, the price for grid services increases and the costs can be passed on to the consumers, who pay for the grid services (§ 59.2 par. 1-8 ELTS).

RES-E grid issues

Overview

Overview of grid issues	In Estonia, access of renewable energy plants to the grid is subject to the general legislation on energy. Electricity from renewable sources is not given priority. Thus, plant operators are entitled against the grid operator to the connection of their plants to the grid and the transmission of electricity according to non-discriminatory criteria. Furthermore, the grid operator is obliged to upgrade his grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant to the grid. The costs of such an upgrade shall be borne by the operator of the plant in question.
Connection to the grid	On request, the grid operator is obliged to the plant operator to connect plants within his area of responsibility as soon as they comply with the technical requirements. The connection of plants shall be based on non-discriminatory criteria. The costs arising from the connection of a plant to the grid are borne by the plant operator.
Use of the grid	The grid operator is statutorily obligated to transmit via his grid the electricity generated and sold by the plant operators on the basis of non-discriminatory criteria. The grid use costs are borne by the electricity buyer.
Grid expansion	The grid operator is statutorily obliged to expand the grid within his area of responsibility to ensure that it meets the required standards. Moreover, a plant operator may demand that the grid operator upgrade the grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant. The costs of such an upgrade shall be borne by the operator of the plant in question.
Statutory provisions	• ELTS (Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ES) – Electricity Market Act) • Grid Code (Võrgueeskiri RT I 2003, 49, 347 – grid code) • Quality Requirements for Grid Services (Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded ja võrgutasude vähendamise tingimused

	kvaliteedinõuete rikkumise korral RT I, 29.12.2010, 47 – quality requirements for grid services)

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source **(original language)**	Elektrituruseadus RT I 2003, 25, 153 (ES)	Võrgueeskiri RT I 2003, 49, 347	Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded RT I, 29.12.2010, 47
Full name			Võrguteenuste kvaliteedinõuded ja võrgutasude vähendamise tingimused kvaliteedinõuete rikkumise korral
Name (English)	Electricity Market Act	Grid Code	Quality Requirements for Grid Services
Abbreviated form	ELTS	Grid Code	Quality Requirements for Grid Services
Entry into force	01.07.2003	01.07.2003	17.04.2005
Last amended on	01.09.2015	14.08.2015	
Future amendments			
Purpose	Regulating the energy market.	Regulating the technical requirements for the connection of plants to the grid and ensuring grid security.	Regulating the quality requirements for grid services, putting in place the conditions for reduction of grid fees in case of violation of these requirements.
Relevance for renewable energy	The Act regulates the promotion of renewable energy, its connection and	The Grid Code sets out the requirements for the connection of renewable energy	The quality requirements for grid services apply equally in case of renewable energy

	access to the grid, the expansion of the grid and the distribution of the costs arising from this support system.	plants to the grid.	plants.
Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/130062015043?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/111082015004	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/113062014013
Link to full text of legal source (English)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/Riigikogu/act/503072015001/consolide	Please note: The English translation dates from 01.01.2011 and does therefore not take into account the latest amendments. https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/VV/reg/511052016001/consolide	

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
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Tartu Ülikool (UT) - University of Tartu	http://www.ut.ee/en	Dr. Ain Kull	+372 737 58 26	ain.kull@ut.ee
EleringAS– Transmission system operator	http://elering.ee/en/		+372 715 1222	info@elering.ee
Estonian Wind Power Association (EWPA)	http://www.tuuleenergia.ee/en/		+372 6 396 625	info@tuuleenergia.ee

Grid issues

Connection to the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	• ELTS • Grid Code • Quality Requirements for Grid Services	
Contact Authority	Transmission System Operator is Elering AShttp://elering.ee/en/), Distribution Network Operator is Elektrilevi OÜ https://www.elektrilevi.ee/en/avaleht	
Overview	The grid operator is obliged to the plant operators to connect plants within its area of responsibility on request and on the basis of non-discriminatory criteria. Moreover, it is obliged to establish a connection as soon as the technical and legal requirements are met (§ 65 par. 1 no. 1 ELTS). The costs of connecting a plant to the grid are borne by the plant operator (§ 71 par. 1 no 1 ELTS). If the grid operator violates its obligation to connect plants they shall pay a fine (§ 101 ELTS). The grid operator is obliged to the plant operators to guarantee certain quality requirements, in case of failure, the grid fees shall be lowered (§ 65 par. 5 ELTS, specified in Quality Requirements for Grid Services).	
Procedure	**Procedure**	According to the Grid Code, the following steps must be taken: • The plant operator may ask the system operator for a pre-survey containing the technical conditions and approximate costs of connecting the plant to the grid. This non-binding technical and economic consultation aims at providing the plant operator with the possible scenarios and time-tables of the access process. • Application for connection and submission of other relevant documents containing technical characteristics and data of the plant (§ 32 par. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: The transmission grid operator must take the

		corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection (§ 18 par. 1 no. 1 Grid Code). • For wind energy plants: Concerning the electrical part of the wind farm the grid operator must take the corresponding decision within 30 days after receipt of the application for connection, in exceptional cases it might take up to 60 days (§ 18 par. 1 no. 2 Grid Code). • If necessary, the transmission grid operator will communicate the flaws/missing parts in the application to the plant operator within 10 days of the receipt of the application. After this the plant operator has 30 days to eliminate the existing errors and/or complement the application. • Offer to conclude a connection agreement within 30 days (for plants connected to the distribution grid) or within 90 days (for plants connected to the transmission grid) after receipt of the application (§ 32 par. 7 Grid Code). • The offer must be accepted within 60 days (§ 32 par. 8, 9 Grid Code). • Grid upgrade if capacity is insufficient. (§ 66 par. 1 ELTS) • The plant is connected and electricity is exported to the grid. • For wind energy plants: According to the transmission grid operator, wind farms are tested for their effect on the transmission grid by the operator of the wind farm; the test results are assessed by the transmission grid operator. • For wind energy plants: According to the transmission grid operator, wind farms must obtain his final authorisation. The technical requirements for connection are specified in the Grid Code. Small-scale plants (capacity <200 kW) must follow a less complex procedure (§ 32.2 Grid Code):

		• Application for connection (§ 32 par. 1 Grid Code). • Offer to conclude an agreement on connection to the distribution grid within 30 days after receipt of the application (for plants connected to the distribution grid) or within 90 days (for plants connected to the transmission grid) after receipt of the application (§ 32 par. 7 Grid Code). The offer must be accepted within 60 days (§ 32 par. 8, 9 Grid Code). • After the conclusion of the agreement in case when the connection affects the connection capacity of the small-scale plant the transmission grid operator shall make additional capacity available (§ 32.2 par.2 Grid Code). • Grid upgrade if capacity is insufficient. • The plant is connected and electricity is exported to the grid. RES Plants with a capacity of < 15 kW are not required to have an approval from the transmission grid operator (§ 32.2 par. 3 Grid Code).
	Deadlines	Apart from the deadlines related to the connection procedure, the following time limits must be respected: • The first payment is due in 60 days from the signing of the agreement and has to cover 20% of the overall costs. • The second payment is due in 20 days after the procurement for finding a constructor has been concluded and amount to 50% of the overall costs. • The final payment is due in 45 days after the finalization of the connection and covers the rest of the occurred real costs. (§ 32 par. 10 Grid Code) If grid connection is not established within three years after completion of the connection point, the connection agreement ceases to be valid (§ 32 par. 12 Grid Code).

	Obligation to inform	The information to be provided by the plant operator is specified in § 32 par. 1 and 2 of the Grid Code. The grid operator's relevant obligations are brought out in § 32 par. 3 of the Grid Code. The exchange of information between the plant operator and the grid operator is performed through the data exchange platform (§ 45.1 Grid Code). The grid operator must publish the technical conditions and the applying fees for the connection to the grid on its website (§ 70 par. 3, 4 ELTS). Once the connection to the grid has been established, the grid operator must provide information concerning the details of the connection on its website (§ 32 par. 14 Grid Code).
Priority to renewable energy **(qualitative criteria)**	( ) Priority to renewable energy (x) Non-discrimination	Statutory law does not give priority to renewable energy. The grid operator is obliged to respect the principle of non-discrimination when providing grid services to the market participants (§ 65 par. 2 ELTS).
Capacity limits **(quantitative criteria)**	The grid operator may refuse to connect a plant if the grid capacity is insufficient (§ 65 par. 3 no. 4 ELTS).	
Distribution of costs		
	State	
	Consumers	
	Grid operator	
	Plant operator	According to the grid operators, the costs of connection to the grid are borne by the plant operators (§ 71 par. 1 no. 1, 3 ELTS).
	European Union	

	Distribution mechanism	Statutory law does not provide for a distribution mechanism.

Use of the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	• ELTS	
Contact Authority	http://elering.ee/en/; https://www.elektrilevi.ee/en/avaleht	
Overview	The grid operator is obliged by law to transmit electricity via its grid (§ 65 par. 1 no. 4 ELTS). The grid operator shall ensure the measurement of the amounts of electricity supplied to and from its network (§ 67 par. 1 ELTS).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	There is no formal procedure for the use of the grid.
	Deadlines	Statutory law does not specify any time limits or deadlines.
	Obligation to inform	
Priority to renewable energy (qualitative criteria)	( ) Priority to renewable energy (x) Non-discrimination	Statutory law does not give priority to renewable energy. The grid operator shall respect the principle of non-discrimination when providing grid services to the market participants (§ 65 par. 2 ELTS).
Curtailment	Due to technical reasons or in order to guarantee stability in supply, the transmission grid operator may oblige the plant operators to increase or reduce the output of their plants (§ 40 par. 2 ELTS).	
Distribution of costs		
	State	
	Consumers	
	Grid operator	According to the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, The electricity buyer bears the costs of grid use (§ 71 par. 1 no. 4 ELTS). The grid charge is added on top of the price paid for consumed electricity.
	Plant operator	

	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	Statutory law does not provide for a distribution mechanism.

Grid expansion

Abbreviated form of legal source	• ELTS	
Contact Authority	http://elering.ee/en/; https://www.elektrilevi.ee/en/avaleht	
Overview	The grid operator is obliged by law to develop the grid within his area of service in such a way as to maintain grid services for all electricity producers and be able to connect further electricity plants to the grid (§ 66 par. 1 ELTS). According to the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, a plant operator may demand that the grid operator upgrade the grid if the upgrade is necessary to connect a plant.	
Procedure	**Procedure**	The law does not specify a procedure to be followed by the plant operators.
	Enforcement of claims	
	Deadlines	
	Obligation to inform	
Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation		
Distribution of costs		
	State	
	Consumers	According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the consumers bear the costs of the expansion of the grid (§ 71 par. 1 no. 2 ELTS).

	Grid operator	
	Plant operator	According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the plant operator bears the costs of connecting a plant to the grid (§ 71 par. 1 no. 3 ELTS).
	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	According to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, the costs of grid expansion are included in the calculation of the charges for grid use and are thus passed on to the grid users. This redistribution is possible only if the expansion serves to guarantee supply.
Grid studies	This scientific study dating from 2004 is conducted by the Tallinn University of Technology on the demand of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. It analyses the production and transmission of electricity in Estonia during the years 2005-2015 and foresees the necessary grid developments and investments to the infrastructure. Available (in Estonian) at: http://www.seit.ee/files/Elektritootmine.PDF "Development Plan of the Estonian Electricity Sector until 2018", put together by the Ministry of Economics and Communications. Contains among other issues the relevant measures to be put in place concerning the planning and development of grids. Available at: https://valitsus.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/arengukavad/eesti_elektrimajanduse_arengukava.pdf "National Spatial plan Estonia 2030+" tackles the issues of spatial planning, infrastructure and energy production. Currently only available in Estonian. Available at: http://eesti2030.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/eesti-2030-tekst_111031.pdf Study by a Danish Consulting company EA Energy Analyses which explores the potential of wind power in Estonia in the light of grid development and - capacities. Available at: http://www.ea-energianalyse.dk/reports/1001_Wind_Power_in_Estonia.pdf Study by a Danish Consulting company EA Energy Analyses and Tallinn University of Technology and Estonian TSO Elering "Estonian Long-TermPower Scenarios" published in May 2014. Available at: http://elering.ee/public/Infokeskus/Uuringud/Estonian-Long-term-Energy-Scenarios.pdf	

RES-H&C support schemes

Summary of support systems

Overview	In Estonia, RES-H&C is supported through various investment subsidies. The distribution of the support is round-based and is allocated based on applications and available funds.
Summary of support schemes	The investment support can be accorded for the construction of RES CHP plants, for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies and for the reconstruction of the district heating network to improve energy efficiency. RES CHP plants are equally eligible for a premium tariff, where the producer receives a bonus on top of the market price, but here the support is allocated according to electricity produced. Additionally, investment supports are made available for the owners of private houses and apartment buildings, to allow them the purchasing of RES plants for the production of heat.
Technologies	Investment supports for private houses are available for the purchasing and installation of solar energy plants and for the installation of geo- and hydrothermal heat pumps. Investment supports for apartment buildings are made available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment for the use of RES plants.
Statutory provisions	• Investment eligibility conditions for the wider use of renewable energies (Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 – Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for the broader use of Renewable Energy Sources for Power Production) • Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses (Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Väikeelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 06.04.2012, 1 - The regulation sets up the criteria and procedure for investment support aimed to help private houses to

	purchase RES plants to be able to produce renewable energy for their own use) • Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings (Rohelise investeerimisskeemi “Korterelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus” kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 58, 397)

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source **(original language)**	Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400	Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Väikeelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus" kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 06.04.2012, 1	Rohelise investeerimisskeemi "Korterelamute rekonstrueerimise toetus" kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I 2010, 58, 397
Full name			
Name (English)	Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for the broader use of Renewable Energy Sources for Power Production.	Conditions and Pprocedure of the Investment Support for Reconstruction of Private Houses.	Conditions and Procedure of the Investment Support for Reconstruction of Apartment Buildings.
Abbreviated form	Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies.	Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses	Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings
Entry into force	03.04.2009	09.04.2012	22.08.2010
Last amended on	12.11.2012	23.04.201213.02.2015	
Future amendments			
Purpose	Setting up the criteria for eligibility and procedure for the use of EU structural	The regulation sets up the criteria and procedure concerning investment supports for (re)construction of private	The regulation sets up the criteria and procedure concerning investment supports for (re)construction of apartment

	funds in the field of renewable energy.	houses to guarantee their energy-efficiency and able them to produce renewable energy for their own use.	buildings to guarantee their energy-efficiency and enable them to produce energy for their own use.
Relevance for renewable energy	The Act sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production.	Support can be used to purchase and install RES plants to allow houses to produce energy for their own use.	Support can be used to install the necessary equipment to use energy produced from RES.
Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/109112012011?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/120042012007?leiaKehtiv	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/110022015002
Link to full text of legal source (English)			

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	https://www.mkm.ee/en	Siim Meeliste	+372 62 56 321	siim.meeliste@mkm.ee
Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus (KIK) – Environmental Investment Centre	http://www.kik.ee/en		+372 627 41 71	info@kik.ee

Support schemes

Subsidy I (Investment support for the reconstruction of RES CHP plants)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies	
Contact Authority	http://www.kik.ee/en	
Summary	Investment supports are available for the (re)construction of infrastructure and technology to enhance the building of CHP plants and to encourage the wider use of RES. The investment support distribution is round-based and is allocated based on applications. The Environmental Investment Centre announces the launching of the investment support at least 90 days prior to the deadline for applications on its website and at least in two nationwide newspapers (§12 par. 2 Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies).	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	The investment supports are available: • for the construction of RES CHP plants • for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies • for the reconstruction of the district heating network to improve energy efficiency (§ 5 par.1 Investment Eligibility Conditions). Support cannot be allocated: • to the (re)construction CHP plants with a capacity > 2MW outside of Estonian islands, • to boiler-houses with a capacity > 4 MW • to projects with a total budget superior to € 50 million (§ 5

		par.2 Investment Eligibility Conditions).
	Aerothermal	
	Hydrothermal	
	Biogas	Eligible
	Biomass	Eligible
	Geothermal energy	Eligible
	Solar Thermal	
Amount	Support allocated for the construction of RES CHP plants and for the reconstruction of boiler-houses to make them operational for renewable energies is between € 31,955.82 and € 1,278,232.97 depending on the action supported (§ 9, par.1-2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). The exact amount of support available for each round is decided by the Environmental Investment Centre.	
Addressees	Support allocated to the construction of RES CHP plants and the reconstruction of boiler-houses is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs and foundations (§ 10, par.1Investment Eligibility Conditions Act).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	• At least 90 days prior to the application deadline the Environment Investment Centre publishes the information concerning the application round. • The producer presents an application to the Environment Investment Centre according to the conditions given in § 11 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act.

		• The Environment Investment Centre concludes a ranking based on the applications submitted and allocates resources on the basis of available funds (§ 15 par. 2 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act). • The decision for the allocation of support is taken not later than 90 days after the application deadline (§ 17 par. 1 Investment Eligibility Conditions Act).
	Competent authority	The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre.
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	The investment support is financed by the European Union Structural Funds.
	Distribution mechanism	

Subsidy II (Investment conditions for the reconstruction of private houses and apartment buildings)

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses • Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings	
Contact Authority	http://www.kredex.ee/en/	
Summary	Investment supports are made available for the owners of private houses and apartment buildings to enable them to conduct energy efficient renovations. Investment supports for private houses are available for the purchasing and installation of RES plants to be able to produce energy for their own use. Support for the reconstruction of apartment buildings is made available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment for the use of energy from RES plants. These programs are funded under the Green Investment Scheme, which means that the Government invests the money gained from the sales of the AAU-s to environmental projects. Both programs have proved to be successful and created strong interests among the population.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	• For private houses the investments are aimed to support the purchasing and installation of solar energy plants and for the installation of geo- and hydrothermal heat pumps • For apartment buildings supports are available to cover the costs of installing the necessary equipment to be able to use the energy produced by RES plants (§5 par.8 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings).
	Aerothermal	

	Hydrothermal	Eligible.
	Biogas	
	Biomass	
	Geothermal energy	Eligible.
	Solar Thermal	Eligible.
Amount	The support available for private houses is between € 1,000 and € 30,000 of the costs relating to the installation and purchasing of RES plants (§7 par. 1, 2 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). The total amount of a project for an apartment building cannot be lower than € 7,340 (Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of apartment buildings, §7 (1))	
Addressees	The investment supports are aimed at the owners of private houses and apartment buildings. The energy produced by RES plants purchased with the help of the investment support cannot be used for business purposes.	
Procedure	**Process flow**	• Kredex foundation will announce the launching of the support round on its website and in at least one nationwide newspaper at least 20 days prior to the start of the date when applications will be received (§par. Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). • The request for the investment support must be submitted to the Kredex foundation that is responsible for the processing and overview of applications. Kredex will have 30 days to assess the demand (§12 par.3 Investment eligibility conditions for the reconstruction of private houses). The scheme for

		supporting apartment buildings has been renewed as of 13 February 2015).
	Competent authority	The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in cooperation with the Investment and Exportation foundation Kredex.
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	The costs of the program are borne by the state.
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	
	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	The programme is financed by the government under the Green Investment Scheme. The government reinvests the money obtained from the sale of the Assigned Amount Units to promote the wider use of RES and support environmental projects.

RES-H&C grid issues

Overview

Overview of grid issues	In Estonia, local authorities determine the conditions and procedure for the connection of heating plants to the grid. Furthermore, local authorities also determine the grid development obligation. When new heating production capacities are necessary, the grid operator is obligated to launch a public call for heat producers in order to determine the best offer. Priority is not given to the heat produced from RES sources. However, when possible, preference should be given to heat produced from RES and CHP plants. The grid operator concludes contracts with heat producers for a period of maximum 12 years.
Connection to the grid	When connecting to the grid, heat produced from RES and CHP plants is not given priority access. The offer for connection is made by the grid operator to the most cost-efficient offer. Local authorities determine the conditions and procedure for the connection to the grid.
Use of the grid	The grid operator has to guarantee the measuring of heat entering the network. The heat producer has to coordinate the heat price with the Competition Authority separately for each heating district. In addition to the heat from the district heating network, the consumer is entitled to buy heat produced from RES from the producer.
Grid development	Local authorities determine the heat producers' development requirements and grid expansion obligations.
Statutory provisions	• District Heating Act (Kaugkütteseadus RT I 2003, 25, 154 – District Heating Act) • Bidding Rules for Heat Producers (Soojuse ostmiseks konkursi korraldamise kord ja pakkumiste hindamise metoodika RT I, 01.07.2011, 12 - Rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers)

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source **(original language)**	Kaugkütteseadus RT I 2003, 25, 154	Soojuse ostmiseks konkursi korraldamise kord ja pakkumiste hindamise metoodika RT I, 01.07.2011, 12	
Name (English)	District Heating Act	Rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers	
Abbreviated form	District Heating Act	Bidding Rules for Heat Producers	
Entry into force	01.07.2003	04.07.2011	
Last amended on	01.01.2015		
Future amendments	01.07.2016		
Purpose	The Act regulates the production, distribution and sale of heat as well as access to the district heating grid.	The regulation sets the rules for the organization of the bidding and evaluation of offers from heat producers.	
Relevance for renewable energy	The Act also regulates the production, distribution and sale of heat produced from RES, it equally regulates the access to the district heating grid.	This regulation sets the criteria for the organisation of the bidding launched by the grid operator in case new heating capacities are necessary. These rules also apply in the case of heat produced from RES.	

Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/112072014060	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/101072011012	
Link to full text of legal source (English)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/Riigikogu/act/513012015005/consolide		

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	https://www.mkm.ee/en	Siim Meeliste	+372 625 63 21	siim.meeliste@mkm.ee

Grid issues

Connection to the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	• District Heating Act • Bidding Rules for Heat Producers	
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en	
Overview	District heating infrastructure development is within the competence of local authorities, who also determine the conditions and procedure for the connection to the grid. When new heating production capacities are necessary the grid operator is obligated to launch a public call for heat producers in order to determine the most cost-efficient offer. When connecting to the grid, there is no legally binding obligation to give priority to the heat produced from RES sources, however if there exist possibility, heat from RES or heat produced in CHP power plants from RES or from waste, peat or heat from oil shale gas and best available environmentally friendly technology is preferred. However, according to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, due to various support schemes available for RES, the heat produced from RES sources or by CHP plants tends also to be the most cost-efficient way.	
Procedure	**Process flow**	• When new heating production capacities are necessary grid operator launches an auction for heat producers in order to determine the best offer (§ 14.1 par.2 District Heating Act). • Once the bidding has finished, the grid operator concludes a contract with the chosen producers for a period of maximum 12 years (§ 14.1 par.1 District Heating Act).
	Deadlines	Starting from the publication of the call for offers in a nationwide newspaper, heat producers have 30 days to manifest their will to conclude a contract with the grid operator (§ 2 par.2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). In case when several heat producers wish to conclude a contract, the bidding announcement shall be released and

		heat producers shall have at least 30 days to correspond to the offer (§ 9 par.3 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers).
	Obligation to inform	The grid operator is obligated to inform the Competition authority and to publish on its website and at least in one nationwide newspaper the conditions for concluding a contract (§ 2 par.2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers). If several heat producers manifest their will to conclude a contract, the grid operator is obligated to publish on its website the conditions for the bid (§ 4 par 1 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers).
Priority to renewable energy **(qualitative criteria)**	() Priority to renewable energy (x) Non-discrimination	Statutory law states that priority concerning access to the grid is given to the producer providing the best offer. However, when possible, heat produced from renewable energy sources should be preferred (§ 13. par 2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers).
Capacity limits **(quantitative criteria)**		
Distribution of costs	The grid operator is entitled to charge a fee for the connection to the grid. The amount of the fee is decided by the grid operator. When fixing the size of the fee, the investments necessary for the connection, quality and environmental requirements as well as overall benefit assessment is taken into account (§ 12 par. 1,2,3 District Heating Act).	
	State	
	Consumers	
	Grid operator	
	Plant operator	When new heat production plant needs to be connected to the grid, the plant operator pays the costs (§ 12 par.1 District Heating Act).

	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	

Use of the grid

Abbreviated form of legal sources	• District Heating Act	
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en	
Overview	The heat producer sells the heat either directly to the consumer or to the grid operator for redistribution. The grid operator has to guarantee the measuring of heat entering the network (§ 15 par.1 District Heating Act). The heat producer has to coordinate the heat price with the Competition Authority separately for each heating district (§ 9 par. 1 District Heating Act). In addition to the heat from the district heating network, the consumer is entitled to buy heat from RES from the producer (§ 5 par. 4.1 District Heating Act).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	Statutory law provides no procedure rules concerning the use of the grid.
	Deadlines	
	Obligation to inform	
Priority to renewable energy **(qualitative criteria)**	(x) Priority to renewable energy ( ) Non-discrimination	Statutory law states that priority concerning use of the grid is given to the producer providing the best offer. However, when possible, heat produced from renewable energy sources should be preferred (§ 13. par 2 Bidding Rules for Heat Producers).
Curtailment		
Distribution of costs	Statutory law provides no information on the distribution of costs concerning the use of the grid.	
	State	
	Consumers	
	Grid operator	
	Plant operator	

	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	

Grid development

Abbreviated form of legal source	• District Heating Act	
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en	
Overview	The grid operator is obligated to develop the grid so as to guarantee the connection to the grid and the continuous provision of services to all the consumers in its district (§ 14, par.1,2,3 District Heating Act). It is the competence of local authorities to determine the exact development requirements and grid expansion obligations for heat producers (§ 5 par. 6 District Heating Act).	
Procedure	**Process flow**	
	Enforcement of claims	
	Deadlines	
	Obligation to inform	
Regulatory incentives for grid expansion and innovation		
Distribution of costs		
	State	
	Consumers	
	Grid operator	
	Plant operator	
	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	

Grid studies	

RES-T support schemes

Summary of support schemes

Overview	In Estonia, there wasn't until quite recently any generally applicable support scheme to promote the use of renewable energy sources in the transport sector. However, in October 2013 the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications proposed amendments to the Liquid Fuel Act, which foresees the introduction of a quota system. According to the proposed amendments, the share of biofuels must be at least 5% by 2016 and gradually rise to at least 10% by 2020. The amendments are currently being reviewed by other ministries. In addition, a support scheme is put in place to promote the purchasing of electric cars that use power produced from renewable energy sources. At the end of 2015, a support scheme for the promotion of biomethane use in the transport sector was finally introduced. However, it is yet too early to assess the effects of this scheme.
Summary of support schemes	
Technologies	
Statutory provisions	• Support Scheme for Electric Cars (Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus" kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 15.07.2011, 6 – Support Scheme for Electric Cars) • Subsidies for the Use of Biomethane in the Transport Sector (Biometaani transpordisektoris tarbimise toetamise tingimused RT I, 25.11.2015, 9 – Subsidies for the Use of Biomethane in the Transport Sector)

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source **(original language)**	Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus" kasutamise tingimused ja kord RT I, 15.07.2011, 6	Biometaani transpordisektoris tarbimise toetamise tingimused RT I, 25.11.2015, 9	
Full name	Rohelise investeerimisskeemi „Elektriautode toetus" kasutamise tingimused ja kord	Biometaani transpordisektoris tarbimise toetamise tingimused	
Name (English)	Terms and Procedure for Using the Green Investment Scheme "Grant for Electric Cars"	Act on the Conditions of Subsidising Biomethane Consumption in the Transport Sector	
Abbreviated form	Investment scheme "Grant for Electric Cars"	Act on Biomethane Subsidies	
Entry into force	18.07.2011	28.11.15	
Last amended on	26.1.15		
Future amendments			
Purpose	Regulating the support scheme concerning the purchase of electricity cars.	Launching the consumption and provision of biomethane to help the development of the sector and to fulfill the RES-targets	

		in the transport sector.	
Relevance for renewable energy	The act aims to encourage the use of renewable energies in the transport sector by promoting the use of electric cars.	The act is introduced to further the development of biomethane use in the transport sector.	
Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/123012015004	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/125112015009	
Link to full text of legal source (English)			

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	https://www.mkm.ee/en	Siim Meeliste	+372 625 63 21	siim.meeliste@mkm.ee
Keskkonnainvesteeringute Keskus (KIK) – Environmental Investment Centre	http://www.kik.ee/en		+372 627 41 71	info@kik.ee

Support schemes

Subsidy

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment scheme “Grant for Electric Cars” • Act on Biomethane Subsidies	
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en; http://www.kik.ee/en	
Summary	To facilitate the commissioning of electric cars, through the grant, the price of supported electric cars is brought to a comparable level with ordinary cars with similar parameters. The following actions are supported: • purchase of an electric car, including the down-payment of leasing; • procurement of one charger of electric car per one electric car, including the necessary installation work. To further the use of biomethane in the transport sector, subsidies are paid (1) to create an infrastructure for biomethane petrol stations and (2) to promote biomethane use in public transport systems in municipalities. The Act sets out two goals for the year 2020: 1) a yearly consumption of at least 4,000 ktoe of biomethane and 2) the creation of 10 biomethane petrol stations.	
Eligible technologies	**General information**	
	Biofuels	Eligible (Act on Biomethane Subsidies, §5)
	Electricity	To ensure the use of green energy by the purchased vehicles, receiving the grant includes an obligation to purchase green certificates (certificate of origin to certify the energy comes from RES) according

		to the kilometers of driving per year. The buyers of electric cars receiving the subsidy also automatically receive green certificates in the amount of 5MWh. If the driver exceeds the amount, additional green certificates need to be bought (§ 20 par.7 Investment scheme "Grant for Electric Cars").
	Hydrogen	
Amount	• the grant amount for purchase of an electric car and down-payment of leasing is up to 50% of the purchase price of the electric car, but not more than € 18,000 for a person, who is not a VAT payer; • the grant amount for purchase of an electric car for a VAT payer is 35% of eligible costs, but not more than € 18,000 per car; • the maximum grant amount for purchasing of a charger of an electric car, including the installation work connected therewith, is € 1,000 (§ 7 par.3,4 Investment scheme "Grant for Electric Cars"). The total grant amount may not exceed € 200,000 per applicant and € 100,000 per enterprise of road transport (§ 7 par.5 Investment scheme "Grant for Electric Cars"). Biomethane. For the development of biomethane petrol stations, the maximum share of costs possible to pay for through the subsidy is 35% per project and the highest possible amount is €350,000 per project. For the public transport system, the maximum share of costs possible to pay for through the subsidy is 30% per project and the highest possible amount is €4,000,000 per project. A total budget of €9,000,000 is available through this measure: €6,000,000 for projects in the public transport system in municipalities, and €3,000,000 for biomethane petrol stations. The funds are available until the year 2020 (Act on Biomethane Subsidies, §8-9).	
Addressees	Grant applications may be submitted by Estonian citizens or foreigners living in Estonia, who have a long-term residence permit or permanent right of residence and legal persons registered in Estonia. The purchasing of an electric car is supported by Kredex, credit and export foundation, when it fulfills the criteria specified in § 7 par.1,2 Investment scheme	

	"Grant for Electric Cars". Biomethane. The addressees are biomethane producers, petrol companies, transport companies and municipalities.	
Procedure	**Process flow**	• An application shall be submitted to KredEx electronically (confirmed by digital signature) or by mail including all the necessary documents according to §11 "Grant for Electric Cars". Kredex then has 15 working days to go through the application. • The grant recipient shall submit an application for payment of the grant to KredEx within 3 (three) working days from mutual signing of the sales or leasing agreement of an electric car. Payment shall be made according to the terms provided in the decision of satisfaction of the application and agreement of allocation of the grantThe investment scheme is available until 1 June 2015. *Biomethane.* To allocate the subsidies, an auction will be announced that will last 45 days. The Environmental Investment Centre will announce the opening of the auction, its budget and the deadline for applications in a nationwide newspaper and on the Centre's website. This subsidy is not allocated through a round-based system, but it follows the first-past-the-post principle. When the funds for the subsidies are exhausted, it will be yet again announced in anationwide newspaper and on the Cnetre's website. The application for receiving the subsidy will be submitted to the Centre in a digitally signed document or via e-mail.

		The allocation of the subsidy is decided by a selective committee, consisting of representatives from the Centre, Arengufond, Tallinn Technical University and special interest groups. The exact deadlines, conditions, control and accountability measures will be specified in the decision of the committee for allocating the subsidy.
	Competent authority	The investment scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, applications are reviewed by foundation Kredex. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, applications are reviewed and payments made by the Environmental Investment Centre.
Flexibility mechanism		
Distribution of costs	**State**	The costs of the programme are borne by the state. The financing takes place under the Green Investment Scheme, where the government invests the money obtained from the sales of the AAU-s in environmental projects. Biomethane. The costs of the measure are borne by the state. The money for the subsidies comes from EU structural funds.
	Consumers	
	Plant operator	
	Grid operator	

	European Union	
	Distribution mechanism	The program is financed by the sale of 10 million Assigned Amount units to the Mitsubishi Corporations by the Government. The money is reinvested in environmental projects and in order to promote the wider use of RES.

Policies

Summary of policies

Overview	In Estonia, the development of specific regulatory measures concerning renewable energies is ongoing. Certification system for people working with RES installations has been put to place. However, where no nationwide regulation exists, incentives are created on the local level through available investment supports and loans.
Summary of policies	The RES-H infrastructure development is in the capacity of the local authorities, however, nationwide investment supports are made available to promote the wider use of renewable energies. The R&D is mainly promoted through rounds-based grants, which are allocated based on the application. In the building sector currently no nationwide regulations or minimum standards apply.
Statutory provisions	• Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies (Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400 - Terms and Procedure for the Use of Investment Support for the broader Use of Renewable Energy Sources for Power Production) • Professions Act (Kutseseadus) RT I 2008, 24, 156 - terms and procedures for the organization of bodies responsible for the allocation of certificates of professional standards, including those foreseen for RES installers.

Basic information on legal sources

Name of legal source **(original language)**	Meetme "Taastuvenergiaallikate laialdasem kasutamine energia tootmiseks" tingimused RTL 2009, 31, 400	Kutseseadus RT I 2008, 24, 156	
Full name			
Name (English)	Terms and Procedure for the use of Investment Support for the broader use of renewable energy sources for power production.	Professions Act	
Abbreviated form	Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies.	Professions Act	
Entry into force	25.03.2008	1.9.08	
Last amended on	12.11.2012	1.7.15	
Relevance for renewable energy	The regulation sets up the criteria for eligibility concerning investments to promote the wider use of renewable energy in power production.	The Act foresees the organization of bodies responsible for the allocation of professional qualification certificates, including those foreseen for RES installers.	

Link to full text of legal source (original language)	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/109112012011	https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/123032015261	
Link to full text of legal source (English)			

Further information

Institution (name)	Website	Name of contact person (optional)	Telephone number (head office)	E-mail (optional)
Majandus- ja Kommunikatsiooniministeerium (MKM) – Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	https://www.mkm.ee/en	Siim Meeliste	+372 625 63 21	siim.meeliste@mkm.ee
Haridus- ja Teadusministerium (HM) - Ministry of Education and Research	https://hm.ee/en		+372 735 0222	hm@hm.ee

Policy categories

Training programmes for Installers

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	Professions Act (Kutseseadus)	
Sector	None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport)	
Contact Authority	Ministry of Education and Research, mkm	
Description	At present, statutory law provides no concrete provisions concerning training programs for RES installers. However, according to the Professions Act, each sectorial body responsible for elaborating the standards and the allocation of professional qualifications is also the body responsible for providing training.	
Addressees		
Competent authority	Ministry of Education and Research	
Further information	https://hm.ee/en http://kutsekoda.ee/en/index	
Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Private Financing	
	European Union	

	Others	

Certification Programmes for RES installations

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	Professions Act	
Sector	Electricity, Heating & Cooling	
Contact Authority	Ministry of Education and Research	
Description	The certification programs and requirements for RES installers are foreseen by the Professions Act (Kutseseadus), which sets the framework for the organization of the body responsible for according the certificates for professional qualifications, including for people working in the construction and energy sector and to the installers of each RES technology. The responsible authority is the Ministry of Education and Research and the body responsible for organizing the allocation of qualifications and naming the bodies responsible for setting the standards is the Estonian Qualifications Authority (Kutsekoda).	
Addressees	People working in the energy and construction sector and wanting to obtain a certificate to allow them to work on installing renewable energy plants/installations.	
Competent authority	Ministry of Education and Research (Haridus- ja Teadusministeerium) and Estonian Qualifications Authority (Kutsekoda).	
Further information	http://kutsekoda.ee/en/index https://hm.ee/en	
Distribution of costs	**State**	
	Industry	

	System Producers	
	European Union	
	Others	

Exemplary role of public authorities in accordance with Art. 13 Abs, 5 RES Directive

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	
Sector	None (Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport)
Contact Authority	-
Description	There are no nationwide regulations concerning the building obligations for public authorities. However, under the Green Investment Scheme, the government has directed funds obtained from the sales of the AAU-s to support energy efficient renovations and use of RES for heating and electricity production in public buildings. Under this scheme, a total of 540 public buildings will be renovated. In addition, as a first step of the Estonian electromobility program (www.elmo.ee), the officials of the Ministry of Social Affairs were provided electric cars in order to promote the use of such vehicles.
Addressees	
Competent authority	
Further information	

RD&D Policies

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	
Sectors	Electricity, Heating & Cooling, Transport
Contact Authority	https://www.mkm.ee/en
Description	R&D programmes are not supported through nationwide support measures. In addition to technology development projects (in the field of applied research and product development) the financing here also includes programme supporting R&D programmes. The grants for projects are round based and allocated on the base of applications.
Addressees	
Competent authority	The use of support measures of activities are administrated by different ministries depending on the project (either Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research or Ministry of Rural Affairs) and coordinated by different foundations (Enterprise Estonia, Archimedes Foundation, Rural Development Foundations respectively).
Further information	Depending on the program, the funding sources vary. Usually one part is covered by the responsible ministry (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Agriculture) and the other from various investments and funds available. Entreprise Estonia: http://www.eas.ee/?lang=en Estonian Research Council: http://www.etag.ee/en/

Support of RES-H infrastructure

Abbreviated form of legal source(s)	• Investment Eligibility Conditions for the wider use of Renewable Energies
Sectors	Heating & Cooling
Contact Authority	http://www.kik.ee/en
Description	District heating infrastructure development is within the competence of local authorities. There is therefore no nationwide regulation concerning support for RES-H. However, there are investment funds available for the construction of CHP plants and for the reconstruction of boiler houses and infrastructure to make them operational for renewable energies.
Addressees	The investment support is addressed to legal persons, local municipalities, NGOs, companies and foundations.
Competent authority	Competent authority is the Ministry of Environment in cooperation with the Environmental Investment Centre.
Further information	Environmental Investment Centre's webpage: http://www.kik.ee/en