



## INFORMATION SHEET ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WESTERN BALKANS GREEN CENTER OF HUNGARY AND ITS FIRST CALL FOR APPLICATION

**FEBRUARY 2020**

Based on the decision of the Government of Hungary, the Ministry for Innovation and Technology created the Western Balkans Green Center Nonprofit Llc. (Center) in order to contribute to the climate protection efforts exercised by the Western Balkan countries as well as the green transformation of their economies through grants supporting technology export activities of Hungarian enterprises active in the field of environmental protection.



The Western Balkans region is heavily exposed to the effects of climate change, causing increasing summer heat waves and unpredictable rainfall. These changing conditions combined with generally outdated utility infrastructure and the frequent usage of polluting technologies underline the importance of support for both climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.

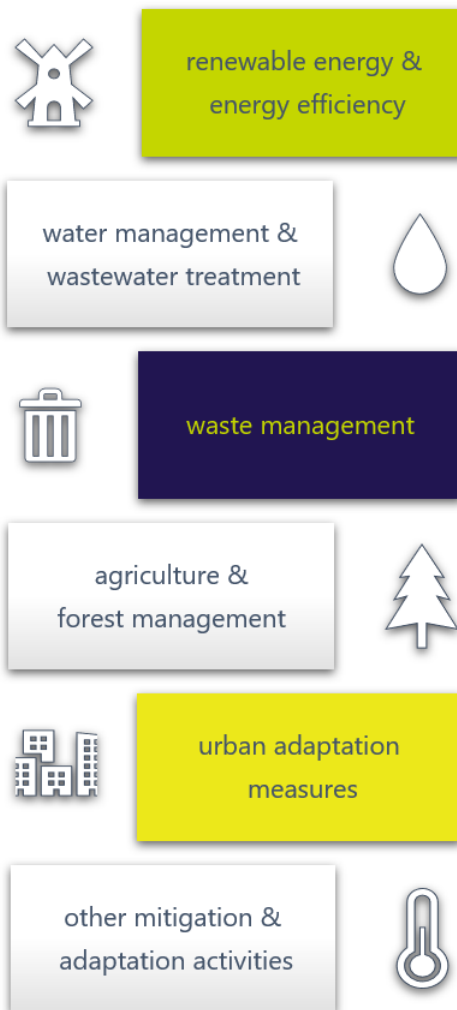
Based on consultations held with relevant authorities of the target countries in the Western Balkans as well as international development partners active in the region, there is a considerable lack of eligible projects to be financed and implemented in the region. The goal of the Center is to provide Hungarian companies grant funding to co-finance project preparation and capacity building activities in the Western Balkans to contribute to the climate protection activities of the target countries fulfilling their Nationally Determined Contributions set forth in the Paris Agreement on climate.

### Supported activities

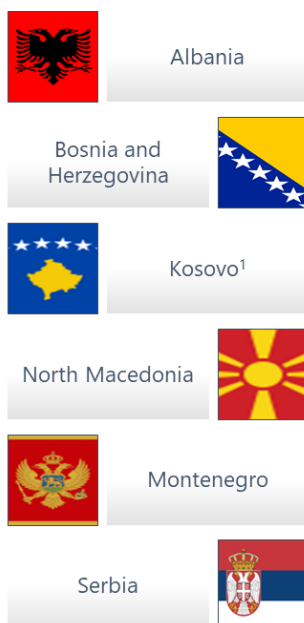


The Center published its first call for application on February 13, 2020 describing the conditions of utilising non-refundable grants. The application window is open until March 27, 2020. A key element of the Center's strategy is that the selected applications should contribute significantly to climate protection efforts, should be technically, environmentally and financially sustainable, and should be based on real, existing local needs, opportunities and reflect realistic ideas. To ensure that any project is based on local needs and demand, applying companies are requested to obtain a Letter of Support from the relevant local authorities, in which they express that they are aware of the local activity of the company and do not have any objection to it. The Center expects applications from Hungary-based legal entities having the necessary expertise and experience to implement projects and capacities to perform export activities. Companies are encouraged to form international consortia.

## Supported sectors



## Target countries



The establishment of the Center was the first step towards a future establishment of a regional Multi-Donor Fund with adequate resources and a diverse set of financial instruments for project financing. The goal of this climate fund, to be funded by the Visegrad Four and other interested countries in the region, will be to finance the implementation of projects prepared by the Center and other development institutions that primarily focus on applying Central European technology solutions.

**For any questions please contact the Western Balkans Green Center Nonprofit Llc. (Hungary) at [wbgc@wbgc.hu](mailto:wbgc@wbgc.hu).**

<sup>1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to the positions expressed by the EU Member States on Kosovo's status and is in line with the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1244/1999 and the International Court of Justice Opinion of 22 July 2010 on Kosovo's declaration of independence.