European Commission

SET PLAN 2015

The NER 300 programme – current state of development

Introduction

The NER 300 programme, managed by the European Commission is one of the largest funding programmes for innovative low-carbon energy demonstration projects. The programme aims to demonstrate environmentally safe carbon capture and storage (CCS) and innovative renewable energy (RES) technologies on a commercial scale.

NER 300 is funded from the sale of 300 million emission allowances from the new entrants' reserve (NER) set up for the third phase of the EU emissions trading system (ETS).

Funded projects

In total, about EUR 2.1 billion have been awarded to 39 projects across 20 EU countries and through the programme's 2 calls for proposals (the first awarded in December 2012, the second in July 2014).

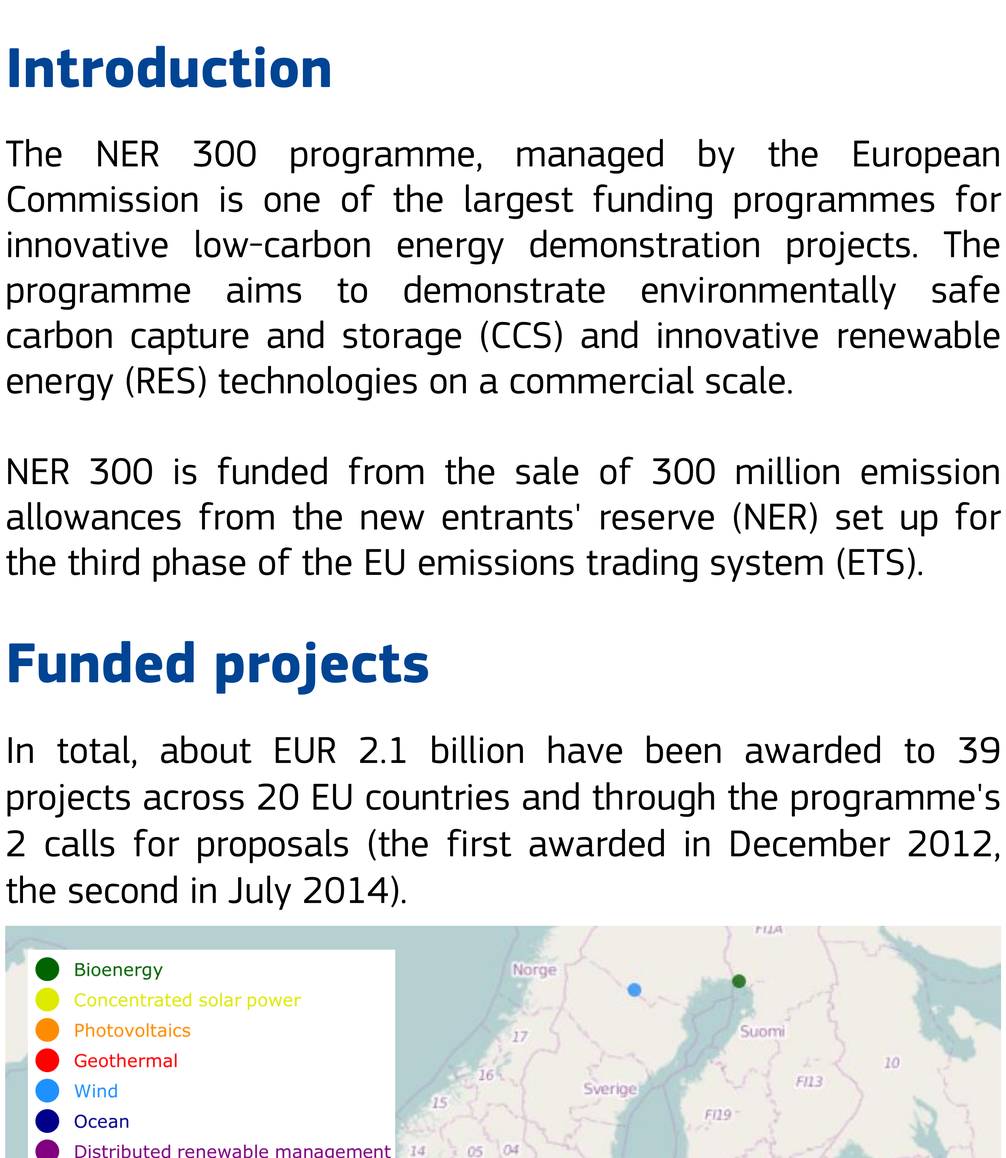

Figure 1: Projects awarded funding

The funded projects show a good spread over countries and categories. The category with the highest number of projects is bioenergy projects (13), followed by wind energy (8), ocean energy and concentrated solar power (five projects each).

Funding awarded

The average funding awarded is about EUR 53 million per project and ranges from EUR 4 million to EUR 300 million. The average funding rate is about 73 EUR/MWh. Some categories show significantly higher funding rates (e.g. ocean energy, concentrated solar power).

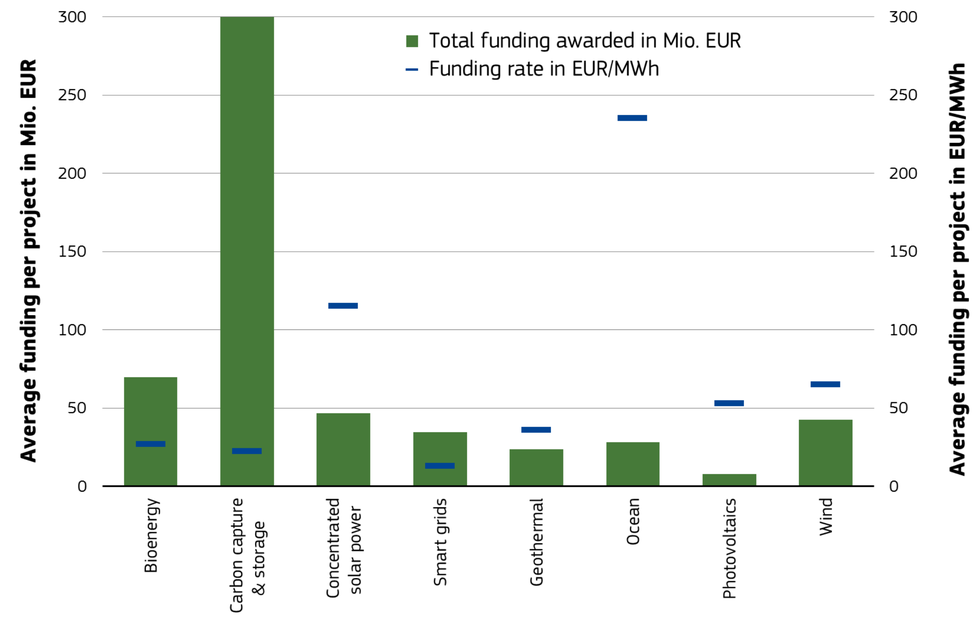

Figure 2: Funding awarded according to category

State of play of the projects

Two projects of the first call (both bioenergy) have entered into operation, four projects reached a positive final investment decision and four more projects should reach it during 2015.

All NER 300 projects will increase the annual EU renewable energy production by about 18 TWh. Together with the CO_2 stored by the CCS project, the impact will be equivalent of taking over 3 million cars off EU roads.

Knowledge sharing

Knowledge sharing requirements are a critical tool to lower risks in bridging the transition to large-scale production of innovative renewable energy and CCS deployment. Projects submit annually to the Commission relevant knowledge gained during that year in the implementation of their project. The relevant knowledge is aggregated and disseminated by the European Commission to the main stakeholders.

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