

Personal Data Protection – EENergy

The EENergy Open Call for Grants and the Third-Party Service Agreement are dedicated to processing personal data solely for the purpose of evaluating the suitability of SMEs for grants based on their energy consumption, in line with the grant requirements. This includes assessing all applicants, regardless of their status as beneficiaries.

Personal data involved in the EENergy project and under the Third-Party Service Agreement is processed by EEN Consortium partners and affiliated partners of the European Commission, adhering to Article 13 of the EU Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR). Both the Contractor and Beneficiary are obligated to process personal data in accordance with relevant EU and national data protection laws, which encompasses all necessary authorizations and notification requirements. Access to personal data by Contractor and Beneficiary personnel is limited strictly to what is essential for the implementation, management, and monitoring of this Agreement.

The processing of data serves the following objectives:

- Assessing SMEs' eligibility and appropriateness for the grant and associated project activities.
- Facilitating communication with SMEs, EEN Consortium partners, and the grant-awarding body regarding project progress, outcomes, and feedback.
- Reporting and auditing the project's results, impacts and financial details for benchmarking.
- Disseminating and promoting the findings, benchmarks, best practices, and success stories of the project.

Data gathered from applicants are managed in line with common EU data security standards, ensuring both confidentiality and data integrity. A transparent consent mechanism is in place, granting data subjects the right to have their data deleted, consistent with GDPR mandates. The policy for retaining personal data is to store it for a period of five years after the project's conclusion, after which it will be securely erased or anonymized.

In the event of a data breach, our protocol involves immediate identification and assessment of the breach, accompanied by appropriate remedial measures. We are committed to informing the relevant supervisory authority within 72 hours of detecting the breach, as required by GDPR. If the breach significantly impacts the rights and freedoms of data subjects, they will be informed without delay.

As mandated by the funding organization, the Beneficiary's name will be published on the EENergy Call Page (<https://www.eenergy-project.eu>). Additionally, information and data will be shared with the grant-awarding bodies (World Bank, Innovation Council, and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA)), who may publish general information as appropriate.

The EENergy project's GDPR compliance practices undergo a thorough annual review and update, ensuring continuous alignment with legal mandates and data protection best practices. This comprehensive approach underlines our commitment to upholding the highest standards of data privacy and security in all our operations.

