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Subject **Regulation of the State Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature, No. WJZ/, amending the Regulation on national EZ, LVVN and KGG subsidies in relation to the Energy Efficiency in Greenhouse Horticulture grant module, and amending the Regulation on the opening of EZ, LVVN and KGG subsidies for 2026**

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Ministerie van Landbouw, Visserij,
Voedselzekerheid en Natuur

Regulation of the State Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature No. WJZ/PM, amending the Regulations on national EZ, LVVN and KGG grants in relation to the Energy Efficiency in Greenhouse Horticulture grant module and amending the Regulations on the Opening of EZ, LVVN and KGG Grants 2026

State Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature,

Having regard to Articles 4 (preamble and point (a)), 5 and 16 of the Framework Decision on national subsidies from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality;
Hereby decrees:

Article I

The Regulation on National EZ, LVVN and KGG Subsidies (Regeling nationale EZ-, LVVN- en KGG-subsidies) is amended as follows:

A
Article 2.3.2 is amended as follows:

1. Paragraph 1(c), (d) and (f) now read as follows:
c. the physical connection to a biogas or carbon dioxide network or cluster by means of:
1. the physical connection to an external production site or network for gaseous biogas;
2. the physical connection to an external production site or network for gaseous carbon dioxide; or
3. the physical installation of a carbon dioxide receiving installation for liquid carbon dioxide;
d. greenhouse heat recovery through dehumidification and air treatment by means of:
1. extraction of dry (outside) air or air from the upper part of the greenhouse;
2. extraction of dry (outside) air including an air/air heat exchanger in which the outside air is warmed up with the outgoing air;
3. cooling, drying and reheating of the greenhouse air by means of a heat pump;
4. cooling, drying and heating of the greenhouse air by means of a heat pump, with a day/week buffer to store the surplus heat; or
5. cooling, drying and reheating the greenhouse air using a heat pump, with a seasonal buffer (ground source heat storage) for the storage of surplus heat;
f. raising the height of existing greenhouses in combination with two energy-saving measures;
2. The full stop at the end of subparagraph (g) shall be replaced by a semicolon, and a new subparagraph shall be inserted with the following text:
h. replacement of all existing incandescent bulbs with LED lighting specifically designed to extend the daylight hours in existing greenhouses;
i. new installation with or replacement of glass on the greenhouse roof by:

1. glass with a prescribed hemispheric light transmission or a prescribed Hortiscatter value;
2. double glazing; or
3. low e-glass;
j. extension of the heated surface by making the greenhouse suitable for low temperature heat, possibly in combination with cold by:
1. extension of the internal heating system in the greenhouse with a low temperature network;
2. investments to connect the low-temperature network; or
3. making low temperatures available within the greenhouse horticulture business for the low-temperature network in the greenhouse;
k. a physical connection achieved by connecting an electricity cable and associated equipment from a sustainable electricity generation site located outside the premises' boundaries to the greenhouse horticulture business's internal electricity network, for which authorisation has been granted by the network operator or the Netherlands Authority for Consumers and Markets.

2. Paragraph 2 is amended as follows:
a. The full stop at the end of subparagraph (m) shall be replaced by a semicolon, and the following subparagraphs shall be inserted with the following text:
n. Replacing incandescent bulbs with LED lighting in cyclical lighting systems designed to extend the growing season:
1. where specific luminous flux is less than 2.50 micromoles of photons per second per watt;
2. where the power consumption per lamp exceeds 50 watts;
3. where the installation has to be adapted for LED lighting;
4. where the LED lighting does not have a CE declaration issued by a recognised body authorised to carry out CE conformity assessments and issue CE declarations;
o. an air handling system as referred to in paragraph 1(d):
1. for components 2 to 5, if no second energy screen is present or is installed simultaneously leading to more than 35% energy savings;
2. for components 1 to 5, in the absence of an enclosure/air mixing unit, valve section or speed-controlled fans;
3. for component 2 in the absence of a cross-current exchanger;
4. for components 3 to 5 in the absence of a heat pump and heat exchangers for incoming and outgoing current;
5. for components 4 and 5 in the absence of a disconnection network in addition to the above-mentioned recovered cold (or heat) and a buffer tank up to a maximum of 55.1 °C fully fed by the heat pump;
6. for component 5 in the absence of ground-source thermal energy storage (GST) or in the absence of a licence from the competent authority for this purpose;
p. glass:
1. without a certificate NEN 2675, issued by a recognised measurement body for NEN 2675;
2. glass in which the hemispherical light transmission is less than 85 per cent or the Hortiscatter value is less than 30%;
3. in the case of a new greenhouse where the side walls are not clad with a material that is as energy-efficient as, or more energy-efficient than, the covering specified for the greenhouse roof;
q. low-e glass with an emissivity greater than 30%;

r. investments in the internal heating system with temperatures of 55.1 °C or higher;
s. investments in new technologies to increase the use of (fossil) fuels;
t. investments in electric boilers and battery storage systems for electricity;
u. investments in sustainable electricity generation;
v. connecting to an electricity network operated by an official network operator;
w. raising the height of an existing greenhouse unless the application demonstrates that at least 10% of natural gas consumption will be saved.

B

Article 2.3.2, paragraph 2, point (f), is deleted.

C

The following article is added after Article 2.3.5:

Article 2.3.5a (Start and completion time)

1. Work on the investment in an existing building must commence within six months of the grant being awarded.
2. Work on the new-build project must commence within 12 months of the grant being awarded.
3. The period referred to in Article 23(b) of the Decree is two years and six months.

D

Article 2.3.6 shall be amended, as follows:
1. Paragraph 6 shall be amended, as follows:
a. Subparagraphs a and b shall be amended to read as follows:
a. a second energy screen for existing buildings or a third energy screen as referred to in Article 2.3.2(1)(a):
1. €7;
2. €8, in the event that the total number of square metres of installed greenhouse surface area is less than 2 hectares;
b. an air conditioning system as referred to inArticle 2.3.2(1)(d):
€16.50 for subparagraph 1.;
€35.00 for subparagraph 2.;
€15.00 for subparagraph 3.;
€40.00 for subparagraph 4.;
€65.00 for subparagraph 5.;
c. Subparagraph d shall be amended to read as follows:
d. raising the height of an existing greenhouse: €30.
d. The full stop at the end of subparagraph (d) shall be replaced by a semicolon, and three new subparagraphs shall be inserted with the following text:
e. replacement of all existing incandescent light bulbs with LED lighting as referred to in Article 2.3.2(1)(h), €2.50;
f. new installation or replacement of glass on the greenhouse roof as referred to in Article 2.3.2(1)(i), at an additional cost of €20 compared to standard glass;
g. extension of the heating surface as referred to in Article 2.3.2(1)(j), €10.
2. The following paragraph shall be added:

8. The maximum eligible costs for a physical connection to an external heating network as per Article 2.3.2(1)(b) shall be €285 per kW.

E

Article 2.3.7. now reads as follows:

Article 2.3.7. Grant amount

1. The grant shall be 20% of the eligible costs.
2. Notwithstanding the first paragraph, the grant under Article 2.3.2(1)(d), (f), (i), (j) and (k) shall amount to 30% of the eligible costs.
3. The grant amounts to at least €2,500 per application for each greenhouse horticulture business or each greenhouse horticulture business participating in a partnership, and covers the equipment, installations or machinery referred to in:
a. Article 2.3.2(1)(a): a maximum of €35,000 for areas of 0.1 to 2.0 hectares and a maximum of €210,000 for areas of 2.0 hectares or more;
b. Article 2.3.2(1)(b): a maximum of €250,000 for a physical connection to an external district heating network and a maximum of €150,000 for a physical connection to a heat transfer link between two heating systems in one or more greenhouses;
c. Article 2.3.2(1)(c), up to a maximum of:
€100,000 for subparagraph 1.;
€75,000 for subparagraph 2.;
€50,000 for subparagraph 3.;
d. Article 2.3.2(1)(d), up to a maximum of:
€250,000 for subparagraph 1.;
€525,000 for subparagraph 2.;
€225,000 for subparagraph 3.;
€600,000 for subparagraph 4.;
€600,000 for subparagraph 5.;
e. Article 2.3.2(1)(e), up to a maximum of €100.000;
f. Article 2.3.2(1)(f), up to a maximum of €600.000;
g. Article 2.3.2(1)(g), up to a maximum of €500.000;
h. Article 2.3.2(1)(h), up to a maximum of €75.000;
i. Article 2.3.2(1)(i), up to a maximum of €600.000;
j. Article 2.3.2(1)(j), up to a maximum of €350.000;
k. Article 2.3.2(1)(k), up to a maximum of €450.000.

F

In Article 2.3.8., ‘and SA.106646 (2023/N)’ is replaced by ‘, SA.106646 (2023/N), SA.118496 (2025/N), and SA.120764 (2025/N)’;

Article II

In the table in Article 1(2) of the 2026 Regulations on the Allocation of EZ, LVVN and KGG Grants, the row relating to Title 2.4 states: Grant funding for zero-emission agricultural machinery; a row has been added, reading:

Title 2.3:	2.3.2	Greenhouse	Energy	08-09-2026	€30,000,000

Energy efficiency greenhouse horticulture		horticulture business	efficiency greenhouse horticulture	to 24-09-2026	

Article II

This regulation shall enter into force on the day following the date of its publication in the Government Gazette.

This regulation and the explanatory memorandum shall be published in the Government Gazette.

The Hague,

State Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature

Silvio P.A. Erkens

EXPLANATORY NOTE

I. GENERAL

1. Objective and rationale
The present regulation amends Energy efficiency and renewable energy in greenhouse horticulture' grant module (hereinafter referred to as: EC grant module), which is included in the title 2.3 of the Scheme national EZK- and LNV-grants (hereinafter referred to as: RNES), amended and re-opened.
For further explanations on the amendments, please refer to the section of this explanatory note that deals with each article individually.

2. Opening
The EC grant module shall run from 8 September 2026 to 24 September 2026 with a grant ceiling of €30,000,000. This period has been chosen to give applicants sufficient opportunity to submit an application. The budget linked to the opening can contribute to the sustainability of the greenhouse horticulture sector.

3. State aid
The EC grant module contains investment aid for energy-saving techniques which constitutes State aid and is justified by its compliance with Section 1.1.1.1. of the Agricultural Framework (Guidelines for State aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas (OJEU 2022 C 485)), which is in force from 1 January 2023. The European Commission has indicated that it will grant approval for the amended grant module and the associated call for applications by means of the

PM approval decision SA.…(2025/N). Since the grant can only be granted after approval by the European Commission, a standstill clause applies. The agricultural support framework requires such a provision.

4. Regulatory burden

Regulatory burden effects are all investments and efforts that citizens, businesses and/or professionals must make in order to comply with regulatory obligations (definition by the Advisory Board on Regulatory Burden (ATR)). In the calculation below, we distinguish between the time required to submit an application and the time required – once the grant has been awarded – for implementation during the grant period and for finalisation. For the calculation of internal hours, an average hourly rate of €150 has been assumed, in accordance with the calculation methodology in the model. This opening is based on a subsidy budget of €43,000,000 and an estimated 350 applications to be submitted.

When applying for the grant, you will need time to familiarise yourself with the scheme, complete the online application form and upload the required supporting documents. Unlike other innovation schemes, the application process for the EG is relatively straightforward, as there is no need to draw up a detailed project plan. The applicant shall fill in the form and attach documents such as the order confirmation, the combined declaration and (if applicable) annual accounts for the assessment of the financial capacity. The RVO also carries out random checks (approx. 1%) on companies in difficulty (OIM). This test takes place late in the process and represents a minimum regulatory burden for the overall group. The total administrative costs for an applicant thus amount to €197,050.

Once the grant has been awarded, the applicant will need to spend time on any time-sheet submissions and (for projects lasting longer than a year) a progress report. The progress report has been submitted efficiently. If everything goes according to plan, we will be able to let you know shortly. In contrast, under the EG scheme, requests for amendments involve a considerable amount of time in practice. As projects often involve a change of supplier or a postponement of the completion date, plenty of time is built into the schedule to allow for this. The total administrative costs during implementation amount to €367,500.

Once the end date has passed, the applicant shall submit a request for establishment, together with a final report and a financial justification. For a large proportion of the applications, an auditor’s report is required. Obtaining this declaration represents the greatest administrative cost, with a calculation of €5,000 in external costs per required declaration. The total administrative costs for the final accounts therefore amount to €1,154,025.

Finally, there is an item for obligations after the determination (such as participation in evaluations or publicity) of €5,400 and an item for situation-dependent obligations (such as objections) of €12,000.

The total administrative costs for the EG grant scheme therefore comes to €1,735,975. Compared to the total available grant budget of €43,000,000, this results in regulatory costs of 4.04%.

This calculation has been submitted to the 'Advisory Board on Regulatory Burden' (ATR).

5. Entry into force
This regulation shall enter into force on the day following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette. The dates of announcement and entry into force deviate from the system of common commencement dates, under which ministerial orders enter into force on the first day of each quarter and orders are announced at least two months in advance. This can be justified in this case because the target group of this scheme stands to benefit from the grant being made available as soon as possible, enabling businesses to implement subsidised environmental measures.

II. ARTICLES

Article I Regulation on national grants awarded by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, LVVN and KGG

Article 2.3.2(1)
Article 2.3.2(1) lists the equipment, installations or machinery for which a grant may be requested. The existing subparagraphs c and d have been extended, subparagraph f has been made more general. In addition, new grant options have been included in subparagraphs h, i, j and k. Below is a description of the amended and new grant options. Paragraphs 6 to 8 of Article 2.3.6 contain specific provisions regarding eligible costs. These are also explained in the description of the funding opportunities.

c. the physical connection to a biogas or carbon dioxide network or cluster
Article 2.3.2(1)(c) distinguishes between different sub-measures with regard to the previous opening, i.e.: (1) the physical connection to an external production site/network for gaseous biogas, (2) the physical connection to an external production site/network for gaseous carbon dioxide, or (3) the physical construction of a carbon dioxide receiving installation for liquid CO2. By separating the three components, which are currently grouped under a single measure, the maximum eligible amount can be allocated to each component, making investment in them more attractive. Through a pipe network, a business can be connected to a production site of gaseous CO2. In the absence of a pipe network, the liquid CO2 can be delivered by lorry and stored in the greenhouse via a liquid CO2 storage facility. This is common among sole traders or smaller greenhouse horticulture businesses. That is why this grant opportunity has been added.

d. greenhouse heat recovery by dehumidification and air treatment
The description of this technique as it applied in previous openings of the EC scheme was broad and offered the possibility to apply for grants for various systems, ranging from simple to very advanced. In response to signals from the sector and on the basis of expert advice, the scheme[1] has been adapted so that it offers more scope to provide grants for air treatment systems with relatively high investment costs and large savings opportunities, which can be implemented in the short term and provide savings for energy-efficient dehumidification of greenhouse air. Based on the recommendations mentioned, the technology has

[1] AAB Nederland. *Analysis of unprofitable margins and potential techniques under the EC scheme* (Report, Maasdijk, 9 February 2024).

been divided into five categories to ensure the effective use of grants, with different payback periods and technical requirements established for each.
In order to gain more insight into the potential savings from the investment and the associated grant, the applicant shall attach a calculation to the grant application demonstrating that this investment reduces the CO2 emissions and primary energy consumption compared to the current situation.

f. raising the height of existing greenhouses in combination with two energy-saving measures
Raising the height of the greenhouse was already eligible for a grant, but this was initially subject to the installation of an energy screen and the use of diffused glass with a double-sided AR coating. It turned out that this was not standard practice when replacing the greenhouse roof, and in practice it was an investment that was rarely, if ever, carried out at the same time as raising the greenhouse. Following the amendment to this measure, a combination with two other energy-saving measures remains mandatory, but the choice of which measures to combine is now left to the discretion of the user. These may be technologies eligible for funding under this article, but they may also be energy-saving measures outside the EC, in which case it must be demonstrated that there are energy-saving benefits associated with the raising of the greenhouse.
The eligibility criteria for the greenhouse elevation works, in conjunction with an investment in two energy-saving measures, emphasise that the contract must include a clear description of the greenhouse elevation works. With regard to the two additional energy-saving measures, the grant application must include a calculation demonstrating that raising the greenhouse and implementing the two energy-saving measures will result in energy savings of more than 10% compared to the situation prior to raising the greenhouse and implementing the energy-saving measures without raising the greenhouse.

h. replacement of all existing (incandescent) lamps with LED lighting specifically designed to extend the daylight hours in existing greenhouses
Many greenhouse horticulture businesses use incandescent bulbs for cyclical lighting or to extend the growing season. The crops used for this purpose in particular are soft fruit (strawberry) and chrysanthemum. This grant is not intended to facilitate the switch to LED lighting as a growth light, but is specifically intended to extend the length of the day in existing greenhouses. No grants may be awarded for modifications to the installation relating to LED lighting.
The LED lighting used has a lower efficiency, which is why the minimum specific luminous flux requirement has been set at 2.5 µmol/watt and the maximum power per lamp at 50 watts per LED lamp. The LED lamp must have a CE certificate issued by an accredited body. Many products must bear the CE mark in order to be sold in the EU. The CE marking indicates that, according to the manufacturer, a product complies with all EU requirements in terms of safety, health and environmental protection.

i. new installation or replacement of glass on the greenhouse roof with glass meeting the specified hemispheric light transmission requirements or the specified Hortiscatter value, double glazing or low-e glass
This new grant encourages the use of glass other than standard glass, which offers better insulation and helps to retain heat, thereby saving energy. At the same time, sufficient outdoor light remains available for cultivation. In practice, this measure encompasses three distinct types of greenhouse covering: (1) glass with

a prescribed hemispheric light transmission, (2) double glazing, (3) low e-glass. In particular, low-e glass has been included as an energy-saving option in previous studies conducted by WUR/Delphy. Savings of up to 20% were achieved. In view of the variety of types of glass, the technical requirements have been identified in consultation with the WUR. Within the framework of this scheme, the hemispheric transmission glass should have a significant added value compared to the standard glass. The NEN standard requirement is there to ensure the accuracy of the figures, which are specified in the reports. There are no additional requirements for double glazing, as the energy savings it delivers are a given. The fixed price for standard glass is set at €9.50 to determine the added value of the chosen sustainable glass variant. Under this measure, new greenhouses must have side walls made of glass of a quality comparable to or better than that of the greenhouse roof. By assigning a similar insulation rating to the side walls and the greenhouse roof under the regulations, the insulation performance of the entire greenhouse is ensured. No grant will be awarded for the side walls. The differences in energy savings between standard glass and the types of glass mentioned are great. Research into low-e glass shows an increase in yield and significant energy savings compared with the reference standard. Trials show that energy savings of up to 20% can be achieved. Nevertheless, the payback period for businesses is still too long to justify investing in sustainable greenhouse roofing solutions, which is why this investment has been included as a grant scheme.

j. extension of the heated surface by making the greenhouse suitable for low temperature heat, possibly in combination with cold by:
1. extension of the internal heating system in the greenhouse with a low temperature network;
2. investments to connect the low-temperature network; or
3. making low temperatures available within the greenhouse horticulture business for the low-temperature network in the greenhouse;
This grant increases the heating surface in the greenhouse, for example by installing more heating pipes or pipes with a larger diameter. As a result, it can be heated with lower temperatures and is further cooled down. Especially when using geothermal heat, heat pump systems or residual heat, this leads to much more efficient use of the available heat. If a business is connected to a geothermal heating system, there is considerable interest in investing in this technology. The application of the technology is still limited because the costs are high.
Eligible investments include the installation of a low-temperature network operating at 55.1 °C or below within the greenhouse, systems for utilising low-grade heat to feed the low-temperature network, and equipment such as heat exchangers and heat pumps to make low temperatures available. Providing low-temperature heat is envisaged through heat streams that are currently unused due to their temperature being too low for the existing high-temperature network, such as further cooling of geothermal and/or residual heat, or the additional recovery of heat from CHP plants or boiler installations using flue gases. It is not the intention to use additional fossil fuels and therefore it is only possible to extract low-quality heat from temperature streams, which would otherwise not be exploited. The CHP unit or boiler will not be run specifically for low-temperature heat recovery if the high-temperature heat produced is ‘useless’. This fits in with the third objective of the Trias Energetica: if you use fossil fuels, make the most of them. The extraction of the low-grade heat in the future must come mainly from returned heat from natural and residual heat plus the measure, greenhouse heat recovery by dehumidification and air treatment. The present subsidy does not

cover the collection of low-grade temperatures of heat from new sources, (green) fuel or electricity. Non-renewable sources are not supported, nor are flexible electricity solutions such as electric boilers or batteries. Under this scheme, the applicant can also install an additional cooling system in the greenhouse, which is required for certain crops. This chilled water system can be configured for either water-based or air-based operation. This measure can be applied to both new and existing buildings, although it should be noted that, in existing buildings, modifications will require a higher investment per square metre to ensure an effective low-temperature system.

k. physical connection achieved by connecting an electricity cable and associated fittings from a sustainable electricity generation site located outside the premises' boundaries to the greenhouse horticulture business's internal electricity network
This new measure promotes the electrification of the greenhouse horticulture sector through the use of renewable electricity, taking into account network congestion. The bottlenecks in electricity supply and distribution are holding back companies' progress towards electrification and preventing sustainable electricity producers from increasing their output. The issues surrounding grid congestion and feed-in are becoming an increasingly significant problem for renewable energy producers and regularly result in the curtailment of electricity generation from sources such as solar panels and wind turbines. This locks the production and further expansion. The greenhouse horticulture sector wishes to purchase more electricity, mainly because its own electricity generation capacity is declining as the production of electricity via combined heat and power (CHP) becomes less attractive.
This measure encourages companies with sustainable electricity production and greenhouse horticulture companies with an electricity demand to connect to each other by means of a physical direct link. At times of congestion in the electricity network for the supply of electricity or very low electricity prices by (over) production of sustainable electricity, the greenhouse horticulture company may purchase the electricity. Greenhouse growers can use this sustainable electricity for lighting, to power a heat pump or an electric boiler, or for heat recovery in greenhouses through dehumidification and air treatment. The payback period without a grant is between 8 and 16 years, depending on a number of factors. It is expected that the roll-out of private networks will remain limited, as it is not particularly straightforward and obtaining permission from the ACM involves a lengthy process.

Article 2.3.2(2)
The second paragraph of this article sets out the grounds for exclusion from the grant. Subparagraphs n to w have been added.

The exclusion criteria under section n for the measure relating to cyclic lighting ensure that the lamps have a sufficiently high efficiency of at least 2.50 micromoles of photons per second per watt and a power rating of no more than 50 watts per lamp. This is suitable for cyclical lighting. In addition, component n ensures that incandescent bulbs can be replaced on a one-to-one basis in the same socket. Adjustment of the installation for LED lighting is excluded. In addition, the reliability of the LED lighting is guaranteed by a CE certificate issued by an accredited body.

The grounds for exclusion in subparagraph o further specify the different sub-

categories for the heat recovery measure. For sub-categories 2 to 5, a second energy screen must be present or installed simultaneously with more than 35% energy savings as a result. This will save more energy. For each sub-category, it has also been explicitly stated which techniques must be included. This ensures the proper functioning of the system by sub-category. In addition, this will give applicants better insight into which system falls into which sub-category. It is also ensured that the applicant is already licensed for sub-category 5 for the Thermal Storage Facility.

The exclusion grounds for subparagraphs p and q for the measure on new construction or replacement of glass on the greenhouse deck ensure that the durability is guaranteed by a certificate with NEN 2675, issued by an approved measuring institute, and that the glass works sufficiently efficiently by excluding glass with less than 85% hemispheric light transmission or less than 30% Hortiscatter value, as well as low e-glass with emissivity above 30%. In addition, higher energy savings are achieved through energy savings requirements on the side façades of a new-construction greenhouse.

The exclusion grounds for subparagraphs r, s, t for the measure of making the greenhouse suitable for low temperature, possibly in combination with cold, ensure that investments in the internal heating system with temperatures of 55.1 °C or higher, investments in new means to use more (fossil) fuels and investments in e-boilers and battery storage systems for electricity are excluded. The reason for this is that renewable heat sources, such as geothermal energy or waste heat, generally operate at lower temperatures. Although making better use of fossil heat is desirable from the perspective of the energy triad, it is not advisable to use fossil fuels in new energy sources. Investments in electric boilers and battery storage systems are excluded, as these are supported through the SDE++ scheme.

The grounds for exclusion in subparagraphs u and v for the measure relating to the physical connection of an electricity cable to a sustainable production site ensure that investments in sustainable electricity generation and connection to an electricity network are excluded from an official network operator. The reason for this is that the internal electricity networks of the sustainable producer and the greenhouse horticulture business are connected to each other. During periods of congestion in the electricity grid or when electricity prices are very low due to (excess) production of renewable electricity, the greenhouse horticulture business can purchase the electricity.

The exclusion criterion under point (w) for the measure relating to the raising of an existing greenhouse requires proof that at least 10% of natural gas is saved compared with the situation prior to the raising. This ensures that the energy consumption from natural gas is reduced.

Article 2.3.2(2)(f)

Due to an amendmentto the Regulation on the equalisation of costs for CO_2 reduction$_2$-emissions in greenhouse horticulture, which has removed the obligation to submit an emissions declaration, greenhouse horticulture operators can no longer comply with the obligation set out in paragraph 2(f).

Article 2.3.5a

Experience has shown that, in previous funding rounds, projects tend to be postponed for a considerable period of time. This results in additional administrative costs; furthermore, it is essential that, in the case of an investment grant, the actual eligible activity is carried out promptly. For this reason, a start date and a completion date have been set, taking into account the fact that new-build projects require more time to complete than refurbishment projects.

Article 2.3.6(6)
This paragraph gives the eligible costs per square metre of installed greenhouse surface area. The changes in this article are in line with the changes in Article 2.3.2(1). For example, the third energy screen becomes eligible for subsidy (a), five subsidy categories for an air-handling system are included (d), and the eligible costs are added for the new subparagraphs h, i, j and k of Article 2.3.2(1).
For the second and third energy screens, the higher subsidy of €8 for a maximum of 4 hectares of installed greenhouse surface area has been reduced to a maximum of 2 hectares. This is because greenhouses have become larger in recent years and the work can be carried out in one go. The economies of scale for the installation will start from 2 hectares onwards.
To increase an existing greenhouse, the subsidy is €30 per square metre of installed greenhouse surface area (d). It is expected that this amount will be sufficient to cover the cost of the measure once the second screen and the covering with diffused glass featuring a double-sided AR coating are no longer included. According to the AAB report, the subsidy for a physical connection to an external district heating network is €285 per kW(b).

Article 2.3.7 **Grant amount**
The grant amounts to at least €2,500 per company per application and 20% of the eligible costs.

Measures eligible for a 20% grant:
a. A second or third energy screen:
Up to €35,000 for a greenhouse area of 0.1 to 2.0 hectares and up to €210,000 for a greenhouse area of 2.01 hectares or more.
The threshold for the higher flat-rate costs has been lowered from 4 to 2 hectares, as greenhouses have become larger and economies of scale begin to apply from as little as 2 hectares.
b. Physical connection to an external district heating network or interconnection:
A maximum of €250,000 for a connection to an external heating network and a maximum of €150,000 for a connection between greenhouses.
The maximum amount for the external connection has been increased. The percentage has been kept at 20% because there is already a significant level of willingness among businesses to connect to a district heating network.
c. Physical connection to a biogas or carbon dioxide network:
Maximum €100,000 for biogas, €75,000 for gaseous CO2 and €50,000 for an installation for liquid CO2.
The measure has been split into parts to make investment more attractive. The option for liquid CO2 has been added for solitary or smaller companies. The maximum for biogas is higher because the infrastructure requires a higher investment.
e. High-pressure misting system:
Up to €100,000.
No changes to the maximum grant amount have been proposed for this measure.

g. LED lighting to replace SON-T:
Up to €500,000.
No changes have been proposed; the current values are still considered appropriate.
h. Replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs to extend daylight hours:
Up to €75,000.
This is a new measure specifically designed to encourage the switch from energy-inefficient incandescent bulbs to LED lighting for extending the daylight hours in existing greenhouses.

By way of derogation, the grant shall be 30% of the eligible costs for the measures listed below. The increase in the grant rate is intended to incentivise investments in capital-intensive measures with a long payback period and/or significant energy saving potential:

d. Greenhouse heat recovery by dehumidification and air treatment:
The maximum grant is fixed per specific technique:
1. Extraction of dry (outside) air or air from the upper part of the greenhouse: maximum €250,000.
2. Extraction of dry (outside) air with an air/air heat exchanger: maximum €525,000.
3. Cooling, drying and reheating of greenhouse air with a heat pump: maximum €225,000.
4. Cooling, drying and heating of greenhouse air with a heat pump and day/week buffer: maximum €600,000.
5. Cooling, drying and reheating greenhouse air using a heat pump and seasonal buffer (ground source heat storage): up to €600,000.
The percentage has been increased in view of the very long payback periods and the significant energy saving potential. The increase is intended to encourage the use of more advanced systems, which were previously rarely requested due to their higher costs.
f. Raising the height of an existing greenhouse:
Up to €600,000.
The percentage has been increased because the measure was rarely applied under the old, strict conditions. Despite these adjustments to the conditions, the payback period remains long, which makes a higher grant intensity appropriate.
i. New installation or replacement of glass on the greenhouse roof:
Up to €600,000.
A higher percentage has been set because this is a new measure. The significant additional costs with regard to standard glass constitute a threshold for this investment.
j. Expansion of the heating surface for low temperature heat:
Up to €350,000.
A higher percentage has been set because this is a new, capital-intensive measure. The inclusion of this measure is important for the transition to sustainable heat sources with a lower temperature such as geothermal energy and residual heat.
k. Physical connection to a sustainable electricity location:
Up to €450,000.
A higher percentage has been set because this is a new measure with a long payback period that encourages electrification and the use of sustainable

electricity. In addition, the physical direct coupling reduces problems with grid congestion.

Article II Regulation opening EZ, LVVN and KGG subsidies 2026

The table in Article e of the Regulation opening national EZ, LVVN and KGG subsidies 2026 indicates the period during which the various grant modules have been opened and the grant ceiling.
The energy efficiency subsidy module for greenhouse horticulture will be opened from 11 April to 28 June 2026. The subsidy budget has been set at €PM

State Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature

Silvio P.A. Erkens