

「Open Call for Participation: ‘24 ASEM Carbon Neutrality Diagnosis Consulting Program for SMEs(Vietnam)」

The ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) is launching an open call for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to apply for the "24 ASEM Carbon Neutrality Diagnosis Consulting Program for SMEs(Vietnam)" to support SMEs in their transition to carbon neutrality. This program is designed to provide tailored consulting services to SMEs that are either currently operating in Vietnam, desiring to enter the Vietnamese market, or are local Vietnamese companies. The consulting services aim to assist these companies in managing carbon emissions and complying with global supply chain carbon information disclosure requirements.

"2024 Seminar: Achieving Carbon Neutrality for SMEs"(September 27th, 2024) will be hosted alongside the consulting program duration to facilitate the dissemination of information on carbon neutrality. Participation is most welcome and appreciated.

August 1st 2024

Chairman of ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC)

1. Program Overview

☐ Purpose

- To build capacity of domestic SMEs and local partners in Vietnam's supply chain, and to establish a foundation for adopting environmentally sustainable practices.
- To enhance the ability of global supply chain companies to achieve carbon neutrality through customized consulting services

*Note: Key Vietnamese carbon neutrality regulation “Appendix IV of Circular No.96/2020/TT-BTC” Mandatory disclosure of Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions, actions and plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

☐ Duration : From the date of participating SMEs selection until November 30th, 2024

☐ Objective : Establishing a carbon management system, including calculating greenhouse gas emissions and setting reduction targets

☐ Recruitment

- **(Recruitment method)** Official recruitment announcements/notices posted at the ASEIC official website or in other related websites.
- **(Target SMEs group)** A total of 5 SMEs in the manufacturing industry dealing with local or international clients demands to manage carbon emissions and have or are planning to establish production bases in Vietnam

☐ Consulting Support Offered

- Selected SMEs will be engaged in a training and coaching process to enhance its capacity to respond to carbon neutrality requirements and to establish sustainable carbon management systems

Phase	Support details
Early diagnosis	- On-site inspection of business status - Training for carbon neutrality capabilities
In-depth diagnosis	Option 1: Building Inventory and establishing carbon reduction roadmap
	- Calculation of carbon emissions at company sites (calculating tool provided) - Analyzing company sites emissions data and discovering reduction factors - Development of reduction measures to achieve carbon neutrality goals - Support for the establishment of a carbon management system
	Option 2: Calculation of product carbon footprint
	- Calculation of carbon emissions of products of enterprises - Analyzing product carbon footprint data and discovering reduction factors - Suggesting Improvement points of carbon management - Result feedback
	Additional option: CBAM response (Depending on enterprise status)
	- Calculation of embedded emissions of CBAM target items - Support for writing quarterly reports for CBAM - Training for EU CBAM regulatory response
Follow-up management	- Establishing carbon reduction plans and a green transition roadmap - Setting short/medium/long term carbon reduction goals

2. Eligibility Criteria

☐ Eligible Applicants

- Small and medium-sized businesses that meet the following requirements and fall under (a) or (b)

- Requirements:

(Vietnam Enterprise) SMEs* as defined by Article 5, Chapter 2 of the 「ELABORATION OF SOME ARTICLES OF THE LAW ON PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES」 (No. 80/2021/ND-CP)

* Average annual number of employees: 100 or less

Total annual revenue: 50 billion VND or less

Total annual capital: 20 billion VND or less

(Korean Enterprise) SMEs as defined by Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the "Framework Act on Small and Medium Enterprises"

- (a) SMEs legally established as a business in Vietnam and supply products to Korean companies.
- (b) Legally established Korean SMEs with production bases in Vietnam or future plans to establish such bases.

* Excluded Criteria: Companies that are bankrupt, closed or have suspended business activities, subject to tax arrears (national or local), subject to insolvency or winding up procedures, whose assets are being administered by a liquidator or by a court, or undergoing rehabilitation proceedings.

3. Application Process

- ☐ Application Period : The application will be open from Aug 1st to Aug 8th, 2024 18:00 KST.

- ☐ Application Fee: Free of charge

- ☐ How to Apply : Applicants intending to apply must use the relevant application form and fill in all the requested information through the link below.
 - * In the event that it is not possible to submit online, applicants may fill up the attached form [Annex 1] available at the end of the document and send it via email to gvc@gvccenter.or.kr
 - Online Application Form Link: <https://forms.gle/WaqZzvpQV9UWb5K27>
 - Inquiries : Korea Productivity Center, Jin Jung-Hwan,, Senior Advisor, +82-02-398-6471, gvc@gvccenter.or.kr

- ☐ Evaluation Process

All applications submitted are evaluated according to the following procedure:

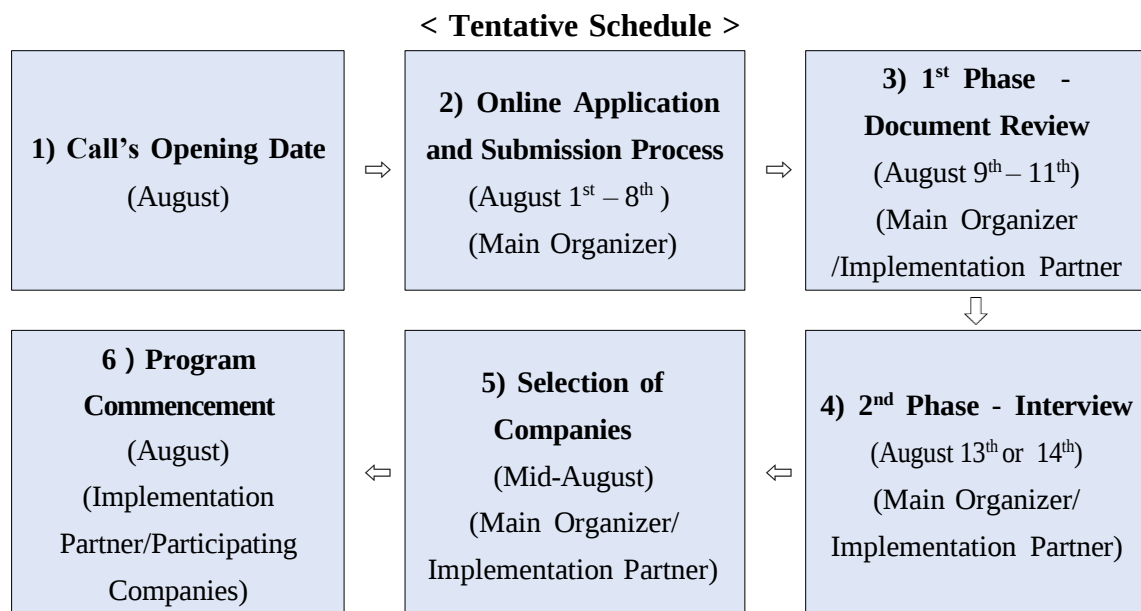
 - **Phase 1: Document Review** - Review of submitted documents
 - **Phase 2: Online Interview** - Online interview to assess the company's background and the urgency of its carbon neutrality measures
 - **Final Selection:** The top five companies will be selected through an in-depth evaluation

□ Timetable and deadlines

Application opening date	August 1 st 2024
Application deadline	August 8 th 2024
Document Review period	August 9 th to August 11 th 2024
Online Interview	August 13 th or 14 th 2024 (TBA)
Final Selection	Mid-August 2024 (TBA)

Applicants who pass the 1st phase will be informed about the outcome of their application in order to advance to the 2nd phase for the interview stage.

The above schedule is subject to change based on progress status. Companies that pass the document review and the final selected applicants will be notified individually.



Please note:

* Main Organizer - ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center.

Implementation Partner - Korea Productivity Center.

Participating Companies - Selected Applicants.

** The 2nd phase interview will be conducted online via Zoom.

□ Evaluation Process and Criteria

Evaluation will be based on the four main criteria. Scores for each criteria are as below:

Criteria (max score)	Description	Partial Score
Competency (20)	Clearly convey the CEO's Commitment and vision	10
	Showcase excellent performance in average sales and operating profit over the past three years, and financial soundness	5
	Demonstrate presence of a dedicated department and personnel for sustainable management or carbon neutrality	5
Urgency (40)	Highlight current state of the company's carbon neutrality efforts such as management of greenhouse gas emissions and existence of reduction targets	10
	Clear alignment with the objectives of the ASEAN specialized support program such as plans for expansion into the ASEAN region or presence of local facilities	10
	- The need to strengthen carbon neutral capabilities and the urgency of response * High-demand industries in Vietnam's supply chain (e.g., electronics, textiles, automotive) * Company or Product Compliance with CBAM regulations * Concrete customer demands	20
Effectiveness (30)	Develop clear implementation plans based from the outcomes of carbon neutrality consulting	15
	Clear anticipated benefits from achieving carbon neutrality such as greater potential to attract clients and increased likelihood of partnerships with multinational corporations	15
Impact (10)	Projected industry-wide influence	10

* Priority will be given to SMEs in sectors with a high carbon management demand (e.g. customer demands, high-emission industries)

4. Information and Contacts

☐ **Information**

- If the application violates the terms of the announcement or related regulations, or if any information in the application form is found to be false or deliberately omitted, the following actions may be taken:
 - Selection of the applicant may be revoked.
 - The applicant may be restricted from participating in government projects.
 - Any government support funds may be reclaimed.

☐ **Organizations involved:**

- Ministry of SMEs and Startups (Host)
- ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (Organizer)
- Korea Productivity Center (Implementing Institution)

☐ **Contact Information for Inquiries**

- Korea Productivity Center, Jin Jung-Hwan, Senior Advisor,
+82-02-398-6471, gvc@gvccenter.or.kr