

Croatian Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development Tomislav Coric said that so far, 4,270 businesses have received a total of 17 million euros in subsidies to mitigate the impact of increased natural gas prices on their operations.

Minister Coric said that, in the first two weeks of the implementation of the Government's measures to mitigate the impact of increased energy prices, 4,270 businesses applied for a natural gas subsidy allocated by the Ministry, adding that the application for small and medium enterprises is still open.

On 1 April, the Ministry launched a support scheme for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises with an annual natural gas consumption of up to 10 GWh, providing a subsidy of 0.02 euros/ kWh. Under the scheme, every month businesses pay the amount stated on their bills, while the Ministry pays the subsidized amount directly to the natural gas provider. The monthly subsidized amount is automatically deducted from the businesses' vouchers. The total projected amount of this measure is around 80 million euros.