

The Ministry of European Investment and Projects announced the completion of the evaluation of applications for funding submitted in the second session of the public call for the development of smart gas distribution networks. 15 projects will connect 45 localities to the natural gas distribution network and have a cumulative investment value of 180 million euros.

Within the limit of the available allocation, 15 of the 123 projects that qualified in the last evaluation stage are selected for funding. 243 projects were submitted under the two rounds of the Large-Scale Infrastructure Operational Program (POIM) call, for a total amount of 2.56 billion euros, 10 times the maximum allocation of the call - 235 million euros. 105 applications were successful but did not receive the available funding, while 3 projects were rejected.

The 15 projects that can be implemented with POIM funding come from 10 counties: 4 are from Hunedoara, and Bihor and Constanta counties have two projects each.

According to the Ministry, the gas distribution network could also be extended under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) if the new pipelines can transport hydrogen mixed with natural gas.