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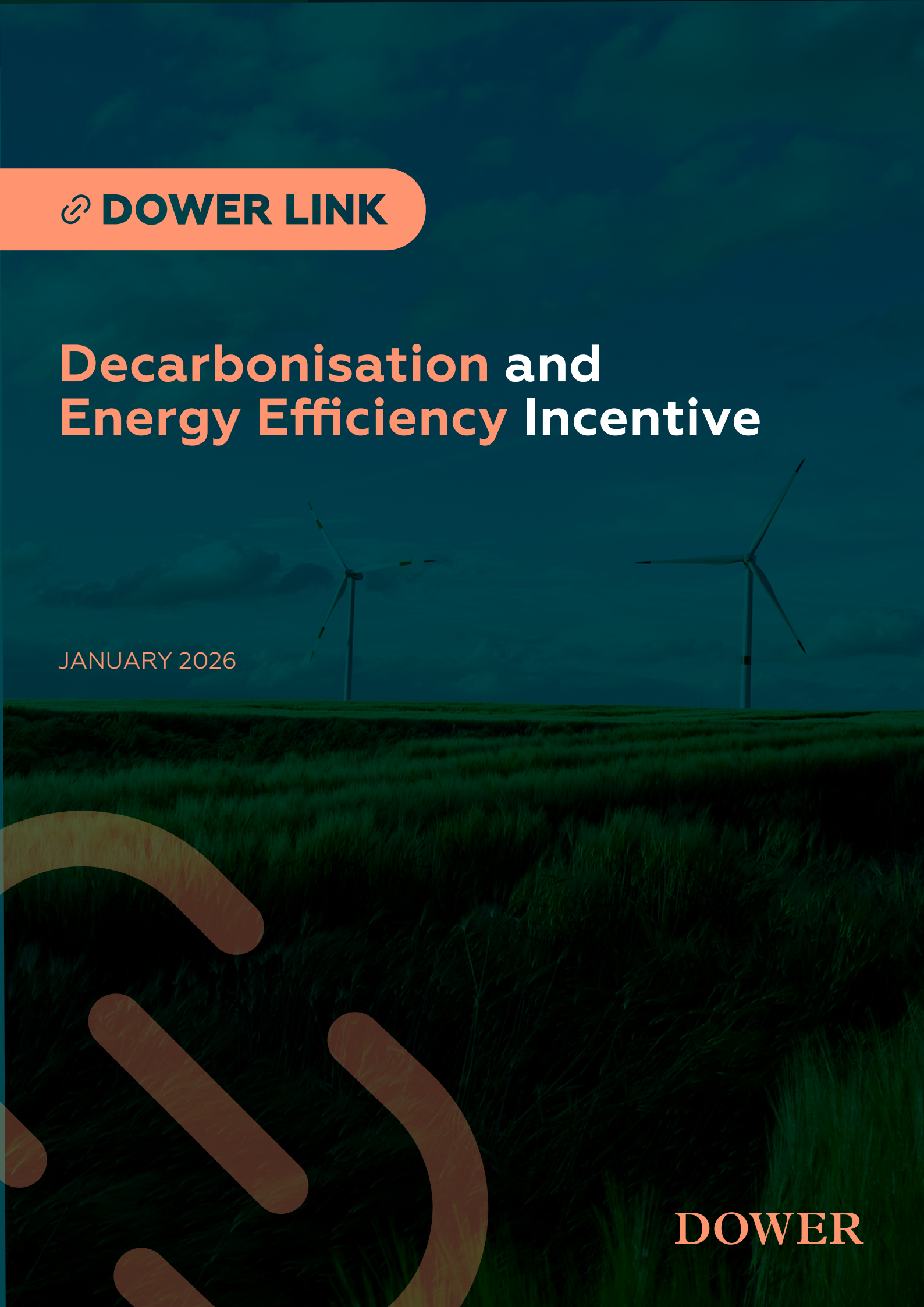
Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency Incentive

JANUARY 2026



DOWER

The Climate and Energy Transition Incentive System (SITCE) – Decarbonisation and Energy Efficiency aims to support the reduction of energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, namely through the replacement, adaptation or introduction of low-carbon equipment, processes and technologies, and, in a complementary way, the integration of renewable energy sources.

Its purpose is to stimulate energy efficiency and the decarbonisation of economic activities and promote a paradigm shift in the use of resources, with a special focus on the most energy-intensive and polluting sectors, in order to accelerate the transition to a carbon-neutral economy.

Purposes and Objectives

i. Reduction of energy consumption intensity, increased use of renewable energy sources, and the growing introduction of carbon-neutral or carbon-free technologies and production processes;
ii. Promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy;
iii. Rehabilitation of the business building stock to make it more efficient, achieving gains in energy cost reduction, comfort levels, and indoor air quality;
iv. Focus on improving energy efficiency, electrification of thermal processes, particularly processes requiring temperatures below 200ºC, and circular economy;
v. Adoption of more sustainable business strategies aimed at the society of the future, based on low-carbon processes and technologies;
vi. Promotion of company competitiveness by reducing energy consumption costs and increasing the share of endogenous and renewable energy sources in energy use.

Under the **General Regime**, companies of any size are eligible to apply, while under the **Contractual Investment Regime** only Large Companies may submit applications.

Contractual Investment Regime

Operations falling under this regime must be:

- Of special interest, with total eligible costs equal to or greater than €25 million, and considered of special relevance to the national economy due to their structuring effect in accelerating climate transition and promoting the decarbonisation of the national economy and/or strategic sectors, regions, and areas of activity;
- Of strategic interest to the national or regional economy, exceptionally recognised through a joint decision by the government members responsible for planning and the economy and/or territorial cohesion, depending on the scope of the operation.

Eligible Actions

Individual **energy efficiency** and **decarbonisation operations** are eligible for support, including both non-building and building interventions promoted by companies that aim to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions.

Eligible Costs

i. For non-building interventions:

- Optimisation of motors, turbines, pumping systems and ventilation systems;
- Optimisation of compressed air systems;
- Replacement and/or modification of furnaces, boilers and injectors;
- Heat or cold recovery;
- Use of residual heat from nearby industries (industrial symbiosis);
- Optimisation of industrial cooling production;
- Technological modernisation, process integration and optimisation;
- Energy management, monitoring and control systems.

ii. For building interventions:

- Installation of integrated equipment generating electricity, heating or cooling from renewable energy sources, including photovoltaic panels and heat pumps;
- Installation of energy storage equipment, provided that at least 75% of the stored energy comes annually from directly connected renewable generation;
- Connection to efficient district heating and/or cooling systems and related equipment;
- Construction and installation of charging infrastructure for building users, such as conduits, installed in or near the building;
- Installation of building digitalisation equipment, especially to increase "smart" capabilities, including broadband infrastructure;
- Investments in green roofs and rainwater retention and reuse systems.

iii. Environmental protection and decarbonisation:

- Replacement of fossil fuel equipment with electric equipment;
- Improvement of quality of service in electricity access;
- Use of alternative fuels derived from non-fossil waste;
- Use of alternative raw materials in production processes to reduce emissions (by-products, recycled materials, biomaterials);
- New low-carbon products;
- Industrial symbiosis for decarbonisation at technological and system level;
- Replacement of fluorinated gases with low global warming potential alternatives;
- Process digitalisation to ensure product traceability and promote circular economy;
- Eco-innovation promoting circular value chains and new business models;
- Introduction of renewable and low carbon footprint raw materials;
- Digital solutions for measurement, monitoring, data processing and process optimisation to reduce consumption and emissions.

iv. Other:

- Installation of renewable electricity production systems for self-consumption;
- Installation of renewable heat and/or cooling production equipment (including heat pumps);
- Adaptation of equipment for renewable fuels;
- Studies, diagnostics and audits, namely energy audits and certifications.

Geographical Scope

i. **General Regime:** North, Centre, Alentejo and Algarve regions.
ii. **Contractual Investment Regime:** North, Centre, Lisbon, Alentejo and Algarve (mainland NUTS II regions).

Support

Support is granted as a non-repayable grant, with the following rates:

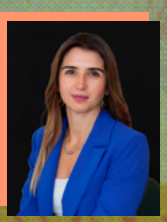
- General Regime: maximum rate of 85%;
- Contractual Investment Regime: co-financing rate defined through specific negotiation.

Phase 1: 27 February 2026 — applications under the General Regime.
Phase 2: 30 December 2026 — exclusively for the Contractual Investment Regime.

How We Can Help

At Dower, we have a team of consultants focused on helping your company grow using the best financing options.
With our know-how, we support the preparation and submission of applications, as well as full project follow-up throughout its entire scope.

Discover how we can support your company in this complex and demanding process.



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