

Poland eyes selling 1000 electric buses annually by 2025



Ursus Electric Smile bus

Poland wants to set up an electric bus market worth some PLN 2.5 billion as it seeks to sell 1000 electric buses annually and build strong export position in e-buses segment by 2025, Polish Development Fund PFR said in a press statement on developing e-mobility in Poland.

Monday morning PFR signed an agreement with Development Ministry, Energy Ministry, R&D center NCBiR, environment fund NFOSiGW and 41 local governments regarding the development of electro-mobility in Poland. The strategic program will comprise two flagship programs, E-bus and e-car.

"In the frame of E-bus program an ecosystem which will contribute to creating a Polish e-bus market worth some PLN 2.5 billion annually [and] providing some 5,000 new jobs will be created," the statement reads. "The aim is to produce an electric bus using mainly Polish components."

Poland would like to "sell some 1000 e-buses annually, create a globally recognizable brand and build a strong export position by 2025," the statement reads. "The program envisages introducing 1,000 e-buses on Polish roads by 2021."

PFR is interested in becoming a financial investor "in infrastructural ventures related to the program," PFR said.

PFR head Pawel Borys said there are potentially available "billions of zloty in debt financing," for the purchase of e-buses or development of related infrastructure. Additionally, PFR is ready to provide "some PLN 300 million" for capital investment in start-ups or program "Research on the market."

The government wants to allocate PLN 19 billion for developing electro mobility program by end-2020, deputy Development Minister Jadwiga Emilewicz told PAP Polish news agency.

The government wants 10% of public transport buses in large cities to be electric vehicles, resulting in 1,000 e-buses in the country by 2020.

The program envisages development of e-car charging infrastructure and building an e-vehicle industry, she said.

Source: The Warsaw Voice