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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report encompasses the events organised in the context of the SUPEERA project in the period ranging from January 2022 to June 2023.

During the past year and a half, the project successfully reintroduced in-person events, allowing for substantial progress in organising activities in the EU13 countries as part of Work Package 1. Additionally, knowledge generation workshops were conducted under Work Package 2. Furthermore, three policy webinars were organised as part of Work Package 3.

Specifically, this report covers the details of the following events:

1. Webinars organised as part of Work Package 3 "Impact assessment pursuant to the Clean Energy Transition policy framework", Task 3.2 "Translating new EU policies into concrete actions for the EERA and SET Plan community".
2. Events organised within Work Package 2 "Accelerating innovation and uptake by industry", Task 2.3 "Dialogue for transnational collaboration with industry in support of the NECPs".
3. Events organised under Work Package 1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13".

The events and webinars covered in this report demonstrate the collective effort in achieving the defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The positive numbers in terms of participation reflect the high dedication of the SUPEERA project in bringing research, industry, and policymaking actors a step forward in advancing their collaboration.

I SUPEERA Policy Webinars

1.1 Green Hydrogen & Clean Energy Research: Issues at Stake, Ways Forward

Participants: 50 participants

Date and time: 20 May 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 CEST

Videoconference Platform: Zoom

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP3 "Impact assessment pursuant to the Clean Energy Transition policy framework", Task 3.2 "Translating new EU policies into concrete actions for the EERA and SET Plan community"

Speakers:

- European Commission, DG RTD – **Luca Polizzi**, Policy Officer, Hydrogen Research and Innovation Policy and Funding, Clean Energy Transition, Belgium
- European Economic and Social Committee – **Pierre-Jean Coulon**, former President of the Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society (TEN) section and Rapporteur of the EESC Opinion on the Hydrogen Strategy, Belgium
- EERA – **Stephen McPhail**, Representative and former coordinator, EERA Joint program Fuels Cells and Hydrogen, Italy
- Hydrogen4EU project - **Gunhild Reigstad**, Researcher at SINTEF, Norway

Aim & Outcomes:

This webinar aimed to discuss pressing policy questions with a view of analysing the complexities of the green hydrogen challenges with key EU policymakers, representatives of industry, civil society and research, identifying issues at stake and outlining ways forward. Among those are the pace of the transition, the infrastructural needs to support the transition, the integrated system planning approach, the implications of the updated EU commitment on green hydrogen for the different EU Member States, energy demand side aspects and implementation challenges. In addition, the webinar aimed to inform the SUPEERA community with tailored recommendations on concrete research areas and industrial challenges in the specific realm of green hydrogen.

Post-webinar materials:

- [Summary article](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Presentations](#)

1.2 Paving the way for strategic autonomy: The role of R&I on materials for the clean energy transition

Participants: 50 participants

Date and time: 1 December 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 CET

Videoconference Platform: Zoom

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP3 "Impact assessment pursuant to the Clean Energy Transition policy framework", Task 3.2 "Translating new EU policies into concrete actions for the EERA and SET Plan community"

Speakers:

- EERA - **Sawako Nakamae**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Advanced Materials and Processes for Energy Applications (AMPEA), Research Engineer, CEA, France
- European Commission, DG GROW – **Daniel Cios**, Policy Officer, Energy Intensive Industries and Raw Materials, Belgium
- European Economic and Social Committee – **Dumitru Fornea**, Rapporteur "Opinion on Critical Raw Materials", Belgium
- UMICORE – **Amada Montesdeoca Santana**, Director of Open Innovation, Belgium

Aim & Outcomes:

The webinar aimed to explore clean energy research contribution in tackling the challenge of securing the critical raw materials needed for the clean energy transition while reducing dependencies on third countries. The webinar served as an occasion to discuss this issue with representatives from policy and industry – the "knowledge triangle" - to shed light on the way forward to a more sustainable and innovative clean energy technology materials environment.

Post-webinar materials:

- [Summary article](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Presentations](#)

1.3 A future-proof EU electricity market: the role of R&I in taking up the challenge

Participants: 130 participants

Date and time: 26 April 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 CEST

Videoconference Platform: Zoom

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP3 "Impact assessment pursuant to the Clean Energy Transition policy framework", Task 3.2 "Translating new EU policies into concrete actions for the EERA and SET Plan community"

Speakers:

- EERA - **Laurens de Vries**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Energy Systems Integration (ESI), The Netherlands
- European Commission, DG ENER – **Mathilde Lallemand-Dupuy**, Policy Officer, Internal Energy Market Unit, Belgium
- E3G – **Vilislava Ivanova**, Research Manager, Electricity Market Design, United Kingdom
- Eurelectric – **Charlotte Renaud**, Head of Unit, Wholesale and Retail Market Issues, Belgium

Aim & Outcomes:

The webinar fostered the discussion between policymakers, representatives from industry, civil society and the research community to shed light on how to design the future EU electricity market to provide a reliable, sustainable, affordable power supply. The webinar constituted a unique opportunity to explore the clean energy research contribution in ensuring that the future EU electricity market is well-suited to respond to the new economic, social and geopolitical context.

Post-webinar materials:

- [Summary article](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Presentations](#)

II BRINGING RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY CLOSER: ACCELERATING INNOVATION AND UPTAKE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

2.1 Bringing research and industry closer: Accelerating innovation and uptake of new technologies

Participants: 40 participants

Date and time: 20 April 2022, 09:00 – 13:00 CEST

Location: Delft, The Netherlands (and online)

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP2 "Accelerating innovation and uptake by industry", Task 2.3 "Dialogue for transnational collaboration with industry in support of the NECPs"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Laurens de Vries**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Energy Systems Integration (ESI), Netherlands
 - **Peter Eecen**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Wind Energy, Netherlands
- ETIP SNET – **Maria Laura Trifiletti**, Belgium
- GROW – **David de Jager**, Director, Belgium
- Ørsted – **Daan van Hameren**, Senior Lead Business Development, Denmark
- TNO
 - **Durgesh Kawale**, Scientist Subsurface Energy Storage & System Integration, Netherlands
 - **Rogier Nijssen**, Scientist, Netherlands
- TU Delft – **Dominic von Terzi**, Chair of Wind Energy Technology, Netherlands

Aim & Outcomes:

This workshop specifically focused on Wind Energy and Energy Systems Integration, which are both gaining increasing significance in the EU policy agenda. The experts involved discussed best practices and underlined the different levels of interdependencies of the two areas, which play a crucial role in the Clean Energy Transition (CET). The panelists discussed the need for further academia and industry collaboration to enhance synergies between policy-related goals and investment capacity.

Post-event materials:

- [Summary article](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Presentations](#)

2.2 Energy storage, Fuel Cells & Hydrogen. Bringing research and industry closer: accelerating innovation and uptake of new technologies

Participants: 120 participants

Date and time: 10 May 2022, 09:00 – 17:45 CEST

Location: Padova, Italy

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP2 "Accelerating innovation and uptake by industry", Task 2.3 "Dialogue for transnational collaboration with industry in support of the NECPs"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Myriam Gil Bardaji**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Energy Storage, Germany
 - **Stephen Mc Phail**, Representative and former coordinator, EERA Joint program Fuels Cells and Hydrogen, Italy
- ENEL Green Power – **Paolo Prevedello**, Hydrogen Innovation Project Engineer, Italy
- ENI – **Andrea Bernardi**, Head of Solar Storage & Bioenergy technologies, Italy
- KIT
 - **Stefano Passerini**, Professor & StoRIES Project coordinator, Germany
 - **Maidor Zarrabeitia Ipina**, Postdoc researcher, Germany
- Innoenergy – **Alessandro Romanello**, ETIP Batteries Coordinator, Belgium
- SNAM – **Dina Lanzi**, Head of Technical Business Unit H2, Italy
- University of Padova
 - **Alberto Bertucco**, Head of the Interdepartmental Levi Cases, Italy
 - **Vito di Noto**, Professor, Department of Industrial Engineering, Italy
- VTT – **Maria Oksa**, Senior Scientist, Project Partner, Finland

Aim & Outcomes:

The event focused on facilitating knowledge exchange on two pathways: Energy Storage and Fuel Cells and Hydrogen technologies. Key takeaways from the research community were the establishment of dedicated frameworks to identify industrial needs and provide research solutions to such requirements, for instance, through European Partnerships or EERA JP advisory boards with the presence of both industrial players and research organisations. The speakers further stated the importance of establishing proper ecosystems where all main stakeholders across the value chain can work together and the need for the industry to have access to dedicated collaboration network platforms with external R&I players, for instance, through Joint Research Centres.

Post-event materials:

- [Summary article](#)

- [Report](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Presentations](#)

2.3 Bringing research and industry closer: Energy Storage and CSP/CST

Participants: 60 participants

Date and time: 15 November 2022, 09:30 – 17:45 CET

Location: Almeria, Spain

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP2 "Accelerating innovation and uptake by industry", Task 2.3 "Dialogue for transnational collaboration with industry in support of the NECPs"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Ricardo Sanchez**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Concentrated Solar Power, Spain
 - **Myriam Gil Bardaji**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Energy Storage (JP ES), Germany
 - **Salvatore Vasta**, Coordinator of SP3 - Thermal Energy Storage, JP ES, Italy
 - **Cristobal Villasante**, JP Representative, Spain
- CENER – **Marcelino Sanchez**, Director, Solar Thermal Energy Department, Spain
- CIEMAT
 - **Cristina Trueba**, Chair of the Implementation Working Group on CSP/STE, Spain
 - **Eduardo Zarza**, Technical coordinator, PSA, Spain
 - **Rocio Bayon**, Senior Scientist, Spain
- ENEA – **Walter Gaggioli**, Head of Solar Thermal and Smart Network Division, Department of Energy Technologies and Renewable Energy Source, Italy
- KIT – **Manuel Baumann**, Researcher, Germany
- Malta Inc – **Escarlata Munoz Granero**, Senior Industrial Engineer, Spain
- Protermosolar – **David Treballe**, Secretary General, Spain
- SENER – **Sergio Relloso**, New Technologies Business Unit
- Solatom – **Miguel Frasquet**, CEO, Spain
- University of Perugia – **Linda Barelli**, Associate Professor, Italy
- VTT – **Maria Oksa**, Senior Scientist, Project Partner, Finland

Aim & Outcomes:

The workshop gave an overview of the SET Plan and discussed cross-cutting issues related to Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) while aiming to foster collaboration between participants. A presentation of the project and of the key findings from the analysis of the 27 member states' National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) also took place, underlining best practices such

as regional cooperation and gaps in energy storage amongst member states. After a presentation of different EERA Joint Programmes, the other participants engaged in a cross-sectorial dialogue. They described their challenges to upscale CSP technologies and what future paths of R&D collaboration could be further explored. The workshop also highlighted the role and benefits of energy storage in future power grids and the challenges faced to increase storage capacities, such as the availability of critical raw materials.

Post-event materials:

- [Recording](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Presentations](#)

2.4 Bringing research and industry closer: Energy Storage & Solar Photovoltaics

Participants: 82 participants

Date and time: 21 March 2023, 09:00 – 13:00 CET

Location: Karlsruhe, Germany

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP2 "Accelerating innovation and uptake by industry", Task 2.3 "Dialogue for transnational collaboration with industry in support of the NECPs"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Ivan Gordon**, Co-coordinator of the Joint Programme on Photovoltaics, Belgium
 - **Myriam Gil Bardaji**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Energy Storage, Germany
 - **Simon Philipps**, Co-coordinator of the Joint Programme on Photovoltaics, Germany
- EIC – **Francesco Matteucci**, Programme Manager, Belgium
- FENECON – **Sagar Venu**, Software engineer, Germany
- Fraunhofer ICT – **Peter Fischer**, Head of Redox Flow battery and stationary storage group, Germany
- INERATEC GmbH – **Tim Böltken**, Founder and Managing Director, Germany
- KIT – **Walter Tromm**, Scientific Spokesperson Energy Center, Germany
- Phytonics – **Ruben Hünig**, Co-founder and CEO, Germany
- Solar Power Europe – **Catarina Augusto**, Senior Technical Advisor, Belgium
- VTT – **Maria Oksa**, Senior Scientist – Project Manager, Finland

Aim & Outcomes:

Co-organised with EERA Joint Programmes ES and PV in the context of the Energy Conversion and Storage Days, the workshop discussed research-industry cooperation on the topics of Energy Storage & Solar Photovoltaics technologies (PV). Participants highlighted the importance of collaboration among different actors and investments from both the private and public sectors notably to scale-up projects and support start-ups. The second session covered a wide range of topics, including battery partnerships, energy management systems, networking schemes, solar modules, and the benefits of research communities' involvement in solar power activities. In particular, attendees insisted on the importance of advocacy efforts and standardisation at the national and European levels to upscale sustainable energy solutions.

Post-event materials:

- [Recording](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Presentations](#)

2.5 Delivering on REPowerEU: Bringing research & industry closer to accelerate innovation and uptake of biomethane

Participants: 70 participants

Date and time: 07 June 2023, 09:00 – 13:00 CEST

Location: Bologna, Italy

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Myrsini Christou**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Bioenergy, Greece
- European Commission, DG RTD – **Maria Georgiadou**, Senior Expert, Belgium
- Aston University – **Myriam Röder**, Associate Professorial Research Fellow, Energy and Bioproducts Research Institute (EBRI), United Kingdom
- ENGIE – **Marion Maheut**, Project Manager, France
- European Biogas Association (EBA) – **Giulia Cancian**, Secretary General, Belgium
- Prodeval – **Luisa Brega**, Commercial Manager, France
- National Laboratory of Energy and Geology – **Francisco Girio**, Head of the Bioenergy Unit, Portugal
- SINTEF – **Berta Matas Güell**, Senior Researcher, Norway
- TotalEnergies – **Erik Büthker**, Specialist Gaseous fuels, CNG, LNG, H2, France

- University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU) – **Marlies Hrad**, Senior Scientist, Austria

Aim & Outcomes:

The workshop aimed at establishing a dialogue between industry and energy experts and delivering recommendations on R&I priorities to support the uptake of new technologies by the industry, namely biomethane production. During the panels, best practices were shared, and challenges such as technical barriers, standardisation, environmental impact and social acceptance were discussed.

Post-event materials:

- Report
- Presentations
- Recording

III EU13 focused Events

3.1 Pan-European Clean Energy Transition: ways to strengthen transnational cooperation

Participants: 65 participants

Date and time: 19 January 2022, 10:00 – 12:00 CET

Videoconference Platform: Zoom

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- European Commission, DG RTD
 - **Hélène Chraye**, Head of Unit, Clean Energy Transition, Clean Planet, Belgium
 - **Matthijs Soede**, Senior Policy Officer, Belgium
- Czech Geological Survey, **Zdeněk Venera**, Director, Czech Republic
- FOSS Research Center of University of Cyprus - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, Chairman, Cyprus
- National Centre for Research and Development, **Maria Śmietanka**, Deputy Director and National Contact Point, Poland
- National Institute of Chemistry - **Alenka Ristić**, Senior Researcher, Slovenia
- NCP_WIDERA.NET Project – **Marika Kowalska**, Co-coordinator, Belgium
- Polish Geothermal Society, **Beata Kępińska**, Chairperson, Poland
- SINTEF Energy Research – **Berta Matas Güell**, Senior researcher, Norway
- University Centre for Energy Efficient Buildings (UCEEB, CTU), **Michal Kuzmič**, Industrial Liaison Officer and Urban Innovation Manager, Czech Republic

Aim & Outcomes:

The webinar provided an overview of the latest distribution of R&D engagement in Europe and focused on the opportunities favouring the EU13 countries (as well as Greece and Portugal). Representatives of research institutions and universities from these countries were informed about the EU's Widening initiative, EEA and Norwegian grants, and the EERA community and its work. The webinar also presented the success stories and positive changes achieved through cooperation.

At the end of the event, measures and ways to further integrate the countries into the EU Clean Energy Transition and to facilitate communication and information exchange were discussed.

Post-event materials:

- [Summary article](#)

3.2 International research collaboration opportunities fostering EU Clean Energy transition in Baltic States – PANTERA / SUPEERA joint workshop

Participants: 38 participants

Date and time: 27 April 2022, 09:00 – 17:00 EEST

Location: Riga, Latvia

Organiser: EERA & Pantera

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- European Commission, DG ENER - **Aleksandra Kronberga**, Policy Officer at New Energy Technologies' Unit, Belgium
- Augstsprieguma Tīkls – **Antons Kutjuns**, Head of Development and Research Division, Latvia
- FOSS Research Centre of the University of Cyprus
 - **Kyriaki Psara**, Special Scientist, Cyprus
 - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
- Kaunas University of Technology – **Žaneta Stasiškienė**, Director of Institute of Environmental Engineering, Lithuania
- Institute of Physical Energetics – **Anna Mutule**, Head of Smart Grid Research Centre, Latvia
- Latvian Council of Science – **Jānis Ancāns**, Head of National Contact Point for Horizon Europe, Latvia
- Lithuanian Energy Institute – **Rolandas Urbonas**, Deputy Director, Lithuania
- Ministry of Economics – **Einārs Cilinskis**, Senior Expert, Department of Sustainable Energy Policy, Latvia
- Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania – **Daumantas Kerezis**, Adviser, the Innovation Group, Lithuania
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology – **Irina Oleinikova**, Head of Power System Operation and Analysis group, Department of Electric Power Engineering Faculty of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering, Norway
- Tallinn University of Technology – **Karl Kull**, Researcher, Department of Electrical Power Engineering and Mechatronics, Estonia
- SINTEF Energi AS – **Petter Støa**, Vice President Research, Norway
- Suite5 – **Tasos Tsitsanis**, Business Development Director, Cyprus
- University College Dublin – **Paula Carroll**, Centre for Business Analytics, Energy Institute Management, Information Systems Department, Ireland

Aim & Outcomes:

The workshop offered a detailed overview of the European policies, strategies, EU funding programmes and collaboration opportunities at the disposal of the Baltic States' research community to bring them closer to the R&I activities of Europe and getting active with the SET Plan process.

Meanwhile, the invited experts and stakeholders shared their experience in the project implementation. They discussed the possibility of developing a shared vision and strategy for cooperation between the Baltic States in the upcoming research and innovation activities and work to identify our strong points and nurture solutions for building a competitive advantage.

Post-event materials:

- [Report](#)
- [Presentations](#)
- [Recordings](#)

3.3 Strengthening your participation in EU Clean Energy Transition - Bulgaria

Participants: 38 participants

Date and time: 25 May 2022, 09:00 – 14:00 CEST

Location: Sofia, Bulgaria

Organiser: EERA & PANTERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- Faculty of TU-Sofia
 - **Valentin Kolev**, Dean of the Electrical Engineering Faculty, Bulgaria
 - **Mariya Trifonova**, Assistant Professor Department of Industrial Economics and Management, Bulgaria
 - **Rad Stanev**, Associate Professor, Bulgaria
- FOSS Research Centre of University of Cyprus
 - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
 - **Kyriaki Psara**, Special Scientist, Cyprus
- SINTEF – **Petter Støa**, Vice President Research, Norway
- SOFENA – **Lily Stammer**, Senior Energy Security expert, Bulgaria
- Suite5 – **Tasos Tsitsanis**, Business Development Director, Cyprus
- Technical University of Varna – **Dimitar Georgiev**, Assistant Professor, Department Electric Power engineering, Bulgaria

Aim & Outcomes:

The workshop consisted of two parts. The first addressed the barriers hindering participation in EU funding schemes. The participants underlined the lack of national energy priorities leading to a lack of national coordination, administrative burdens, a relatively poor knowledge capacity on the EU, the difficulty in reaching National Contact Points (NCPs), and the lack of network and infrastructure. The workshop's second half was devoted to presenting R&I opportunities for collaboration and funding within Horizon Europe (HEU) and Norway/EEA grants. Solutions to improve Bulgarian stakeholders' participation included taking an active role during Info Days organised by the European Commission, particularly in the organisation of brokerage events; becoming an EERA member, opening doors for participation in agenda setting and network building; and registration of interest and expertise for a dedicated call within the HEU participant portal.

Post-event materials:

- [Summary Article](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Presentations](#)
- [Recording](#)

3.4 International research collaboration opportunities fostering EU Clean Energy transition in Cyprus

Participants: 42 participants

Date and time: 1 June 2022, 09:00 – 15:30 EEST

Location: Nicosia, Cyprus

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- European Commission Representation in Cyprus – **Thanos Athanasiou**, Press Officer, Cyprus
- CERA – **Marilena Delenta**, Head of International Affairs and Energy Policy Department, Cyprus
- Ministry of Energy – **Nikos Hadjinikolaou**, Industrial Extension Officer, Cyprus
- Cyprus Institute - **Nestor Fylaktos**, Research Scientist, Cyprus
- Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy – **Evgenios Epaminondou**, Representative, Cyprus

- FOSS Research Centre of University of Cyprus
 - **Kyriaki Psara**, Special Scientist, Cyprus
 - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, PANTERA Coordinator, Cyprus
- RIF – **Anna Maria Christoforou**, Scientific Officer, Cyprus
- SINTEF – **Berta Matas Güell**, Senior Research Scientist, Norway
- TSOC – **Alexandros Nicolaidis**, Market/Network Engineer, Cyprus

Aim & Outcomes:

The program was structured into three main blocks. The first one dealt with the current EU strategy for the CET, the engagement of Cyprus in Horizon 2020, and its activities within the SET Plan. The second block saw a discussion on the energy strategy of Cyprus, mostly focused on PV and wind, and the main barriers to achieving climate targets, such as the lack of involvement of the private sector due to the absence of heavy industries in the country. During the last block, the participants discussed Cyprus' R&D and R&I strategies and the Norway/EEA grants.

Post-event materials:

- [Summary article](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Presentations](#)
- [Recording](#)

3.5 EERA Annual Strategy Meeting 2022: EERA Response in Times of Crisis: Meeting Today's Challenges for an Ambitious Future

Participants: 36 participants

Date and time: 22-23 June 2022

Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Adel El Gammal**, Secretary General, Belgium
 - **Annemie Wyckmans**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Smart Cities, Norway
 - **Ganna Gladkykh**, Clean Energy Expert, Belgium
 - **Kornelis Blok**, ExCo Member, Netherlands
 - **Ivan Gordon**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Photovoltaics, Belgium
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, and Operations Director, Belgium

- **John Olav Tande**, Member of the Joint Programme Wind, Norway
- **Leen Govaerts**, Vice-President, Belgium
- **Maria Luisa Fernandez**, Communications Manager, Belgium
- **Marie Bysveen**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on CCS, Norway
- **Myriam Gil Bardaji**, Joint Programme Support Team Energy Storage, Germany
- **Nils Røkke**, President, Norway
- **Ole Gunnar Dahlhaug**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Hydropower, Norway
- **Olga Suminska-Ebersoldt**, Joint Programme Support Team Energy Storage, Germany
- **Peter Vingerhoets**, Member of the Joint Programme E3S, Belgium
- **Rosita Zilli**, Senior Policy Officer, Belgium
- **Sawako Nakamae**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme AMPEA, France
- **Teresa Ponce de Leão**, Vice-President, Portugal
- **Venizelos Efthymiou**, Member of the Joint Programme on Smart Grids, Cyprus
- European Commission, DG ENER
 - **Eric Lecomte**, Policy Officer, Belgium
 - **Vincent Berrutto**, Head of Unit 'Innovation, clean technologies and competitiveness', Belgium
- European Commission, DG JRC – **Evangelos Tzimas**, Head of Unit, 'Knowledge for the Energy Union', Belgium
- European Commission, DG RTD – **Helene Chraye**, Head of Unit, Clean Energy Transition, Belgium
- Ministry for Science, Research and Innovation – **Aleš Bělohradský**, Head of the Advisory Department, Czech Republic
- Ministry of Industry and Trade - **Jiří Ondruška**, Czech Republic
- SINTEF – **Petter Støa**, Vice President Research

Aims & Outcomes: EERA organised its 2022 Annual Strategy Meeting in Prague, which illustrated the commitment of the EERA community to further contribute to the onboarding of EU13 countries in key policy dossiers, spanning from the REPowerEU plan to the revamp of the SET Plan. The discussions, attended by prominent EU and Czech policymakers stressed the importance of making efforts to increase the participation of EU13 in the SET Plan, CET and Horizon Europe Programme and highlighted the different types of approach at different levels which are needed to increase their engagement. The introduction of an eligibility criteria for the inclusion of a minimum number of beneficiaries from EU13 in Horizon Europe projects was mentioned as a possible course of action.

Post-event materials:

- [Presentations](#)
- [Report](#)

3.6 International research collaboration opportunities fostering EU Clean Energy Transition in Hungary – SUPEERA / PANTERA joint workshop

Participants: 20 participants

Date and time: 26 October 2022, 09:00 – 17:30 EEST

Location: Budapest, Hungary

Organiser: EERA & PANTERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- Budapest University of Technology and Economics – **Borbala Schenk**, Chief European Research Funding Advisor, Hungary
- gridDigit – **Chavdar Ivanov**, Managing Director, Hungary
- KRTK – **Daniel Horn**, Director, Institute of Economics, Hungary
- RSE – **Mattia Cabiati**, International activities and EU projects, PANTERA Project, Italy
- SINTEF – **Andrei Morch**, Research Scientist, Norway
- TU Sofia – **Rad Stanev**, Associate Professor, Bulgaria

Aims & Outcomes:

This workshop aimed to enhance collaboration in R&I activities in Hungary, facilitate knowledge exchange, and showcase best practices of how international networking and cooperation between national stakeholders and key international organisations can be beneficial for establishing long-lasting interactions in R&I activities. It highlighted the importance of developing new approaches to R&I to reach strategic autonomy considering the unfolding energy crisis. The first part of the workshop gave an overview of Hungary's involvement in the SET Plan and performance in Horizon projects before touching upon the Hungarian climate targets. The second panel discussed international research collaboration opportunities in Hungary.

Post-event materials:

- [Presentations](#)
- [Recording](#)
- [Report](#)

3.7 Fostering EU Clean Energy transition in Romania – SUPEERA / PANTERA joint workshop

Participants: 40 participants

Date and time: 23 March 2023, 13:00 – 17:00 CET

Location: Bucharest, Romania

Organiser: EERA & PANTERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- EIC – **Francesco Matteucci**, Programme Manager, Belgium
- FOSS Research Centre for Sustainable Energy – **Chrysanthos Charalambous**, Special Scientist, Cyprus
- Green Initiative – **Marius Ienculescu-Popovici**, President, Romania
- Institute for Nuclear Research (RATEN ICN) – **Daniela Diaconu**, Scientific Deputy Director, Romania
- Măgurele Science Park Association - **Andrei Daniel Groșeanu**, Management Consultant, Romania
- RSE – **Mattia Cabiati**, International activities and EU projects, PANTERA Project, Italy
- SIMAVI – **Monica Florea**, Head of Unit European Projects, Romania
- SINTEF – **Berta Matas Güell**, Senior Research Scientist, Norway
- TRANSELECTRICA S.A. – **Mihai Paun**, President of Energy Security and Investments Commission Member of the Supervisory Board, Romania
- TU Sofia – **Rad Stanev**, PANTERA project, Bulgaria
- University Politehnica of Bucharest
 - **Ana-Maria Dumitrescu**, Professor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Romania
 - **Mihaela Albu**, Professor, Romania

Aims & Outcomes:

The workshop aimed to promote knowledge exchange and best practices among Romanian entities actively engaged in R&I to increase their involvement in the Implementation Working Groups of the SET Plan and related initiatives. Speakers from various organisations provided insights into Romania's energy sector, energy mix, dependencies, and engagement in the SET Plan, Clean Energy Transition (CET), and H2020. The panel discussion addressed challenges such as the lack of collaboration between national entities, low national investment in R&I, limited resources, and structural issues. The workshop also highlighted R&I opportunities for cooperation and funding. Finally, it shed light on funding options available through the European Innovation Council (EIC), as well as the EEA/Norway Grants.

Post-event materials:

- [Presentations](#)
- [Recording](#)

- Report

3.8 Fostering EU Clean Energy transition in Lithuania – SUPEERA / PANTERA joint workshop

Participants: 45 participants

Date and time: 27 April 2023, 09:00 – 17:00 CEST

Location: Vilnius, Lithuania

Organiser: EERA & PANTERA

Work package & respective task: WP1 "Facilitating the execution of the SET-Plan", Task 1.4 "Widening. Recommendations for mobilisation of National Public Research resources in EU13"

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
- EIC – **Francesco Matteucci**, Programme Manager, Belgium
- Institute of Physical Energetics – **Anna Mutule**, Head of Smart Grid Research Centre, Latvia
- Litgrid - **Mečislovas Kaulakis**, Innovation Project Manager, Lithuania
- Lithuanian Academy of Science – **Gintautas Dzemyda**, Head of the Division of Technical Sciences, Lithuania
- Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists - **Tomas Garuolis**, Department Director at Business, Environment and Economy, Lithuania
- Lithuanian Energy Agency - **Vytenis Barkauskas**, Head of Energy Security and Innovations, Lithuania
- Lithuanian Energy Institute - **Rolandas Urbonas**, Senior Research Associate, Lithuania
- Ministry of Science, Education and Sports - **Aistė Vilkanauskytė**, Adviser at Technology and Innovation Unit, Lithuania
- Lithuanian RDI liaison office in Brussels - **Tadas Tumėnas**, Head of LINO Office, Lithuania
- Ministry of Energy – **Daumantas Kerežis**, Adviser at the Innovation Group, Lithuania
- FOSS Research Center of University of Cyprus - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
- Permanent Representation of Lithuania to the EU - **Brigita Serafinavičiūtė**, Research Attachée, Lithuania
- RSE – **Mattia Cabiati**, International activities and EU projects, PANTERA project, Italy
- SINTEF
 - **Andrei Morch**, Research Scientist, Norway
 - **Petter Støa**, Vice President Research, Norway

- WIDERA NCP – **Aurelija Povilaikė**, Head of NCP Unit and Coordinator, Lithuania

Aims & Outcomes:

The final workshop of the series brought together experts who shared their insights and experiences on challenges faced by the Lithuanian energy research community, such as the lack of coordination between national and European priorities. The discussion highlighted the benefits of enhanced collaboration between industry and research sectors. Moreover, the active participation of Lithuanian actors in the SET Plan and EERA was encouraged. The panel delved into the revision of Lithuania's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), and the importance of informal networking, connecting with neighbouring countries and concentrating efforts in areas where countries have a competitive advantage was also highlighted. The workshop's second part touched upon various R&I opportunities for collaboration and funding, particularly EU programs like the European Innovation Council (EIC), the EEA and Norway Grants, and Horizon Europe.

Post-event materials:

- [Presentations](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Recording](#)

IV High Level Policy Conference 2022

Participants: 193 participants

Date and time: 19 October 2022, 09:00 – 13:00 CET

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP4 “Communication and Dissemination”, Task 4.3
Events

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Adel El Gammal**, Secretary General, Belgium
 - **Nils Røkke**, President, Norway
 - **Leen Govaerts**, Vice-president, Belgium
 - **Teresa Ponce De Leão**, Vice-president, Portugal
- European Commission, DG ENER – **Adela Tesarova**, Head of Unit, Consumers, Local Initiatives, Just Transition, Belgium
- European Commission, DG RTD – **Rosalinde van der Vlies**, Director, Clean Planet, Belgium
- Anglia Ruskin University – **Chris Foulds**, Professor of Sustainability and Society, United Kingdom
- EIT InnoEnergy – **Baptiste Buet**, Director, EU Business Unit, Belgium
- Eurocities – **Dorthe Nielsen**, Executive Director, Belgium
- Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology – **Michael Hübner**, Senior Policy Officer, Austria
- IPCC
 - **Diana Ürge-Vorsatz**, Vice Chair, IPCC's Working Group III, Switzerland
- Ministry of Energy – **An Stroobandt**, Directrice Adjointe Énergie Renouvelable, Belgium
- NetZeroCities EU – **Thomas Osdoba**, Director, Belgium
- Université de Liège – **François Gemenne**, Author and Director of the Hugo Observatory, Belgium

Aims & Outcomes:

This high-level policy conference addressed the EU’s response strategy to Russia’s war and skyrocketing energy prices, namely the REPowerEU Plan, which was designed to support the difficult task of combining the short-term objectives of European strategic autonomy with the efforts to achieve the long-term goals of climate neutrality. The conference discussed research’s pivotal role in this regard, following up on EERA’s publication of a REPowerEU Manifesto. Both the conference and the manifesto showed that the research community is very well placed to address both short-term emergencies and long-term constraints, and provide

solutions to the crises, provided they are given the adequate space and resources needed for this to happen.

Post-event materials:

- [Report](#)
- [Recording](#)

V Final event

Participants: 125 participants

Date and time: 14 June 2023, 14:00 – 18:00 CEST

Location: Madrid, Spain

Organiser: EERA

Work package & respective task: WP4 “Communication and Dissemination”, Task 4.3
Events

Speakers:

- EERA
 - **Adel El Gammal**, Secretary General, Belgium
 - **Ivan Matejak**, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
 - **Spyridon Pantelis**, Project Manager, Belgium
 - **Ricardo Sanchez**, Coordinator of the Joint Programme on Concentrated Solar Power, Spain
- EIC – **Francesco Matteucci**, Programme Manager, Belgium
- European Commission, DG RTD - **Hélène Chrayer**, Head of Unit, Clean Planet, Belgium
- European Commission, DG GROW - **Cecilia Serrano-Piedecasas**, Policy officer, Belgium
- A.SPIRE – **Àngels Orduña**, Executive Director, Belgium
- EnergyVille/VITO – **Peter Vingerhoets**, Expert Energy and Climate Strategy, Belgium
- FOSS Research Center of University of Cyprus - **Venizelos Efthymiou**, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
- Malta Inc. – **Michael Geyer**, Senior Technical Advisor, Spain
- SINTEF – **Berta Matas Güell**, Senior Researcher, Norway
- Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation
 - **Teresa Riesgo**, Secretary General, Innovation, Spain
 - **Gonzalo Arévalo**, Director General, Research Planning, Secretary General for Research, Spain
- University of Sofia – **Mariya Trifonova**, Assistant Professor Department of Industrial Economics and Management, Bulgaria

- WIDERA NCP – **Aurelija Povilaikė**, Head of NCP Unit and Coordinator, Lithuania

Aims & Outcomes:

The SUPEERA final event brought the 42-month project to a close and gathered key stakeholders for three panel discussions related to the project's key outcomes. The speakers outlined the next steps in the revision of the SET Plan, including the upcoming SET Plan conference, which will take place under the Spanish Presidency of the Council. The first panel discussion highlighted the importance of enhancing collaboration between the EERA community and the industry. The second session dealt with the low participation of EU13 Countries in the SET Plan and Horizon projects, highlighting that increased involvement enabled them to align their national R&I objectives with EU policies and shape the future of energy research, innovation and deployment. The last segment shed light on the ways to align R&I and policymaking priorities on the currently negotiated Net-Zero Industry Act and the importance of boosting the EU's clean tech manufacturing capacities.

Post-event materials:

- [Recording](#)
- [Report](#)
- [Press release](#)

VI Events-related KPIs

In total, the 17 events organised in the course of 2022 and the first half of 2023 gathered **1244 participants**. With this performance, in addition to the one seen during the first two years of the project, the **objective of 500 participants over the entire project duration is fulfilled** and surpassed. In particular, as anticipated, the last year and a half of the project saw the steepest increase in the number of events organised, both online and in person, addressing the broader project's objectives in terms of widening activities. In summary, SUPEERA has stayed on track achieving the goals indicated in the project's proposal and the Communication and Dissemination Strategy and Implementation Plan.

VII Participation in third-party events

SUPEERA has been actively networking with other projects and stakeholder groups as part of its activities. In particular, it is an integral part of EERA's activities as its identified beneficiary. In this context, the SUPEERA project has been presented as a central topic of discussion at the EERA Annual Strategy Meeting, giving place this year to be the context where its final event was organised. The activities performed and results obtained throughout the years were showcased to the Executive Committee of the Alliance and the EERA members. SUPEERA has also been an item on the agenda of most of EERA's Joint Programme Coordinators (JPC) Meetings, at least two in 2022 and one in the first half of 2023.

SUPEERA was presented at events organised in the framework of other EU projects. Active collaboration has been developed with the PANTERA project, as can be deduced from this report. Further collaborations, for example with the StoRIES project and the ETIP Forum, have also been recorded. Moreover, EERA managed to secure several slots in the official programme of the SET Plan Conference 2022, whose content was enriched by several of the project's findings, especially regarding the revamp of the SET Plan.