

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

Date: 27 April 2022

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Location: AC Hotel by Marriott, Dzirnavu iela 33, Riga, Latvia

Baltic States are actively working towards the success of the energy transition objectives and implementation of declared policies for achieving the low carbon economy. Yet, together with other less involved countries they have low participation rates in research and innovation (R&I) activities and the realisation of the European Union's Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plan Implementation Plans. As a consequence, and unlike more successful Member States they have received only a marginal contribution of EU R&I Horizon 2020's budget.

In this context, PANTERA and SUPEERA are joining forces with the objective to enhance collaboration in R&I activities in these countries, facilitate knowledge exchange and showcase best practices of how international networking and cooperation between national stakeholders and key international associations and organisations can be beneficial for establishing long-lasting interactions and fostering joint R&I activities.

Therefore, the workshop will offer a detailed overview of the European policies, strategies, EU funding programmes and collaboration opportunities at the disposal to the research community of the Baltic States and bringing them closer to the R&I activities of Europe and get active with the SET Plan process. Meanwhile, the invited experts and stakeholders will share their experience in the project implementation. All together we will discuss 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.

The PANTERA project and the EIRIE platform

PAN European Technology Energy Research Approach (PANTERA) is an EU H2020 project aimed at setting up a European forum composed of R&I stakeholders active in the fields of smart grids, storage and local energy systems, including policy makers, industrial stakeholders, standardisation bodies and experts in both research and academia, representing the EU energy system (<https://pantera-platform.eu/>). The long-term objective of PANTERA is to strengthen EU clean energy R&I activities with special focus on the countries that appear to be less involved (including all Baltic states).

To reach these goals, PANTERA launched an interactive multi-functional collaborative platform EIRIE that stands for European Interconnection for Research Innovation & Entrepreneurship (<https://ses.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eirie/en>). EIRIE vision is to become a reference operational point to unify European activity, incentivise further investments in smart grids and support access to exploitable results that can spark further cooperation and bridge the existing gaps.



Alignment and collaborative work are essential to create the pan-European modus operandi envisioned within PANTERA. The feedback and continuing support of relevant national and international stakeholders, EU platforms and initiatives, national and international projects, will enable EIRIE to fulfil its goals.

The European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and SUPEERA project

The [European Energy Research Alliance \(EERA\)](#) is an association of European public research centres and universities active in low-carbon energy research. EERA pursues the mission of catalysing European energy research for a climate-neutral society by 2050. Bringing together more than 250 organisations from 30 countries, EERA is Europe's largest energy research community. EERA coordinates its research activities through [18 Joint Programmes](#) and is a key player in the SET Plan. For further information, see <https://www.eera-set.eu/>.

Among different high-level objectives, the “[SUPEERA](#)” project aims at raising awareness about the SET Plan and the Clean Energy Transition among research organisations, funding bodies and [National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#) from the EU-13 countries and it proposes to widen the activity of those countries towards the SET Plan by facilitating the mobilisation of the identified stakeholders. SUPEERA aims to realise these objectives through the implementation of the following actions:

- The **identification and mapping** of national research organisations from targeted EU-13 countries with limited or inexistent participation in the [SET Plan Implementation Plans](#), with great potential to be strategically involved in the future;
- The **engagement at EERA activities and the SET Plan** of those stakeholders beyond EERA network through the organisation of workshops and events;
- The **facilitation of knowledge exchange activities and sharing best practices** between EU-13 stakeholders and key EERA members with the ambition of establishing long-lasting interactions.



Agenda

Time	Content	Presenter
9:00-9:30	Registration and coffee	
09.30-09:35	Welcome address	Dr. Anna Mutule, Head of Smart Grid Research Centre, Latvia
09:35-09:50	tbc	Representative of Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia/ Ministry of Economics, tbc
9:50-10:00	tbc	Mario Dionisio, European Commission DG ENER, tbc
10:00-10:15	PANTERA process	Dr. Venizelos Efthymiou, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
10.15 – 10.30	SUPEERA findings: engagement of Baltic States in H2020 or R&I	Dr. Ivan Matejak, SUPEERA coordinator, Belgium
10:30 – 10:50	Latvian best practice in energy R&I	Antons Kutjuns, Augstsprieguma Tīkls, Latvia, tbc
10:50-11:10	Lithuanian best practice in energy R&I	Dr. Žaneta Stasiškienė, Director of Institute of Environmental Engineering, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania, tbc
11:10-11:30	Estonian best practice in energy R&I	Dr. Ivo Palu, Director of Department of Electrical Power Engineering and Mechatronics, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia, tbc
11:30-11:50	Coffee break	
11:50-12:50	Round-table discussion: Opportunities to increase participation in joint R&I activities tbc	
12:50-13:20	EIRIE platform	tbc
13:20-13:30	Wrap up and feedback	Dr. Venizelos Efthymiou, PANTERA coordinator, Cyprus
13:30-14:30	Lunch and networking	
14:30-14:50	The SUPEERA project Linking objectives with PANTERA: Mobilization of EU-13 national public research resources in the Clean Energy Transition: challenges and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SET Plan and CET - benefits and engagement possibilities (through EERA) ○ Investment and reform measures for Baltic States (NECPs as background for connection to the SET Plan) 	EERA
14:50-15:20	R&I opportunities for collaboration and funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Horizon Europe 	SUPEERA – Spyridon Pantelis (EERA)



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clean Energy Transition Partnership (Pillar 2, partnerships) ○ Widening Calls ● Norway/EEA Grants 	SUPEERA - Berta Matas Güell (SINTEF)
15:20-16:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research Collaboration & Good practices ● Sharing experience – participation at SET Plan (maybe a panel discussion or a ppt online) ● Financing opportunities (presented above) ● Need for discussion? 	TBD
16:20-16:30	Wrap-up and closing remarks	
16:30-17:00	Networking	

ANNEX I – Extra text to be used as needed

Latvia

Based on Latvia's [final National Energy and Climate Plan](#) (NECP), and on the investment and reform priorities identified for Latvia in the European Semester, the EU suggests that more emphasis is given to the following climate and energy-related investment and reform measures:

- Measures accelerating the deep renovation of buildings and improving energy efficiency in the industry as well as in the heating and cooling sectors;
- Measures improving energy efficiency and renewable energy use in transport, including by developing the infrastructure for electric mobility, and supporting a modal shift; Measures to complete Rail Baltica;
- Measures supporting the further deployment and integration of renewable energy, including promoting the use of renewables in buildings; measures to phase out fossil fuel tax advantages, and aligning heating tariffs and car taxation with emission intensity; in cooperation with other concerned Member States, investments and related measures required for the synchronisation with the European continental grid by 2025;

Estonia

Based on Estonia's [final National Energy and Climate Plan](#) (NECP), and on the investment and reform priorities identified for Latvia in the European Semester, the EU suggests that more emphasis is given to the following climate and energy-related investment and reform measures:



- Measures for reforms and investment into the expansion of renewable sources of energy in view of supporting the phase-out of oil shale from electricity production, including accompanying investments into the electricity grid and into storage solutions;
- Measures supporting the renovation of buildings, including integration of renewables, and continue the phase-out of carbon-intensive heating technologies;
- Measures for reforms and investment into sustainable transport modes, including the completion of Rail Baltica and increased rail electrification.

Lithuania

Based on Lithuania's [final National Energy and Climate Plan](#) (NECP), and on the investment and reform priorities identified for Latvia in the European Semester, the EU suggests that more emphasis is given to the following climate and energy-related investment and reform measures:

- Measures addressing energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings, in particular through the modernisation of heating systems; measures addressing energy efficiency in industry; measures increasing renewable electricity production and supporting the implementation of the renewables energy targets; in cooperation with other concerned Member States, investments and related measures required for the synchronisation with the European continental grid by 2025;
- Measures promoting sustainable transport, including public transport at local, regional and national levels, through investments in e-mobility, the deployment of recharging infrastructure and alternative fuels, including advanced biofuels; measures aimed at the completion of Rail Baltica;
- Measures promoting a green tax reform, by increasing environmental taxes and cancelling tax exemptions, while taking into account distributional effects

The Research & Innovation component in the execution of these measures is essential, and in this regard the PANTERA/SUPEERA project aims to support the research institutions in their efforts in reaching 2030 & 2050 climate goals.

