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Mapping of European Networks on Energy



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1 European Technology Platforms

European Technology Platforms are an effective means of defining research and development priorities, timeframes and action plans on a number of strategically important issues where achieving Europe's future growth, competitiveness and sustainability objectives is dependent on major research and technological advances in the medium to long term. They focus on areas of significant economic impact and high societal relevance where there is high public interest and scope for genuine value added through a European level response. As such, they are potentially a powerful instrument in achieving a better structuring of activities at European level and contributing to the achievement of the European Research Area.

European Technology Platforms provide a framework for addressing major technological challenges. Recognising that the main objective of European Technology Platforms is to contribute to the achievement of Europe's competitiveness objectives, it is appropriate that the definition of Strategic Research Agendas be led primarily by industry. However, to ensure that European Technology Platforms achieve optimum results and reflect wider Community interests, public authorities and all other relevant stakeholders should also be actively involved.

Most of the European Technology Platforms address technological challenges that can potentially contribute to a number of key policy objectives which are essential for Europe's future competitiveness including:

- timely development and deployment of new technologies that offer the potential of radical change in one or more industrial sectors (hydrogen and fuel cells, nanomedicine, plant genomics and new electronic media);
- technology development to meet different policy objectives with a view to sustainable development (water supply and sanitation, photovoltaics, sustainable chemistry, global animal health, road transport, rail transport, maritime transport, industrial safety, clean power and advanced engineering materials);
- new technology-based public goods and services with high entry barriers and uncertain profitability but which offer significant economic potential (innovative medicines and mobile and wireless communications);
- achieving the necessary technological breakthroughs to remain at the leading edge in high technology sectors that have significant strategic and economic importance (aeronautics, nanoelectronics, embedded computing systems);
- renewal, revival or restructuring of traditional industrial sectors (steel, textiles and clothing, forest resources, manufacturing and construction).

1.1 The European Construction Technology Platform - ECTP



<http://www.ectp.org/>

The European Construction Technology Platform (ECTP) will raise the sector to a higher worldbeating level of performance and competitiveness. This will be achieved by analysing the major challenges that the sector faces in terms of society, sustainability and technological development.

Objectives:

The main mission of ECTP is to develop new strategies on Research, Development and Innovation, both to improve the competitiveness of the construction sector and to meet societal needs and environmental challenges.

Major objectives of ECTP include:

- to regularly update its Strategic Research Agenda Implementation Action Plan and to promote it into European, national and trans-national programmes;
- to promote and follow RDI projects at European, national and trans-national levels;
- to launch and support a Joint Technology Initiative on Energy Efficient Buildings;
- to promote the dissemination and exploitation of R&D results within the Construction Sector all over Europe (and even worldwide), in order to improve innovation developments by all the stakeholders of the sector, to contribute to standardisation policies

Participation Requirements:

ECTP has decided in early 2008 to operate under a new structure, including an annual membership fee system to cover the costs of its coordination activities steered by a Secretary General. Four levels of fees are defined for the first year 2008 according to organization type. (750 – 6000 €) In order to become a member, please contact the ECTP General Secretariat to get a copy of the ECTP Cooperation Agreement.

Contact:

Mr. Luc Bourdeau from CSTB
secretariat.ectp@cstb.fr

1.2 The European Technology Platform on Photovoltaics



<http://www.eupvplatform.org/>

The Photovoltaic Technology Platform is an initiative which aims at mobilising all the actors sharing a long-term European vision for photovoltaic; realising the European Strategic Research Agenda for PV for the next decade(s) and give recommendations for implementation; ensuring that Europe maintains industrial leadership.

Objectives:

The mission of Platform is to contribute to a rapid development of world-class, cost-competitive European photovoltaics for sustainable electricity production.

- Implement the Strategic Research Agenda, in which the main PV research and technological development issues for the coming decade are addressed. To achieve the technology goals, research investment and continuity of effort are needed. PV research should be supported

through both European and national funding mechanisms. The SRA should foster an interdisciplinary approach to the development of PV and cross-fertilisation from other rapidly developing fields.

- Strongly coordinate ongoing PV research activities in Europe with the help of a Mirror Group of all the Member States. European and national programmes should be reviewed to ensure stronger cooperation.
- Facilitate the coherent implementation of deployment measures (incentives, industrial, environmental, social and education). Promote, as a transitional measure over the next decade, a coordinated regulatory framework that takes the specific aspects of PV into account. Encourage a sustained growth and the transition to a sustainable market and overcome barriers related to regulations, standards, safety and social acceptance. The platform together with the Mirror Group will provide a mechanism for consensus building in these areas.
- Foster joint initiatives between researchers, industry, Members States and the EU. Develop a robust communication plan, as part of a continuous dialogue involving a broad range of stakeholders.
- Optimise the use of instruments and resources to encourage investment in research and innovation to capitalise on Europe's investments for the PV sector, by supporting export and trade in PV products in the global marketplace.
- Strengthen the relationships with developing countries in order to bring affordable electricity services to the populations of these countries.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

Coordinator PV SEC

EPIA - European Photovoltaic Industry Association

63-65, rue d'Arlon 1040 Brussels

Tel. + 32-2-4653884

Fax +32-2-4001010

secretariat@eupvplatform.org

1.3 Technology Platform on Sustainable Chemistry - SusChem



<http://www.suschem.org/>

SusChem brings together a wide spectrum of organizations and individuals looking to boost sustainable chemistry, industrial biotechnology and chemical engineering research, development and innovation in Europe.

Objectives:

The Technology Platform will create conditions to:

- Maintain and strengthen the competitiveness of the chemical industry in Europe based on technology leadership
- Meet society's needs in close cooperation with all stakeholders
- Boost and sustain chemistry research in Europe

- Improve EU framework economic and regulatory conditions to inspire chemical innovation
- Contribute to Sustainable Development in Europe

The Technology Platform has already produced:

- Engagement with the wider stakeholder community in an open dialogue
- An integrated, shared vision of a more sustainable future EU chemical industry
- A European Strategic Research Agenda for innovation in the prioritised chemical technologies
- An Implementation Action Plan that provides recommendations for mobilisation of resources for collaborative R&D, on sustaining a strong European chemical science base and on improvements for EU innovation framework conditions.

Participation Requirements:

The Platform will consult widely and form a consensus as work on Strategic Research Agendas and Implementation Action Plans progresses.

There are many ways that individuals and organisations can become involved in platform activities:

- Feedback: Comments on the working documents are welcome from all stakeholders and should be sent to the secretariat
- Communication: Stakeholders are encouraged to circulate information on Technology Platform activities to other parties that may be interested in participation or feedback.
- Participation: Participation in stakeholder workshops is encouraged. Suggestions for proposals or initiatives that will contribute to or complement the activities of the platform as a whole and/ or individual working group objectives are welcome.

For further information on Technology Platform activities and to find out how you can participate contact the secretariat.

Contact:

CEFIC - European Chemical Industry Council Dept. Research & Innovation
Av. E. Van Nieuwenhuysse 4 1160 Bruxelles Belgium
Phone: +32 2 676 7328
Fax : +32 2 676 7433
email: suschem@suschem.org

1.4 The SmartGrids European Technology Platform for Electricity Networks of Future -SmartGrids



<http://www.smartgrids.eu/>

The SmartGrids European Technology Platform for Electricity Networks of the Future began its work in 2005. Its aim was to formulate and promote a vision for the development of European electricity networks looking towards 2020 and beyond.

Objectives:

The platform has agreed its initial objectives and is committed to bringing forward relevant high quality research, combined with mechanisms, to mobilise the private and public investments required for the implementation of the RTD strategies.

In this respect, integrated research and demonstration projects in electricity networks are envisaged, as these are key to a successful adoption strategy in the industrial context of an increasingly liberalised and competitive market. Concrete objectives:

- To develop a shared vision for the future which encourages the engagement of multiple, independent parties;
- To identify research needs and build support for an increased public and private research effort on electricity networks;
- To align ongoing RTD projects and new European, national and regional programmes on electricity transmission and distribution systems;
- To draw conclusions and recommendations for follow-up actions and implementation of the strategic research agenda and deployment plan.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

Mr. Pau Rey

Zabala Innovation Consulting, S.A.

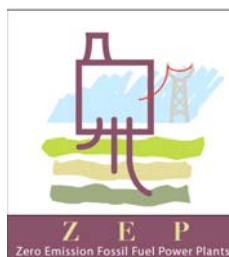
Rue Belliard, 20 B-1040 BRUSSELS - Belgium

Phone: +32 2 5138122

Fax: +32 2 5138658

Email: secretariat@smartgrids.eu

1.5 Zero Emission Fossil Fuel Power Plants Technology Platform - ETP ZEP



<http://www.zero-emissionplatform.eu>

Based on the vision of the future it developed, ETP ZEP aims at coordinating the establishment and implementation of a strategic research agenda to meet the needs of European Citizens and industry by 2020.

Objectives:

Based on the vision of the future it developed, ETP ZEP aims at coordinating the establishment and implementation of a strategic research agenda to meet the needs of European Citizens and industry by 2020. In line with the proposed priority for "Near Zero Emission Power Generation" in FP7, the technology platform will identify and remove the obstacles to the creation of highly efficient power plants with near-zero emissions which will drastically reduce the environmental impact of fossil fuel use, particularly coal. This will include CO₂ capture and storage, as well as clean conversion technologies leading to substantial improvements in plant efficiency, reliability and costs. The platform is open and accessible, allowing the participation of all interested stakeholders.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

info@zero-emissionplatform.eu

1.6 European Solar Thermal Technology Platform



<http://esttp.org>

The Solar Thermal Technology Platform is considered by the European Solar Thermal Industry and Research Centres to be a crucial strategic measure to support the achievement of the Solar Thermal Vision for 2030. Its role is to define, support and accompany the implementation of a coherent and comprehensive strategic plan.

Objectives:

- Strengthen the awareness of the huge potential of solar thermal technologies in contributing to a sustainable energy infrastructure
- Increase R&D activities in the solar thermal sector
- Accelerate the development of solar thermal technology
- Create conditions for a broad dissemination of advanced solar thermal technologies
- Develop a vision for solar thermal technology in 2030
- Work out a strategic research agenda to achieve this vision
- Support of the implementation of the strategic research agenda
- Identify non-technological framework conditions to facilitate a broad market deployment for solar thermal technologies

Participation Requirements:

Different membership types for the ESTTP

Support Group Membership

Every person or institution, who/which is interested in and wants to support the work of the ESTTP, can become a member of the support group. Support group members will be informed about all activities of the platform and will be listed on the ESTTP website. Membership starts automatically when the application form is sent to ESTTP.

Focus Group Membership

Every person, who is interested in working on the Solar Thermal Vision 2030 and the strategic research agenda of ESTTP, is welcome to join one or several of the focus groups. Members will be informed about the work of the focus group (FG) and will receive drafts of documents in order to comment on it. Membership starts automatically when the application form is sent to ESTTP. The members of each focus group will also be listed on the ESTTP website.

Working Group Membership

Every expert, who is interested and able to work on the specified topics, is welcome to apply for membership within the WGs. Each expert is expected to be able to actively contribute to the WG. To become a member of a WG you must complete and send the application form to ESTTP. The FG and WG leaders will then nominate the members.

Contact:

http://esttp.org/cms/front_content.php?idcat=10

1.7 European Biofuels Technology Platform



<http://www.biofuelstp.eu/>

The European Union is strongly dependent on fossil fuels for its transport needs. In order to reduce this dependency the EU has adopted measures to encourage the use of sustainable biofuels. These includes the establishment of the European Biofuels Technology Platform in order to implement the aims and objectives identified by the The Biofuels Research Advisory Council (BIOFRAC) and published as a Vision Report.

Objectives:

The objective of the European Biofuels Technology Platform is to contribute to the development of cost-competitive world-class biofuels value chains, the creation of a healthy biofuels industry and accelerate the sustainable deployment of biofuels in the European Union through a process of guidance, prioritisation and promotion of research, technology development and demonstration.

Participation Requirements:

Please e-mail your C.V. and a short message summarising your motivation for joining a particular working group to secretariat@biofuelstp.eu. Your details will then be forwarded to the relevant Chair for approval.

Contact:

For general enquires about the European Biofuels Technology Platform, please contact info@biofuelstp.eu. For specific enquiries, please email the contacts below.

Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V
Hofplatz 1, 18276 Gülzow, Germany
Website: www.fnr.de
Email: biofuelstp@fnr.de
Staff: Birger Kerckow, Christina Strasser

CPL Press
Website: www.cplpress.com
Email: web@biofuelstp.eu
Staff: Roger Coombs, Jim Coombs, Katy Hall

1.8 European Wind Energy Technology Platform



<http://www.windplatform.eu/>

The European Technology Platform for Wind Energy (TPWind) is the indispensable forum for the crystallisation of policy and technology research and development pathways for the wind energy sector, as well as a new opportunity for informal collaboration among Member States including those less developed in wind energy terms.

Objectives:

The objective of TPWind is to identify areas for increased innovation, new and existing research and development tasks. These will then be prioritised on the basis of “must haves” versus “nice to haves,” the primary objective being overall (social, environmental and technological) cost reductions. This will help to achieve EU objectives in terms of renewable electricity production. The platform will develop coherent recommendations, detailing specific tasks, approaches, participants and the necessary infrastructure, in the context of private R&D, as well as EU and Member State Programmes, such as FP7. TPWind will also assess the overall funding available to carry out this work, from public and private sources.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

Email: secretariat@windplatform.eu

Phone: +32 2 400 1033

Fax: +32 2 546 1944

1.9 Forest Based Sector Technology Platform



<http://www.forestplatform.org/>

The Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform (FTP) has defined and is currently implementing a research and development roadmap for the European forest-based sector. The platform is supported in its endeavours by a wide range of stakeholders. The FTP is an industry-driven platform for collaboration in a sector which makes crucial contributions to the sustainable development and competitiveness of Europe.

The platform is an initiative of the European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois), the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF) and the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI), later joined by the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR), who saw the necessity of establishing a Technology Platform for the forest-based sector

Objectives:

- To increase the sector's competitiveness while continuing to build on its competence in providing functions that enhance sustainability.
- To ensure the perpetuity of renewable forest resources as the basis for meeting the multifunctional needs of society, including a range of sustainable processes, products, services and other benefits for individual consumers and other users.

- The overall vision is that by 2030, products, services and energy derived from renewable, woodbased and composite materials should be amongst the preferred choice of the consumers.
- To contribute significantly to achieving goals set up by European Councils in Lisbon Gothenburg and Barcelona as well as contributing to well-founded policies, directives and regulations.
- To contribute strongly to the fulfilment of the objectives of the European Research Area in respect of integration, co-operation and focusing of research concerning utilization of renewable forestbased resources.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

The European Forestry House
66, Rue du Luxembourg BE-1000 Brussels
Phone: +32 2 239 23 01
Fax: +32 2 219 21 91
E-mail: mail@forestplatform.org

1.10 Plants for the Future



<http://www.epsoweb.org/catalog/tp/>

The European Technology Platform (ETP) 'Plants for the Future' is a stakeholder forum for the plant sector, including plant genomics and biotechnology that was initiated by the European Commission in 2003. It provides a 20-year vision and a short-, medium- and long-term Strategic Research Agenda for Europe's plant sector setting out a consensus on the research needed to fulfil the vision.

Objectives:

To facilitate and accelerate the development and deployment of plant research, including genomics and biotechnology, to ensure European and global supply of healthy, safe and sufficient food and feed; work towards sustainable agriculture, forestry and landscape; develop green products; and contribute to the competitiveness of European agricultural, food and biotech industry, consumer choice and good governance.

Participation Requirements:

In order to become a member, please contact the platform secretariat.

Contact:

Silvia Travella
Coordinator 'Plants for the Future' ETP
c/o European Seed Association
Rue du Luxembourg 23/15, 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel/Fax: +32 (0)2 743 28 65 / 69

Email: Silvia.Travella@plantetp.org

2 European Public Private Partnerships

2.1 The European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Joint Technology Initiative (HFP JTI):



<https://www.hfpeurope.org/hfp/jti>

The European Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative is a public-private venture to "deliver 'fit-for-use' hydrogen energy and fuel cell technologies developed to the point of commercial take-off". The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative is a component of the Joint Technology Initiatives of the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission.

The EU's Seventh Research Framework Programme identifies Joint Technology Initiatives (JTIs) as a means to support trans-national cooperation in key areas where research and technological development can contribute to European competitiveness and quality of life. JTIs are Joint Undertakings set up under Article 171 of the EC Treaty as a new way of realising public-private partnerships at European level in the field of industrial research.

JTIs arise primarily from the work of European Technology Platforms. In a small number of cases, European Technology Platforms have achieved such an ambitious scale and scope that they will require the mobilisation of high public and private investments as well as substantial research resources to implement important elements of their Strategic Research Agendas. JTIs are proposed as an effective means of meeting the needs of this small number of European Technology Platforms.

A JTI implements a common Strategic Research Agenda. This details the research and development challenges that need to be addressed. Each JTI defines a detailed Work Programme and directly manages all aspects of the implementation of the JTI programme, including organising calls for proposals and tender, proposal evaluation, project selection, negotiation and signature of contracts, project follow-up and reporting, all respecting the Framework Programme's principles of competition and excellence. In addition, it deals with general aspects such as research infrastructure, education, and support for SMEs and international collaboration.

Benefits of Participation:

Become a pro-active part of the engine that will accelerate the market entry of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies

- Shape a coherent, long-term and business oriented development and demonstration programme for fuel cells and hydrogen technologies
- Contribute to and influence the deployment of technologies that address the critical European challenges of energy security, the environment and industrial competitiveness
- Be the key interlocutor and sole private partner of the European Commission in the Joint Undertaking that will consolidate European, regional and private funding of R&D and demonstration projects.

- Work with the Governing Board of the JTI in supervising the JTI Programme Office
- Benefit from valuable resources made available through the collaboration of the JTI private and public partners
- Benefit from rules of participation applying to calls for projects to be made by the JTI
- Network with potential partners for projects throughout Europe and interact with decision-makers at EU level in the Committee meetings, the annual General Assembly and other key annual fuel cell and hydrogen events impacting stakeholders

Participation Requirements:

HFP JTI consists of two major groupings:

- Industry Grouping(NEW IG)
- Research Grouping(N.ERGHY)

Industrial companies wishing to become a member of the NEW IG should download and complete the Application Form. All Members of the NEW IG pay an annual Membership fee (3500€-7000€) The completed application form should be sent to the Secretariat of the JTI IG.

Each research organisation that wish to become a full member of N.ERGHY shall pay a full membership fee and is entitled to participate in all decision processes of the Association with voting rights. Associated Membership shall only be open to universities and small research organisations, excluding any umbrella organisations. Associated Members shall pay a reduced membership fee. They may participate in the General Assembly and other activities of the Association with a right to speak, but shall have no right to vote.

Contact:

NEW IG Secretariat:

Avenue Jules Bordetlaan 142, 1140 Brussels Belgium

Phone: +32 2 761 1687

Fax: +32 2 761 1699

N.ERGHY Secretariat:

Dr. Stephan Saupe

DLR PD-E

51170 Köln, Germany

Phone: +49 (2203) 601-3239

Fax: +49 (2203) 601-3797

stephan.saupe@dlr.de

2.2 Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET Plan)

As part of its efforts to tackle climate change, the EU has set itself a series of ambitious goals to drastically cut its greenhouse gas emissions over the next few decades.

- The EU is committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020.
- By 2050, it intends to slash its greenhouse gas emissions by 60% to 80%.

Revolutionary new energy technologies have a pivotal role to play in ensuring Europe meets these targets.

One key element of the EU's Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) involves setting out a long-term energy research, demonstration and innovation agenda for Europe to guide the research and development of new energy technologies and promote their uptake by the market.

European Industrial Initiatives

European Industrial Initiatives aim to strengthen industrial energy research and innovation by mobilising the necessary critical mass of activities and actors. Geared towards measurable objectives in terms of cost reduction or improved performance, they will focus and align the efforts of the Community, Member States and industry to achieve common goals. They will target sectors for which working at Community level will add most value – technologies for which the barriers, the scale of the investment and risk involved can be better tackled collectively.

Based on the results of the consultation process, the Commission proposes to launch the following new priority initiatives, starting in 2008:

- **European Wind Initiative:** focus on large turbines and large systems validation and demonstration (relevant to on and off-shore applications).
- **Solar Europe Initiative:** focus on large-scale demonstration for photovoltaics and concentrated solar power.
- **Bio-energy Europe Initiative:** focus on 'next generation' biofuels within the context of and overall bio-energy use strategy.
- **European CO₂ capture, transport and storage initiative:** focus on the whole system requirements, including efficiency, safety and public acceptance, to prove the viability of zero emission fossil fuel power plants at industrial scale.
- **European electricity grid initiative:** focus on the development of the smart electricity system, including storage, and on the creation of a European Centre to implement a research programme for the European transmission network.
- **Sustainable nuclear fission initiative:** focus on the development of Generation-IV technologies.

The European Industrial Initiatives will be implemented in different ways, depending on the nature and needs of the sector and the technologies. For technologies with a sufficient industrial base across Europe they may take the form of public-private partnerships, while for other technologies which are prioritised by a few countries, they may take the form of joint programming by coalitions of those interested Member States. Where appropriate, a combination of 'technology push' and 'market pull' instruments may be used. The European Technology Platforms will assist in the preparation phase.

Two on-going energy programmes serve as illustrative examples of SET-Plan initiatives: the European fusion research programme and its flagship 'ITER' and the proposed Joint Technology Initiative on 'Fuel Cells and Hydrogen'. Other related industrial initiatives are the Single European Sky air traffic management research programme (SESAR) that will improve the energy efficiency of the aviation system and the proposed Joint Technology Initiative 'Clean Sky' that aims to enhance the energy efficiency of aviation engines.

European Energy Research Alliance

Europe has strong National Research Institutes for Energy as well as excellent research teams working in universities and specialised centres. However, even if they pursue similar objectives, they define strategies and work plans individually. Traditional instruments (e.g. projects and networks) to coordinate their efforts are no longer sufficient. Greater cooperation at Community level will deliver a more effective use of resources. The Commission proposes to create a European Energy Research Alliance. To launch the process the Commission will, in the first half of 2008, open a structured dialogue with the CEOs of the National Research Institutes and bodies of a similar character (e.g. higher education establishments) with significant programmes. The mandate will be to bring about a move from today's model of collaborating on projects towards a new paradigm of implementing programmes. The aims are to align these programmes with the SET-Plan priorities, network existing but disperse capacities and build durable partnerships with industry.

Examples of potential joint programmes that could be channelled through the Alliance include basic energy science, enabling and breakthrough technologies and advanced energy efficiency. The European Institute of Technology could provide an appropriate vehicle to realise this ambition, through a Knowledge and Innovation Community on energy and climate change.

2.3 European Economic Recovery Plan

This European Economic Recovery Plan is the Commission's response to the current economic situation. One of the strategic aims of the Recovery Plan is to speed up the shift towards a low carbon economy. This will leave Europe well placed to apply its strategy for limiting climate change and promoting energy security: a strategy which will encourage new technologies, create new 'green-collar' jobs and open up new opportunities in fast growing world markets, will keep energy bills for citizens and businesses in check, and will reduce Europe's dependence on foreign energy.

To support innovation in manufacturing, in particular in the construction industry and the automobile sector which have recently seen demand plummet as a result of the crisis and which also face significant challenges in the transition to the green economy, the Commission proposes to launch 3 major partnerships between the public and private sectors:

- In the automobile sector, a '**European green cars initiative**', involving research on a broad range of technologies and smart energy infrastructures essential to achieve a breakthrough in the use of renewable and non-polluting energy sources, safety and traffic fluidity. The partnership would be funded by the Community, the EIB, industry and Member States' contributions with a combined envelope of at least € 5 bn. In this context, the EIB would provide cost-based loans to car producers and suppliers to finance innovation, in particular in technologies improving the safety and the environmental performance of cars, e.g. electric vehicles. Demand side measures such as a reduction by Member States of their registration and circulation taxes for lower emission cars, as well as efforts to scrap old cars, should be integrated into the initiative. In addition, the Commission will support the development of a procurement network of regional and local authorities to pool demand for clean buses and other vehicles and speed up the implementation of the CARS21 initiative;
- In the construction sector, a '**European energy-efficient buildings**' initiative, to promote green technologies and the development of energy-efficient systems and materials in new and renovated buildings with a view to reducing radically their energy consumption and CO2 emissions. The initiative should have an important regulatory and standardisation component and would involve a procurement network of regional and local authorities. The estimated envelope for this partnership is € 1bn;
- To increase the use of technology in manufacturing, "**a factories of the future initiative**": The objective is to help EU manufacturers across sectors, in particular SMEs, to adapt to global competitive pressures by increasing the technological base of EU manufacturing through the development and integration the enabling technologies of the future, such as engineering technologies for adaptable machines and industrial processes, ICT, and advanced materials. The estimated envelope for this action is € 1.2 bn.

3 Other European Initiatives

3.1 European Institute of Innovation and Industry – EIT



Innovation is the key to growth, competitiveness and thus social well-being in the 21st century. It is also indispensable for finding new solutions to major societal challenges, such as climate change and renewable energy or the future of information and communication technologies. The European Institute of Innovation and technology (EIT) is an EU initiative which responds to this need by spearheading new ways of creating and promoting innovation in Europe. Based on a novel approach, the EIT will enhance the integration of actors from all three sides of the knowledge triangle, thereby allowing knowledge to circulate freely and for new ideas to be generated. It will help to unlock Europe's innovation potential by pooling together its most excellent resources, allowing innovative businesses, research organizations and higher education institutions to interact in new ways and to exploit fully their creative potential. Over time, the EIT is expected to emerge as a top-class reference model for innovation, inspiring and driving change in existing education and research institutions. In doing so, it will help to transform the European innovation landscape, making Europe an even more attractive place for entrepreneurs, researchers and students and for the benefit of all citizens.

Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs)

The KICS are highly integrated, excellence-driven partnerships between universities, research organisations, companies and other innovation stakeholders. They integrate existing institutions, clusters and networks and are responsible for the integration of research and education activities with the goal of increasing the innovation capacity of Europe's economy.

The EIT has launched its first call for proposals on 2 April 2009 for the creation of a KIC on sustainable energy.

3.2 EUROGIA+ Cluster of EUREKA



EUREKA is a pan-European network for market-oriented, industrial R&D. Created as an intergovernmental Initiative in 1985, EUREKA aims to enhance European competitiveness through its support to businesses, research centers and universities who carry out pan-European projects to develop innovative products, processes and services. Through its flexible and decentralized Network, EUREKA offers project partners rapid access to a wealth of knowledge, skills and expertise across Europe and facilitates access to national public and private funding schemes. The EUREKA Clusters play a key role in building European competitiveness, driving European standards and the interoperability of products in a wide range of sectors. The result is a clear demonstration of the strength of pan-European teamwork in the European Research Area.

From 2004 until mid 2008, EUROGIA was a EUREKA Cluster focusing on the commercialization of safe, cost effective and environmentally friendly solutions in the Oil and Gas energy sector. It became EUROGIA+, a EUREKA Cluster for Low-Carbon Energy Technologies after the White Book was re-written in cooperation with Regional Clusters dedicated to New Technologies for Energy. Its purpose is to facilitate the deployment of existing technologies and support the development of highly innovative new technical solutions. EUROGIA+ is one of the EUREKA cluster projects, each involving many large and small European companies seeking to strengthen European competitiveness in key technology areas. EUROGIA+ encourages cooperation and coordination among European companies by promoting development of Low-Carbon Energy Technologies. EUROGIA+ is complementary to existing European and national programmes and offers the route to fast market growth through European co-operation.

Benefits of Participation:

The EUROGIA+ organization is at your service and will assist you to:

- Help finding project partners,
- Provide guidance to project proposers,
- Promote projects to national funding authorities, through the Official EUROGIA+ Label,
- Monitor progress and provide assistance to projects in progress.

Participation Requirements:

A willing organization should get into contact with the EUROGIA+ Secretariat for membership via contact@eurogia.com e-mail address.

3.3 COST – European Cooperation in Science and Technology



<http://www.cost.esf.org>

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is one of the longest-running European instruments supporting cooperation among scientists and researchers across Europe. It is an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in Science and Technology, allowing the coordination of nationally-funded research on a European level. COST contributes to reducing the fragmentation in European research investments and opening the European Research Area to cooperation worldwide.

COST does not fund research itself but provides a platform for European scientists to cooperate on a particular project and exchange expertise. These projects are called "**Actions**".

Each COST Action is a network centred around nationally-funded research projects in fields that are of interest to at least five COST countries. COST provides the COST Actions with financial support for joint activities such as conferences, short-term scientific exchanges and publications. Each COST Action has an objective, defined goals and clear deliverables. COST Actions have located their topic into one of COST's scientific **Domains**.

Importance of Participation:

One of COST's main characteristics is its flexibility, allowing for an easy implementation and light management of the research initiatives. Activities are launched following a "bottom-up" approach, meaning that the initiative of launching a COST Action comes from the European researchers themselves. The member countries participate on a "à la carte" principle, in that only countries interested in the Action participate.

Participation Requirements:

Researchers who wish to launch a new Action first submit a short proposal to the continuous COST Open Call for Proposals, which is then evaluated by the Domain Committee. If the proposal is accepted, the applicants are invited to submit a full proposal with a complete Technical Annex (the scientific and managerial description of an Action). The full proposal is then assessed through a peer review process.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) provides the formal basis of an Action. The proposal for a new Action must fulfill certain formal and qualitative criteria, and if the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) approves the MoU, the COST countries wishing to take part in the Action can sign it.

An Action starts when at least five COST member states have signed the MoU and if it runs for an average of four years.

3.4 European Commission - Enterprise Europe Network



<http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu>

The Enterprise Europe Network is the largest network of contact points providing information and advice to EU companies on EU matters, in particular small and medium enterprises (SMEs). We provide practical answers to specific questions in your language.

The Network offers concrete and effective solutions to entrepreneurs and companies in more than 40 countries, including the 27 EU member states, three EU candidate countries (Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey), members of the European Economic Area (EEA) and other participating third countries.

The Enterprise Europe Network is unique both in terms of its wide geographic reach and of the wide range of integrated services it provides to SMEs and other business actors. This is made possible thanks to the coordinated action of nearly 600 local partner organisations, employing around 3 000 experienced staff working to support the competitiveness of EU businesses.

The Network is made up of 600 local contact points employing a total of nearly 3 000 experienced staff spread around Europe. These are the contact points across Europe and beyond for business. Most partners in the Network are operated by consortia of qualified regional organisations such as chambers of commerce, regional development agencies and university technology centres: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany,

Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In addition there are partners from Third countries: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, China, Egypt, Russia, Switzerland, Syria, USA

The Enterprise Europe Network is an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry. It is a key instrument of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), which focuses on supporting SMEs in their growth and innovation activities.

Importance of Participation:

Launched in 2008 by the European Commission, the Enterprise Europe Network combines and builds on the former Innovation Relay Centres and Euro Info Centers (established in 1995 and 1987 respectively). The new integrated Network offers a “one-stop shop” to meet all the information needs of SMEs and companies in Europe.

Instruments include business partner search within technology and business cooperation databases and fast access to information on funding opportunities. Individual on-site visits to companies to assess their needs and a broad range of promotion and information material. Representatives of the Network can also help businesses understand EU law, how it applies to their business and how to make the most the internal market and EU programmes.

The Enterprise Europe Network fully exploits the synergies between all support services and helpdesks aimed at European businesses. The “one-stop shop” service is accompanied by a “no wrong door” policy: an entrepreneur or business actor can enter the Network through any contact point, and will then be assisted and personally directed to the relevant service or organisation.

The Enterprise Europe Network offers easy access and proximity to local services for SMEs, thus creating regional business gateways. Regional consortia cooperate to create a coherent support structure for local companies, boosting the region's profile and its competitiveness.

Business actors are encouraged to share, define and disseminate best practices in fields such as innovation, expansion to new markets, enlargement of the client base, improvement of market position, etc. As a result, the Enterprise Europe Network helps SMEs realise their potential in terms of growth and regional job creation.

The Network will also improve the relationship between the European Commission and business. Network representatives will provide the Commission with regular feedback on EU policy, the difficulties SMEs face operating in the EU and the effectiveness of the EU's programmes. All this will help shape EU law that is more business-friendly and will stimulate growth and competitiveness across the EU. The Network is there to support the European Commission and help it to help business.

Participation Requirements:

In order to find local Enterprise Europe Network Partner one needs to click on the below website:

http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/info/network_en.htm

3.5 Innovation Centre for Bioenergy and Environmental Technology



<http://www.cbmi.dk>

[http://www.cbmi.dk/document/CBMIPjece_UK_29072008_web%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.cbmi.dk/document/CBMIPjece_UK_29072008_web%20(2).pdf)

CBMI, which stands for Innovation Centre for Bioenergy and Environmental Technology, is an international innovation network, a virtual centre established in 2006 as a private / public partnership, which works under EU and other public project funds.

The establishment of the CBMI was a response to the increasing political focus on renewable energy solutions, combined with the fact that the utilisation of biomass for production of bioenergy poses some of the most interesting potential to achieve the policy targets. The utilisation of biomass for energy would typically be advantageous compared with thermal and wind energy alike, because it has larger greenhouse gas reduction effects, and also positive side effects in the form of waste handling and pollution reduction.

Importance of Participation:

In general CBMI has the goal to promote business development for companies and organisations, which are involved in the value chain from biomass to energy, no matter whether the business development is related to donor financed or purely commercial projects. Their key mission is therefore to link businesses and organisations in projects that promote innovation. Their close connection to both leading research institutions and private companies, along with their insight into the sector, places us in a unique position to promote the right partnerships for the relevant projects.

- Promotion of partnerships and search for partners with the right profile is carried out via their own network of innovative companies, and they can also offer profiling and searches via the European Enterprise Network - http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm - which covers 40 countries and 600 partner organisations. CBMI is physically placed in Agro Business Park, the Danish coordinator of the European Enterprise Network, which offers various brokerage activities apart from profiling partner searching, and thus boosts the services we can offer the CBMI network.
- In relation to the FP7 CBMI have good possibilities to coordinate the development of project ideas and for setting the right team of institutions to undertake the project. They can, in case it is envisaged, assist with application writing and project management.
- Other services they offer to their network members are for instance weekly mailing of press clippings, access to technical articles, organisation of seminars and conferences, and information about financing possibilities. They are building up various tools for actors in the sector, including a well validated tool for preliminary calculations concerning biogas feasibility studies.

Participation Requirements:

Network comprise (mid 2009) about 400 members, hereof many international members. The network partners/members comprise institutions, organisations and companies with competences throughout the entire value chain from biomass to energy, including competences related to production, research, technology, advice, etc. Membership is free and registration can be made at <http://www.cbmi.dk/index.php?menuid=76&submenuid=130>.

Contact:

Project Manager, Mr Henning Lyngsø Foged

tel. +45 8999 2536

mob +45 4034 8625

email hlf@cbmi.dk

4 European Associations

4.1 European Renewable Energy Council – EREC and Associatons under the EREC Umbrella



<http://www.erec.org>

Created on 13 April 2000, the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) is the umbrella organisation of the European renewable energy industry, trade and research associations active in the sectors of bioenergy, geothermal, ocean, small hydropower, solar electricity, solar thermal and wind energy. EREC is composed of the following non-profit associations and federations:

EREC is composed of the following non-profit associations and federations:

- AEBIOM (European Biomass Association)
- eBIO (European Bioethanol Fuel Association)
- EGEC (European Geothermal Energy Council)
- EPIA (European Photovoltaic Industry Association)
- ESHA (European Small Hydropower Association)
- ESTIF (European Solar Thermal Industry Federation)
- EUBIA (European Biomass Industry Association)
- EWEA (European Wind Energy Association)
- EUREC Agency (European Association of Renewable Energy Research Centers)
- EREF (European Renewable Energies Federation)
- EU-OEA (European Ocean Energy Association)
- ESTELA (European Solar Thermal Electricity Association)

and Associate Members:

- EBB (European Biodiesel Board)

Benetifs of Participation:

In general, EREC participate in Inteligent Energy Europe and Framework Programmes projects that have political content. The members are able to benefit from the outputs of these projects.

Participation Requirements:

Only associations and federations which have operations in Europe can join the European Renewable Energy Council.

Contact:

Renewable Energy House
Rue d'Arlon 63-67 B-1040 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 546 19 33
Fax: +32 2 546 19 34
Email: erec@erec.org

4.1.1 European Wind Energy Association – EWEA

<http://www.ewea.org/>

The European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) is the voice of the wind industry, actively promoting the utilisation of wind power in Europe and worldwide. It is ideally situated in the Renewable Energy House in Brussels ensuring close proximity to European decision-makers. It now has over 600 members from nearly 60 countries including manufacturers with a 90% share of the global wind power market, plus component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, developers, contractors, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies and consultants. This combined strength makes EWEA the world's largest and most powerful wind energy network.

Benefits of Participation:

EWEA coordinates international policy, communications, research and analysis and provides various services to support members' requirements. EWEA also organises high-profile industry events that members can attend at attractive rates. EWEA analyses, formulates and establishes policy positions for the wind industry on key issues, cooperating with industry and research institutions on a number of market development and technology research projects. In addition, the lobbying activities undertaken by EWEA help create a suitable legal framework within which members can successfully develop their businesses. EWEA produces a large variety of information tools and manages campaigns aimed at raising awareness about the benefits of wind, dispelling the myths about wind energy and providing easy access to credible information. EWEA is a founder member of the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) which groups the eight key renewable industry and research associations under one roof, and of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC).

Participation Requirements:

Participation can be possible by filling the participation form in the EWEA web site. The membership fees are calculated on the basis of your turnover in wind energy, starting from as low as €1,488 per year for private companies and €595 per year for associations.

Contact:

Rue d'Arlon 63-65 B-1040 Brussels Belgium
Tel: +32 2 546 1940
Fax: +32 2 546 1944
E-mail: ewea@ewea.org

4.1.2 European Biomass Association – AEBIOM



<http://www.aebiom.org/>

The European Biomass Association is a non profit Brussels based international organisation founded in 1990 whose mission is to represent bioenergy at EU level. AEBIOM brings together 33 national associations from all over Europe, and from 2007 it offers companies the opportunity to become more heavily involved by allowing them to become associate members. AEBIOM with its 33 national associations indirectly represents more than 4000 members including companies, research centers and individuals.

Benetifs of Participation:

AEBIOM,

- Develops and Advertises global solutions to boost biomass production;
- Coordinates international activities;
- Provides direct and indirect assistance in setting up national associations;
- Liaises with European institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, Economic and Social Council);
- Organises seminars, conferences, information and awareness campaigns;
- Undertakes studies and ENCOURAGES experience sharing;
- Promotes the transfer of appropriate technologies to developing countries.

Participation Requirements:

International enterprises and firms can be members by applying the contact points in the AEBIOM web site.

Contact:

Jossart Jean-Marc

Croix du Sud 2 bte 11 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve Belgium

Tel : + 32 10 47 34 55

Fax : + 32 10 47 34 55

E-mail : jossart@aebiom.org

4.1.3 European Geothermal Energy Council – EGEC



<http://www.egec.org/>

The aims of our organisation shall be to promote the use of geothermal energy, as follows:

- In priority, encouraging R&D in the field of geothermal utilization of the existing resources in Europe and allowing the public at large to access to the R and D results and maximise the utilization of this renewable energy.
- By exercising appropriate actions among European institutions to implement a legal and institutional framework and fiscal instruments allowing geothermal sources to compete with conventional energy systems, and to secure economic support in consideration of the environmental benefits.
- By conducting any activity which is intended to promote the market deployment of geothermal energy in Europe and the export of European geothermal technology, services and equipment to other parts of the world.
- By representing the interests of the European geothermal energy industry and users to governments and international organisations, with a view to improving business conditions for the industry.
- By co-operating with national geothermal associations, and in particular with the International Geothermal Association (IGA) and its European branch, and with any other associations promoting research on and application of renewable energy sources, in order to join forces to achieve successful development and implementation in the field of geothermal energy use throughout Europe, and to foster Inter-European cooperation.
- By disseminating, through publications, meetings, discussions or any other activity the use of geothermal energy, as well as its marketing, and to forward information on products and services to authorities, industry, and the public at large.
- By publicising, at European level, the opinions of researchers, engineers, managers, and any other commentators or proponents on the use of geothermal energy, and bringing them to the attention of governments, national and international organisations, decisionmakers, and the public at large.

Benetifs of Participation:

EGEC,

- Promotes the market deployment of geothermal energy in Europe and the export of European geothermal technology, services and equipment to other parts of the world.
- Exercises appropriate actions among European institutions to implement a legal and institutional framework and fiscal instruments allowing geothermal sources to compete with conventional energy systems, and to secure economic support in consideration of the environmental benefits.
- Represents the interests of the European geothermal energy industry and users to governments and international organisations, with a view to improving business conditions for the industry.
- Co-operates with national geothermal associations, and in particular with the International Geothermal Association (IGA) and its European branch, and with any other associations promoting research and application of renewable energy sources, in order to join forces to achieve successful development and implementation in the field of geothermal energy use throughout Europe, and to foster Inter-European cooperation.

Participation Requirements:

To become a member, the participaton form in the EGEC web site must be filled. The annual membership fees are between 100-4000 €.

Contact:

Rue d'Arlon 63-65, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +322 400 10 24

Fax: + 322 400 10 39

Email: com@egec.org

4.1.4 European Photovoltaic Industry Association – EPIA



<http://www.epia.org/>

The European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA) is the world's largest industry association devoted to the solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity market. The association aims to promote PV at national, European and worldwide levels and to assist its members in their business development in both the European Union and export markets.

What does EPIA do?

- Representing the European PV industry towards political institutions at European and International level,
- Informing its Members on the latest legislative developments,
- Anticipating legislation having a potential impact on the sector,
- Advising key decision-makers on the most adequate policies to develop a sustainable PV market,
- Forecasting future European and global market developments,
- Mobilising the sector via working groups and workshops to define clear positions on political, technical and economic issues,
- Promoting a higher penetration of the technology,
- Accompanying industrial development through political actions,
- Facilitating business-to-business contacts among industry stakeholders,
- Supporting national organisations in achieving their local objectives,
- Organising conferences where solar electricity has strong potential and requires additional support (e. g. PV Med conference).

EPIA Members are companies, more than 200 to date, representing about 95% of the European PV industry. Based in over 20 countries in Europe, EPIA Members are active across the whole PV value chain: from silicon producers, cells and modules manufacturers to system providers. National associations only have an observer status within EPIA. EPIA is the only representative structure of PV in Europe. EPIA secretariat is located in the “Renewable Energy House”. In the heart of the European area in Brussels, this building gathers all associations involved in renewable energy.

Benefits of Participation:

EPIA Members have:

- Regular and privileged updates on EU legislative developments
- Access to strategic decisions (e.g. SET Plan decisions)
- The chance to get involved in the shaping of European policies relevant to PV
- The opportunity to have their concerns communicated to key EU policy-makers
- Exclusive access to the “Members-only” area of EPIA’s website with key information

- Presentations, videos, audio material and minutes from all conferences and workshops organised by EPIA
- Company profile on the EPIA website
- “Members-Only” events
- The possibility to take part in working groups and steering committees
- Special rates to events organised or co-organised by EPIA

Participation Requirements:

To become a member, the participation form in the EPIA web site must be filled. The annual membership fees are between 6000-21000 € according to the membership type.

Contact:

Adel El Gammal, Secretary General

Tel: +32 (0)2 465 38 84

Email: a.elgammal@epia.org

4.1.5 European Small Hydropower Association – ESHA



<http://www.eshabe/>

The European Small Hydropower Association (ESHA) is a non-profit International Association representing the sector of small hydropower. The association was founded in 1989 as an initiative of the European Commission. ESHA is a founding member of EREC (European Renewable Energy Council), which groups together all main European renewable energy industry and research associations. Since March 2000, ESHA has shared its headquarters with other EREC members in the Renewable Energy House, in Brussels. The benefits at both economic and environmental levels that can be achieved by developing SHP are enormous. However, these benefits can be achieved only if use is made of synergies at the European, national and local level.

The main object of ESHA is the study and the promotion of the use of water to generate electricity in plants with a capacity of under 10 MW, by the means:

- To support any initiative at national and international level to promote the welfare of generation through small hydro and other renewable energies systems
- To ensure that the evolving policy of the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers towards renewables provides not only for the further development of small hydro but also provides a structure which safeguards the viability of existing capacity
- To ensure that the rules for such a structure are incorporated in the legal and institutional framework of the European Union.
- To unite the Small Hydro Associations of the European Union in one strong federation, so that a maximum number of small hydro producers and other participants in the industry who are members of a national or regional association will become members of ESHA.
- To promote and protect the image of ESHA as the representative organisation for all small hydro interests in the European Union.

Benefits of Participation:

Membership in ESHA gives right to the following benefits:

- Receiving of regular up-to-date information on the SHP sector
- Newsletter and specific member information
- Reduced conference fee for Hydroenergia, ESHA's biennial conference
- Privileged access to all relevant SHP actors (national associations, research sector, industry)
- Free access to a series of publications on different renewable energy subjects
- Access to ESHA Secretariat in Brussels

Participation Requirements:

To become a member, the participation form in the ESHA web site must be filled. The annual membership fees are between 100 – 1000 € according to the membership type.

Contact:

Renewable Energy House
Rue d'Arlon 63-67, 1040 Brussels, Belgium
Fax: +32 2 546 1947
E-mail info@esha.be

4.1.6 European Solar Thermal Industry Federation – ESTIF



<http://www.estif.org/>

ESTIF stands for:

- Stronger attention on solar thermal within national and European R&D programmes
- A broad European initiative for R&D on renewable cooling, including solar assisted cooling
- Focused R&D approach for promising areas like solar process heat, solar desalination, long term heat storage, building integration

To fulfill its mission, ESTIF pursues the following strategic objectives:

- to be a recognised partner of the EU institutions for the purpose of policy advice and implementation of support programs for renewables in heating and cooling
- to promote solar thermal policies able to drive the EU towards reaching its target of 100 million m² installed (EC White paper on Renewable Energies 1997)
- to support its members when dealing with EU institutions, programs and policies concerning solar thermal issues
- to promote the abolition of any trade barriers hampering the development of an open and large solar thermal market in Europe

- to enhance EU initiatives aimed at the integration of solar thermal in the built environment
- to develop and support instruments which increase consumer confidence, product quality and the impact of market stimulation tools
- to actively contribute to the realisation of solar thermal's potential, focusing in the first instance on Europe. Growth in Europe will be the best precondition for success in other parts of the world.

Benetifs of Participation:

- Take advantage of the key solar thermal network in Europe,
- Gain privileged access to ESTIF market information and data,
- Strengthen the voice of solar thermal vis-à-vis the European institutions,
- Increase your visibility through a free web link on ESTIF's homepage,
- Get discounts on ESTIF events and publications,
- Influence European policies to increase the share of solar thermal energy,
- Benefit from first hand information on standards and certification,
- Get support from ESTIF staff when dealing with EU institutions,
- Stay informed with ESTIF's regular newsletter covering solar thermal in Europe.

Participation Requirements:

To become a member, the participaton form in the ESTIF web site must be filled. The annual membership fees are between 800 – 6300 €.

Contact:

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Fax: +32 2 546 19 39
Email: info@estif.org

4.1.7 European Biomass Industry Association – EUBIA



<http://www.eubia.org/>

EUBIA, the European Biomass Industry Association, was established in 1996 as an international non profit association in Brussels, Belgium. It groups together market forces, technology providers, and knowledge centres, all of them active in the field of biomass. Main objective of EUBIA is to support the European biomass industries at all levels, promoting the use of biomass as an energy source, developing innovative bioenergy concepts and fostering international co-operation within the bioenergy field.

Benetifs of Participation:

- EUBIA's vision is a strong and reliable biomass sector able to contribute significantly to a global, sustainable energy system, preserving ecosystems equilibrium and ensuring economic development

- EUBIA intends to represent, protect and promote the interests of the European biomass industry in general and of its members in particular.
- Given that biomass will have an important role to play in promoting sustainable development world wide and the deployment of clean energies, EUBIA intends to contribute in strengthening European policies in this sector, protecting industrial interest, identifying new opportunities, promoting job creation and better environment conditions.
- EUBIA has gained extensive experience in the bio-energy field through the coordination and participation to a number of high-level, international projects and promotion activities.
- EUBIA has started major international co-operation activities with third countries such as China, Brazil, the Russian Federation or Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Participation Requirements:

To become a member, the participaton form in the EUBIA web site must be filled. Membership of EUBIA runs in a 12 month period from the date of joining. There is an entrance fee of € 1000 and an annual fee of € 1000.

Contact:

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Fax: +32 2 400 10 21
Email: eubia@eubia.org

4.1.8 European Renewable Energy Centers Agency – EUREC



<http://www.eurec.be/>

EUREC Agency was founded in 1991 as European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG) with the goal of improving the quality and scope of European research and development in renewable energy technologies. EUREC Agency is the voice of renewable energy research in Europe, representing European Research Centres active in renewable energy.

EUREC Agency's mission is based around three objectives:

- to act as a communication hub for renewable energy research issues for EUREC members and other interest groups or influential bodies like the EU decision-takers, European Technology Platforms, etc.
- to create strong links with the renewable energy industry, fostering contacts and cooperation between members and their counterparts in the industry. These links contribute to define comprehensive R&D strategies, and should facilitate innovation and technology transfer through the promotion of R&D results.
- to take an active part in educating renewable energy engineers. EUREC Agency manages the European Master in Renewable Energy.

Benetifs of Participation:

EUREC Agency is a founding member of the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) the sector's umbrella organisation composed of 8 key European renewable energy associations. EUREC Agency and the European renewable energy industry associations are all represented in Brussels in the Renewable Energy House, near the European institutions. EUREC Agency is developing its position on the "Research Infrastructures", set to play a more important role under FP7 than at present under FP6, with a view to ensuring that research infrastructures for renewable energy technologies are adequately considered.

Participation Requirements:

- The research group should be proposed by at least 3 EUREC Members (1 from the same country as the proposed group, 2 from an other EU country)
- Only single research entities can be accepted, not complete universities.
- The research facilities should be visited by a EUREC delegation
- The research group should have at least 10 persons active in the field of renewable R&D
- The research group should have existed in the same form for at least 5 years, to ensure the stability of the group.
- Members are bound by the Articles of Association and the By-laws of EUREC Agency EEIG
- Members pay a yearly Membership Fee. This fee is decided by the College of Members. Currently it depends upon the size of the Institute (number of full time scientists working in the field of renewable energy).

This fee, together with project income (EC projects) and a limited own income is necessary to finance the activities of EUREC.

Contact:

Rue d'Arlon 63-67 Brussels Belgium B-100

Phone: +32 2 546 19 30

Fax: +32 2 546 19 34

4.2 Other Associations

4.2.1 European Hydrogen Association – EHA



<http://www.h2euro.org/>

In 2000 five national hydrogen organisations established the European Hydrogen Association (EHA) and started a close collaboration to promote the use of hydrogen as an energy vector in Europe. In 2004 major European industries active in the development of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies joined the EHA and enforced this effort to create a commercial market for stationary and transport applications and a role as market leader for the European hydrogen and fuel cell sector. The EHA currently represents 14 national hydrogen and fuel cell organisations and the main European companies active in the hydrogen infrastructure development. Its unique membership structure has enabled the EHA to have up-close insight in local developments and to communicate important issues regarding industrial and regulatory needs to key decision makers at EU level.

Benefits of Participation:

The missions of the Association are defined as follows:

- Internal Collect relevant information and circulate it between members (scientific, economical and technical, laws and regulations, requests for proposals, events, etc.). Encourage exchanges and joint actions between members.
- External Identify and advertise hydrogen-related capabilities existing in Europe (not restricted to those of members). Inform the different relevant segments of society through adapted means.
- Interface with national and international organizations, and with public bodies in Europe, especially in the area of laws, standards and regulations.
- Promote cooperation between its members.
- Appoint representatives to become members of advisory bodies, scientific institutions, etc.
- Encourage research & development initiatives that have innovative potential, in particular by suggesting topics to the European Commission's R&D program.
- Be active in the area of standards : propose or participate to the creation of European or international standards, or any other technical documents relating to hydrogen, and advertise such standards or documents.
- Promote the training of young research students, technicians and engineers in areas relevant to the object of the Association.

Participation Requirements:

Membership is restricted to national associations, organisations, and individuals supporting the mission and objectives of the Association. The annual membership fees are between 300-15000 €.

Contact:

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Fax: + 32 2 772 50 44
E-mail: info@h2euro.org

4.2.2 The European Association for the Promotion of Cogeneration - COGEN



www.cogeneurope.eu

COGEN Europe was created in 1993 to reflect the clear need for greater co-operative efforts at a European level to realise the full potential for cogeneration. COGEN Europe's status is that of a Belgian non for profit organisation. COGEN Europe's Membership includes around 100 power companies, power authorities, national cogeneration associations, suppliers, and other organisations involved in cogeneration in 30 countries. The Executive Committee is the formal management body of COGEN Europe. COGEN Europe is a member of the World Alliance for Decentralized Energy

(WADE). The COGEN Europe network covers the whole of the European Union, Central and Eastern Europe, and includes also Japan, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Benetifs of Participation:

As a member of COGEN, an organization;

- May play a role in the formation of a large cogeneration market in Europe
- Can take place a role in the determination of key policies and applications in the area of Cogeneration in Europe
- Can have information on markets such as national reports on Cogeneration
- Can access to the publications of COGEN Europe like market reports
- Can establish partnerships with other COGEN Europe partners

Participation Requirements:

If you are willing to be a member please contact secretariat. There may be a certain amount of discount that may be provided for members coming from rising market countries.

Contact:

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Phone: +32 2 772 8290

Fax: +32 2 772 5044

Email: info@cogeneurope.eu

4.2.3 The European Heating Oil Association - EUROFUEL



<http://www.eurofuel.eu>

The European Heating Oil Association (Eurofuel) represents the national organisations that promote the use of heating oil for domestic heating in 10 European countries, including over 10 000 companies. Eurofuel is engaged in the promotion of existing and innovative techniques for heating oil and equipment, in the domestic market. In this way, the members of EUROFUEL are committed to ensuring the competitiveness and efficiency of heating with oil, while also reducing its environmental footprint.

Benetifs of Participation:

Eurofuel is engaged in the promotion of existing and innovative techniques for heating oil and equipment, in the domestic market, to ensure the competitiveness and efficiency of heating with oil, while also reducing its environmental footprint.

In addition to that, the Association has contact with various other organizations in this field, which gives the members a good chance to communicate with other organizations.

Participation Requirements:

Participation fees are determined by the Board of Directors each year.

Contact:

Rue de la Rosée 12 1070 Brussels, Belgium

Phone: +32 2 558 52 22

Fax: +32 2 523 97 88
Email: info@eurofuel.eu

4.2.4 The Union of the Electricity Industry - EURELECTRIC



<http://www2.eurelectric.org/>

The Union of the Electricity Industry-EURELECTRIC is the sector association which represents the common interests of the electricity industry at pan-European level, plus its affiliates and associates on several other continents. The association was formed as a result of a merger in December 1999 of the sister sector bodies UNIPEDA and EURELECTRIC. EURELECTRIC's mission is to contribute to the development and competitiveness of the electricity industry and to promote the role of electricity in the advancement of society. Within the European Union, EURELECTRIC represents the electricity industry in public affairs, in particular in relation to the EU legislative institutions in order to promote the interests of its Members at a political level.

Benefits of Participation:

To reach fastly to the strategic information and developments about the European Electric Industry,
Access to relevant working groups' detailed studies of analysis of the industry's concerns over production, distribution, supply and sales,
Access to news and views on political arrangements regarding energy, market regulations, environment and sustainable development and management issues (financial, economic and fiscal issues, standardization, social policies and R&D),
Reach to web based information on the EU initiatives,
Statistical predictions on the European Electric Industry
Chance to cooperate with other industrial organizations in the industry activities

Participation Requirements:

Annual membership fees are calculated according to the revenues of the firms and vary between 2500-7500 Euros per year.

Contact:

Bd de l'Impératrice 66 100 Brussels Belgium
Phone: 32 2 515 1000
Fax: 32 2 515 1010

5 FP7 National Contact Point (NCP) Networks

NCPs are national structures established and financed by governments of the 27 EU member states and the states associated to the framework programme. NCPs give personalised support on the spot and in proposers' own languages.

In general, the following basic services are available in all countries:

- Guidance on choosing realted FP7 Theme and topic
- Advice on administrative procedures and contractual issues
- Training and assistance on proposal writing
- Distribution of documentation (forms, guidelines, manuals etc.)
- Assistance in partner search

There are 8 NCP networks already set up which are related to Energy Research.

5.1 ICT NCP Network



<http://www.ideal-ist.net/>

Objectives of the Project:

Ideal-ist reduces the barriers faced by organisations wishing to participate in the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) programme by offering transnational partner search. The project provides an entirely web-based platform and thus making it the ideal tool for

- joining ICT projects
- finding partners for your project idea
- finding services to support you in your ICT project

Contact:

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Deutsches Zentrum fuer Luft und Raumfahrt

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5.2 Transport NCP Network



<http://www.transport-ncps.net/>

ETNA Project - European Transport NCP Alliance

Objectives:

ETNA - "European Transport NCP Alliance" aims at the development and implementation of a coordination mechanism for stimulating closer cooperation among National Contact Points for the theme "Transport" in the Seventh Framework Programme. ETNA will facilitate the improvement of the overall quality of NCP services across Europe in the area of transport – thereby making future calls more accessible for all stakeholders and contributing to an improvement in the average quality of proposals submitted. This will be accomplished by carrying out a series of well-coordinated tasks and measures.

Contact:

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5.3 Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Biotechnology NCP Network

BIO-NET: "A Network of National Contact Points providing cutting-edge NCP services to the Knowledge-Based-Economy research community"

Objectives of the Project:

- Improve the services of BIO-NCPs activities through training and common tools.
 - Benchmarking the BIO-NCPs activities through an extensive SWOT-analysis of NCP practices.
 - Capacity building and assisting less experienced NCPs through a series of 6 training sessions.
 - Setting up a knowledge management system to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experience within the BIO-NCP network based on the "Wikipedia" concept.
 - Setting up a library for common training material to be used at national information days and training events.
- Improve the cohesion of the BIO-NCP network through network facilities.
 - Organise twinning sessions and staff exchanges to share experience and best practices.
 - Development and promotion of a common communication tool to enhance the sharing of experience and solve common problems.
- Simplify access to FP7 calls through joint trans-national activities.
 - 10 joint cross-border regional workshops, aimed specifically at SMEs, lowering the barriers for participation.
 - 12 joint cross-border regional workshops, aimed specifically at researchers, lowering the barriers for participation.
 - Improving the partner search services by implementing a single European partner search system to be used by all BIO-NCPs.
 - Stimulation of international research cooperation through a series of 4 annual European brokerage events.
 - Joint communication material aimed at researchers, industry and SMEs, including a website, leaflets, poster, and success stories on video and partner search catalogues.

Contact:

Mr. Koos De Korte (Coordinator)

SENTERNOVEM, Netherlands

e-mail: K.deKorte@egl.nl

5.4 Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials & New Production Technologies NCP Network

Objectives of the Project:

To optimise the tools at hand to the benefit of the networks clients, such as the adoption of a partner search system and the improvement of the communication tools such as the Network website (with the partner search system embedded into it) and other communication material.

- To maximise awareness about the NMP NCP Network and reach the interested audience through the presence at National and European events with joint NMP NCP stands, brokerage (partnership building) events, joint awareness campaigns including visits to industrial and research players and specialised workshops and taking advantage of large European technology platforms events through establishing links with them.
- To standardise the Network skills and the provided services through the creation of a charter of services for the clients and an operational manual for the NMP NCP Network and through the provision of targeted training to both new NCPs and established NCPs, twinning schemes and staff exchanges.
- To improve the results of the underperforming countries, such as the new EU12 countries. An increase of 5% in participation from those countries in the next two NMP calls (November 2009 and July 2010) is the target.

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e-mail: nats@help-forward.gr
<http://www.help-forward.gr>

5.5 Environment NCP Network

ENV-NCP-TOGETHER: Environment NCPs cooperating to improve their effectiveness

Objectives:

The main objectives of this proposal are:

- Strengthening the cooperation between NCPs from EU MS, by promoting transnational cooperation;
- Reinforcing international cooperation with NCPs from some of the International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC) with high potential of participation to FP7
- Increasing the number and improving the quality of project proposals submitted to FP7 calls for proposals by a better service offered by National Contact Points to potential proposers (scientific community industry, NGOs, etc.)

Contact:

Viorel Vulturescu (Coordinator)
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5.6 Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities NCP Network



www.net4society.eu

NET4SOCIETY: Trans-national co-operation among National Contact Points for Socio-economic Sciences and the Humanities

Objectives of the Project:

The declared mission of “NET4SOCIETY” is to ensure that all SSH NCPs have full and easy access to all tools of their trade, e.g. all relevant information from all relevant sources, trainings, workshops, best-practices, etc, giving all SSH NCPs the opportunity to be part of a learning network. Communication and networking, however, is considered an open process, not restricted to SSH NCPs, but rather including the Commission and other NCP-Networks and when possible, relevant stakeholders. Improving communication lines between SSH NCPs and the Commission is considered imperative for the overall success of the project.

Contact:

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nina.berweger@dlr.de

5.7 Science in Society NCP Network



www.eurosis-project.eu

EUROSIS: National Contact Point's Network for the Science in Society

Objectives of the Project:

EUROSIS will bring together all the NCPs for the Science in Society program in order to create a network and continually improve their services through the exchange of good practices, communication of all the representatives, the creation of a well structured partner search tool. Furthermore a lot of events will be organised in order to train both the new NCPs as well as the already experienced. One of the most important activities of the project will be the survey of the competence of the already nominated NCPs. This will be performed through mapping the SiS NCPs' competences and stakeholders' needs in order to launch the first knowledge management tool for the SiS NCP services. It has to be noted that the SiS NCP Network is established for the first time to the basic issues for the period of the proposed project is to establish the needed communication in a very well structured way.

Contact:

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5.8 Regions of Knowledge NCP Network



<http://www.transregncp.eu/>

Objectives of the Project:

TRANS REG NCP project, the trans-national network of the National Contact Points for the "Regions of Knowledge" programme, aims to support regional stakeholders in enhancing science and technology based development. The Network provides high quality services to regional authorities, research institutions and enterprises on the opportunities offered by FP7 to boost innovation for economic and social growth

Contact:

Ewa Kusmierczyk (Coordinator)
IPPT PAN, Poland
ekusmie@kpk.gov.pl

5.9 Regions of Knowledge NCP Network



<http://www.respotnet.eu/>

ResPotNet: The European Network for the Research Potential programme

Objectives of the Project:

The ResPotNet project aims to support research actors in the convergence and outermost regions of the EU to unlock their research potential through the opportunities offered by the "Research Potential" programme (Specific Programme "Capacities", FP7). The European NCPs Network is an essential "partner" for research organisations in their effort to utilize the knowledge and experience existing in more advanced European regions, to establish the necessary conditions and contacts for their development and to contribute to the overall European research effort. The project is co-funded by the European Commission under FP7

Contact:

Georgia Tzenou (Coordinator)
National Documentation Centre/National Hellenic Research Foundation, Greece
tzenou@ekt.gr

5.10 International Cooperation NCP Network



<http://www.ncp-incontact.eu>

Objectives of the Project:

- The transfer of experience between INCO-NCPs and from ERA-Net, especially from the more experienced ones to the less experienced ones
- form a dynamic and active network between European INCO NCPs and 3rd country NCPs build an active exchange with the thematic NCP Networks to deliver better services and so contribute to a higher participation of research stakeholders from 3rd countries in the European Research Area
- to secure the information flow with the INCO-Nets being established for the different world regions
- involve appointed NCPs in industrialised countries like Canada, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Japan, etc.

Contact:

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5.11 Research Infrastructure NCP Network



<http://www.euroris-net.eu>

EURORisNet: European Research Infrastructures Network of National Contact Points

Objectives of the Project:

The overall objective of the proposed project is to support the efficient implementation of the Research Infrastructures Programme and to promote the benefits offered by the RIs in order to enhance the Research Excellence, the competitiveness and the growth of Europe. Within this framework the project aims to improve the effectiveness of the Research Infrastructures (RIs) NCPs network through the upgrade of the level of the transnational cooperation which will result in more consistent services provided to the customers/clients across Europe.

Contact:

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National Documentation Centre (EKT-NHRF)

E-mail: dfarma@ekt.gr

5.12 SME NCP Network



<http://www.ncp-sme.net>

TransCoSME: Transnational Co-operation of the network of NCP SMEcommunity

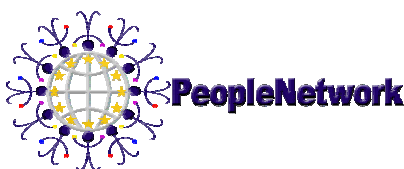
Objectives of the Project:

- to organize a focused training (2 days a year) which will improve the effectiveness of SME NCP and design collaboration among more and less experienced SME NCPs from different countries. It will contribute to the better and more successful functioning of SME NCPs through sharing knowledge and best practices.
- to produce an example proposal for Research for SMEs and Research for SME Associations. The example proposal can be used as a training tool for both clients and NCPs. This example proposal will be available both hard copy and electronically.
- to enhance project and partner search for the Research for the Benefit of SME activities within FP7. This will be accomplished mainly by issuing recommendations to the SME NCP network and, as a major step forward, by designing and developing a web-based Partner Search System (PS System).
- to develop a promotional tool that will assist in the encouragement of SME participation in FP7.
- to provide the NCP SME network with an IT communication tool, and external target groups with a web portal delivering information and services.
- to give a full and concrete picture of the market place of R&D for SMEs, how the technological foundations of SMEs can be optimally increased and highlight best practices of co-operation between SME's, large industries and research centres.

Contact:

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ZENIT, Germany,
Email: br@zenit.de

5.13 Marie Curie NCP Network



PeopleNetwork: An EU Initiative dedicated to transnational mobility in R&D

<http://www.fp7peoplenetwork.eu/>

Objectives of the Project:

PeopleNetwork aims at the development and implementation of a coordination mechanism for stimulating closer cooperation among National Contact Points for the PEOPLE programme in the

Seventh Framework Programme. PeopleNetwork will facilitate the improvement of the overall quality of NCP services across Europe in the area of mobility and increase the transparency of EU fellowships and training opportunities to ensure equal access for all.

Contact:

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Phone: +972-3-5118126

6 References

- COM(2007) 723 final, Communication From The Commission To The Council, The European Parliament, The European Economic And Social Committee And The Committee Of The Regions A European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-PLAN) 'Towards a low carbon future'
- COM(2008) 800 final, Communication From The Commission To The European Council - A European Economic Recovery Plan