



Monthly TPWind Newsletter
April 2014

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TPWind is supported by:



If you have any **feedback or questions** about the newsletter, or to **unsubscribe**, please contact Manuela Conconi (manuela.conconi@ewea.org, +32 2 213 18 56).

Past TPWind newsletters are available here: <http://www.windplatform.eu/documents/newsletters/>

Section 1 – Funding opportunities

On December 11 2013 the European Commission launched the first calls for projects under Horizon 2020, the EU's biggest ever research and innovation framework programme with a seven year budget worth nearly €80 billion. The programme allocates more than €15 billion for the first two years.

Most EU research funding is allocated on the basis of competitive calls, but the budget for Horizon includes funding for the Joint Research Centre, the European Commission's in-house science service; the European Institute for Innovation and Technology and research carried out within the framework of the Euratom Treaty. Separate calls will also be published under specific partnerships with industry and Member States.

Secure, clean and efficient energy is one of the seven themes identified in the Societal Challenges section of the Horizon 2020 programme. The funding opportunities under Horizon 2020 are set out in bi-annual work programmes published on the EU's digital portal for research funding.

Energy calls are identified in the Energy 2014-2015 Work Programme: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/main/h2020-wp1415-energy_en.pdf.

To simplify and harmonise procedures, a new single set of rules will apply. The former research (FP) and innovation (CIP) programmes will be now part of the Horizon 2020 framework. Where relevant, calls for competitive low-carbon energy should address technical issues, synergies between technologies, regional approaches, socio-economic and environmental aspects from a life-cycle perspective (including public acceptance, business cases, pre-normative and legal issues, pollution and recycling). Environment, health and safety issues should also be considered in all demonstrations and appropriately addressed.

Moreover, an important element for renewables is the need for an increased understanding of risks - whether technological, in business processes, for particular business cases, etc - risk ownership, and possible risk mitigation. Proposals should, therefore, include appropriate work packages on this matter.

Proposals should explicitly address performance and cost targets together with relevant key performance indicators and expected impacts. Industrial involvement in the consortia and explicit exploitation plans, describing how the projects' results will be implemented, are a prerequisite. All proposals will have to include a work package on 'the business case' of the technology solution being addressed.

The new framework stresses the importance of the Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL) and the Technology Readiness Level (TRL). More information on the MRL can be found in the annex of the work programme. More information on the TRL can be found on the general annexes to the Horizon 2020 Work Programme (http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-ga_en.pdf).

For more information on Horizon 2020 please visit <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en>.

CALL FOR COMPETITIVE LOW-CARBON ENERGY

1. Topic LCE-03-2014: Demonstration of renewable electricity and heating/cooling

Deadline: 2014-09-10 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Innovation Actions

Specific challenge - Wind energy: Demonstrating and testing of new nacelle and rotor prototypes - There is a need for demonstration and testing of new nacelle and rotor prototypes with a significant lower mass and material intensity and applicable to several types of large-scale wind turbines.

Scope: The proposals aiming at bringing the proposed technology solutions to a higher TRL level, aiming at "demonstration" of these solutions, accompanied, where appropriate, by supporting research activities and activities targeting market uptake. The proposals should bring the proposed technology solutions from TRL 5-6 to TRL 6-7 (please see part G of the General Annexes).

Budget: proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 5 to 20 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1127-lce-03-2014.html>

2. Topic LCE-02-2014: Developing the next generation technologies of renewable electricity and heating/cooling

Deadline: 1st stage - 2014-04-01 17:00:00 (Brussels local time) / Stage 2: 2014-09-23 +17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Research & Innovation Actions

Specific challenge - Wind energy: Develop control strategies and innovative substructure concepts - There is a need for i) control strategies and systems for new and/or large rotors and wind farms (on- and offshore); ii) new innovative substructure concepts, including floating platforms, to reduce production, installation and O&M costs for water depths of more than 50m.

Scope: Proposals should address one or more of the technology-specific challenges between renewables areas, where new, innovative ideas are welcome. They should bring technology solutions to a higher TRL, from TRL 3-4 to 4-5 (please see part G of the General Annexes).

Budget: proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 to 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1123-lce-02-2014.html>

3. TOPIC LCE-02-2015: Developing the next generation technologies of renewable electricity and heating/cooling

Deadline: 1st stage - 2014-09-03 17:00:00 (Brussels local time) / Stage 2: 2015-03-03 +17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Research & Innovation Actions

Specific challenge: Substantially reduce the costs of wind energy. There is a need for innovative integrated dedicated offshore systems (e.g. with a significant lower mass per unit power installed) to reduce production, installation and O&M costs for water depths of more than 50m.

Scope: Proposals shall explicitly address performance and cost targets together with relevant key performance indicators, expected impacts, as well as provide for development of explicit exploitation plans. Proposals should also indicate the current Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL, see Annex to the Secure, Cleanwork programme) and the activities needed to keep the MRL aligned with the advances in the TRL that will be undertaken in the proposal to ensure the potential for exploitation.

Budget: proposal requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 to 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1138-lce-02-2015.html>

4. Topic LCE-04-2014: Market uptake of existing and emerging renewable electricity, heating and cooling technologies

Deadline: 2014-05-07 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Coordination and Support Actions

Scope: To ensure the level of growth needed to deliver the EU targets for renewable energy, and to create the appropriate business environment for EU industrial leadership in low-carbon energy technologies, a number of important market-uptake challenges still need to be addressed, notably:

- Ensuring sustained public acceptance of renewable energy projects and renewable energy overall, while taking into account the implications of the substantial increase in RES share in the final energy consumption;
- Ensuring speedy and user friendly permitting procedures;
- Implementing renewable energy policies, codes and legislations at EU, national, regional and local levels in a coordinated manner using best practice examples with significant replication potential;
- Capacity building and contributing to the further development of renewable energy policy, legislation and regulation, and informing the debate on post-2020 horizons;
- Capacity building and facilitating the deployment of improved business models and innovative financing schemes for mobilising investments in innovative and established renewable energy systems and services.

Proposals should address one or several of the challenges mentioned above for technologies and systems which are at TRL 7-9 (please see part G of the General Annexes). Regional specificities, socio-economic, spatial and environmental aspects from a life-cycle perspective shall be considered. For all actions, the consortia should involve and/or engage relevant stakeholders and market actors who are committed to adopting/implementing the results.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1131-lce-04-2014.html>

5. Topic LCE-19-2014: Supporting coordination of national R&D activities

Deadline: 2014-09-10 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Coordination and Support Actions

Scope: As a pilot case, the scope will be on the areas and challenges targeted in this 'Competitive low-carbon energy' call. Research and Innovation activities in the proposals should focus on bringing technology solutions from TRL 3 to TRL 5 (please see part G of the General Annexes). Activities should focus on supporting either:

- The transfer of knowledge among participants and other dissemination activities, activities to foster the use of research outcomes by industry of a project resulting from synchronised funding processes of at least three Member States, or
- The coordination of call for proposals of at least three Member States, for instance, through support to networking activities of public funding bodies, leading to the promotion of the use of single peer-reviewed evaluations, development and use of harmonised monitoring and review methodologies, support to the preparation of high risk, high cost large scale pilots for joint actions with or without EC funding, linking national research programmes and other funding mechanisms and building partnerships with the necessary scale and scope etc.

Budget: proposals requesting an EC contribution between EUR 0.1 to 0.5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1129-lce-19-2014.html>

6. Topic LCE-18-2014: Supporting Joint Actions on demonstration and validation of innovative energy solutions

Deadline: 2014-05-07 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: ERA-NET Co-fund

Scope: The proposals should aim at coordinating the research efforts of the participating Member States, Associated States and Regions in the areas and challenges targeted in this 'Competitive low-carbon energy' call or in the 'Smart Cities and Communities' call and to implement a joint transnational call for proposals resulting in grants to third parties with EU co-funding to fund multinational innovative research initiatives in this domain. Proposers are encouraged to implement other joint activities including additional joint calls without EU co-funding.

Activities should focus on demonstrating and validating solutions that reached already TRL 5-6 and bringing them to TRL 6-7 (please see part G of the General Annexes). Lower TRL research activities necessary to support this work and forming an integral part of these proposals, will be in scope for funding, provided the bulk of the activities in the proposal remains focused on demonstrating and validating solutions. Appropriate user and general public acceptance, regulatory, market up-take (e.g. e.g. regulatory issues, capacity building and access to finance), social, environmental and resource efficiency aspects should be included. Opening up demonstration facilities for practice-oriented education and training is encouraged.

Budget: The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of 10 to 20 million Euro would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/1136-lce-18-2014.html>

Blue Growth: Unlocking the potential of Seas and Oceans

1. Topic BG-05-2014: Preparing for the future innovative offshore economy

Deadline: 2014-06-26 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

Type of action: Coordination and support actions

Specific challenge: Economic activities in Europe's seas and coasts are expected to intensify, diversify and expand further offshore driven by the competition for space on coastal areas and the increased exploitation of marine (renewable) energy, biological and mineral resources in the deep sea.

Scope: Proposals should analyse and identify the social and economic developments in the offshore economy and the most promising, environmentally sustainable and economically feasible business models. This should include a review of marine renewable energy farms (both wind and ocean energy), offshore aquaculture facilities, multi-use offshore platforms projects and their business models, as well as issues of competing access to marine space between different activities and, more broadly, all social and environmental impacts (including impacts on coastal areas). Proposals should also set-up a mechanism associating key stakeholders interested in the development of the Blue Economy, with a view to covering all the following objectives:

- identify the technological, challenges to be overcome to make these business models operational and define a shared research and technology agenda
- investigate solutions to overcome the non-technological challenges such as the infrastructure and grid development within the relevant EU legislative framework (in particular the maritime spatial planning and existing coastal and planning systems)
- propose large scale pilot initiative(s) to be launched in European seas which should demonstrate the feasibility of the most promising business models.

Budget: The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/topics/2454-bg-05-2014.html>

Horizon 2020: call for experts

The European Commission has launched a new call for independent experts who are needed to evaluate proposals for EU funding and for other activities such as monitoring, programme evaluation and policy development.

Interested candidates are invited to file their application online on: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts/index.html>

In addition to researchers and academics, the European Commission is aiming to substantially increase the number of specialists from the commercial and business communities. Horizon 2020 covers a whole range of activities in the fields of science and technology, innovation, social sciences and humanities, ethics, gender,

communication, project management and more. This call is open to those of any nationality with a high level of expertise in the relevant fields of research and innovation.

Independent experts who registered under the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development are invited to declare their interest in being considered for Horizon 2020 assignments and update their area of expertise in line with the new set of Horizon 2020 specialist fields.

The call for expression of interest will remain open for the lifetime of Horizon 2020. The support services (FAQ as well as the Research Enquiry Service for general enquiries and the IT helpdesk for technical matters) are accessible from the online registration platform. Further details on the type of expertise sought are set out in the Participant Portal.

More information can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/experts>.

Section2 – Secretariat's news

TPWind call for expression of interest to renew the Steering Committee is open.

TPWind is renewing its Steering Committee. Individuals interested in participating in the platform's decision making body over the next three years should fill in the application form available [here](#). We recommend reading carefully the [Call Guidelines](#) before applying.

A candidate cannot submit more than one application, only the first submission will be taken into consideration. Successful candidates will be selected by the Executive Committee according to the modalities outlined in the call: the final decision of the Executive Committee is irrevocable.

The **deadline of the call is to 30 April, 2014**, at midnight (Brussels time). Any application received after the deadline will be disregarded.

Launch of the new TPWind Strategic Research Agenda

The new Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) has been launched on **Tuesday 11 March 2014 during EWEA** annual conference and exhibition in Barcelona.

The SRA identifies the research priorities for the wind sector in the coming years to reach full competitiveness of the onshore sector by 2020 and of the offshore one by 2030. The session will look at how wind technology research priorities have changed over the past years, what the key research barriers to market deployment are, and how the European Commission can continue to play a strong role in supporting wind energy R&D.

The text has been drafted by the chairs and secretaries of TPWind, with the input of working group members, under the supervision of the TPWind secretariat.

A digital version of the document can be downloaded [here](#).

TPWind Working Groups selection

The Steering Committee is currently evaluating the applications received in response to the call for expression of interest to renew the Working Groups.

The Secretariat will inform each applicant of the results of the selection by 30/04/2014.

Section 3 – Members' news

Confidence boost for Europe's renewable energy industry as Heads of State show support

Europe's leaders have spurred confidence over the future of renewable energy despite stalling over 2030 targets.
In a last minute addition to the European Council's conclusions, leaders stated the need for a "supportive EU framework for advancing renewable energies."

Despite delaying on an agreement, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said in a press conference that the Council would have a deal on the climate and energy framework by "no later than" October 2014.

"This extra time could be a golden opportunity - for pro-renewables countries like Germany, Denmark and Portugal to rally round and start fighting for greater ambition for renewables and the energy security they bring," said Thomas Becker, chief executive officer of the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA).

"The conclusions show that Heads of State are wising up to the energy challenges that Europe is facing. I think the situation in the Ukraine is proving a sobering experience for policymakers over the frailty of Europe's energy security" he added. "We must act and we must do it now."

The private sector is also throwing its weight behind the drive for more renewables: over 160 companies and organisations have [signed a statement](#) calling for a stronger commitment from policymakers to Europe's 2030 climate and energy objectives including a legally binding target for renewable energy.

A 30% renewables target would reduce gas imports by almost three times more than the 27% target put forward by the European Commission in January, create 568,000 more jobs, save EUR260 billion extra in fossil fuel imports.¹

It remains unlikely that a 2030 deal will be in place before a United Nations meeting convenes in September, when global leaders are expected to set out plans to curb Greenhouse gas emissions.

The European Council is set to meet again for talks on 26 and 27 June.

¹ European Commission, 2014, Impact Assessment accompanying the Communication "A policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 up to 2030".

Water used for EU power production equivalent to annual consumption of Germany **The ENTSO-E Implementation Plan 2015-2017 defines core R&D activities and gives practical implementation details for the next three years.**

Nuclear, coal and gas plants in Europe use 4.5 billion m³ of water a year, equivalent to that of 82 million EU citizens – the same as the population of Germany – new research shows. Energy production represents 44% of the EU's total water use: more than any other activity.

Yet wind energy, which uses no water, avoids the use of 1.2 billion m³ of water per year, representing savings of €2.4 billion says the report released today by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) at its annual event in Barcelona.

"Water equivalent to over three Olympic size swimming pools is consumed every minute of every day of the year to cool Europe's nuclear, coal and gas plants", pointed out Ivan Pineda of EWEA. "Increasing our use of wind energy will help preserve this precious resource far more effectively than any ban on watering the garden – while saving us money".

Heads of state and government meeting on 20-21 March to discuss a 2030 climate and energy policy should take this research into account: boosting wind and renewable energy via an ambitious and binding renewable energy target for 2030 will have major benefits for the environment, as well as promoting green growth and jobs in a leading European industry.

Read the report: <http://www.ewea.org/publications/reports/saving-water-with-wind-energy/>

In this section of the newsletter articles produced directly by TPWind members are published, providing members with the opportunity to inform the Platform of their most recent achievements, plans, products, studies or R&D efforts.

Every month, two to four short articles (maximum 250 words) will be selected by the Executive Committee or the Secretariat and will be included in this section of the newsletter, along with the contact details of the person or company publishing the article.

The Secretariat invites all TPWind members who would like to publish an article in the next issue of this newsletter to contact Manuela Conconi and send her their contribution by 25 April at the latest (manuela.conconi@ewea.org; +32 2 2131856).

The Secretariat would like to remind all readers that this newsletter is sent to all TPWind members, to those included in the reserve lists of the Platform as well as to selected EC and EWEA representatives (approximately 500 people in total).

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Section 4 – Events

Power System Technologies 2050 - Their Potential Contributions to Modular Development Plans of the Pan-European Transmission Network

April 15th, 2014, 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m., Eurelectric, Brussels ([directions](#))

The purpose of this one-day event is to uncover the key features of a new database, which mainly covers technical and cost performances by 2050 of a set of selected power system technologies.

- The database contents will be used as inputs to the simulation tasks of the e-Highway2050 project, which will deliver a set of pan-European network modular development plans.
- This workshop also gives the attendees a unique opportunity to debate on the assumptions underlying the construction of that database, and to identify complementary work which may have been carried-out in the recent past at Member State level.
- The workshop will mainly target specialists in prospective technology roadmaps and energy scenarios, as well as transmission system operators.

Your active participation as stakeholders involved in the energy sector will be very important for the e-Highway2050 project and results. Attendance is free of charge, please [register here](#).

Subsidies to the power sector: Europe's best kept secret?

*April 29th, 2014, 4.00pm – 6.00pm, EWEA, rue d'Arlon 80, Brussels ([directions](#))
Followed by drinks reception*

We all know power technologies receive public money. But which technologies get how much, and why, has always been difficult to find out. Just how much do we know? What is the real impact of our choice of energy source on the taxpayer's wallet? What can governments do to reduce such spending, or are we stuck?

In the context of the Europe's Commission's upcoming study, due in June 2014, EWEA is hosting a public debate on subsidies to the power sector with speakers from the OECD, the European Commission and the fossil fuel sector. The panel discussion will be followed by questions from the audience. The debate is free of charge and is also open to members of the press.

With:

- Tom Howes, deputy head of unit A4, Economic analysis and financial instruments, DG Energy, European Commission
- Ronald Steenblik, senior trade policy analyst, OECD
- Beate Raabe, secretary-general, Eurogas
- Thomas Becker, CEO, EWEA

There is no charge to attend but pre-registration is required so that we can cater for the right amount of people and avoid wastage.

[Register for free](#)

Governance structures for the e-Highway2050 scenarios and the e-Highway2050 Strategic and Environmental Sustainability Assessment (SESA)

May 6th, 2014, 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m, Radisson Blue Royal Hotel, Brussels (directions)

1. e-Highway2050 is developing target governance models to encompass the best performing grid architectures identified for the e-Highways2050 scenarios. Through a methodology which will be presented during the workshop, an existing or new combination of promising governance elements will be proposed per scenario. Stakeholder interaction is planned at this mid-term stage in order for stakeholders to:

- Gain knowledge of the work done so far and the planned process for the future
- Provide input on assumptions, criteria and relevant aspects for the detailed analysis of governance options
- Discuss preliminary results

2. e-Highway2050 is also developing EH2050's Strategic Environmental and Sustainability Assessment (SESA) which assesses the risks and opportunities of the main strategic options that are being considered for future grid architectures. The identified risks and opportunities will then inform the development of guidelines supporting sustainable pathways for grid-development. The main objectives of the SESA part of the workshop are to:

- Validate the preliminary strategic environmental and sustainability assessment findings with stakeholders
- Discuss possible measures to integrate risks and opportunities
- Raise awareness of e-Highway2050 amongst key stakeholders.

Your active participation as stakeholders involved in the energy sector will be very important for the e-Highway2050 project and results. Attendance is free of charge, please [register here](#).

Technology workshop: Analysis of operating wind farms – 2nd edition

Fourth Quarter 2014

Date and venue to be confirmed by mid-April 2014

Call for abstracts now open. [More information here](#).

Following our successful workshop “Analysis of operating wind farms” Lyon, France – July, 2012, many of the 160 attendees requested that we return to the topic two years later in order to debate progress in the field.

See the [programme & proceedings](#) and [attendee list](#) from the first edition

To be kept informed about this workshop, click [here](#).

Technology workshop: Wind turbine sound – 2nd edition

Fourth Quarter 2014

Date and venue to be confirmed by mid-April 2014

Call for abstracts now open. [More information here](#).

Our first workshop on this highly topical issues was “Wind Turbine Noise – from source to receiver”, Oxford, UK – December 2012. Many of the 160 attendees and 8 exhibiting companies requested that a second edition should be held two years later. The 2014 EWEA sound workshop will have common threads running through the different sessions. These threads are: Amplitude modulation (AM/OAM), Low-frequency sounds (LFS), Sound levels and Tones. [More information here](#).

See the [programme & proceedings](#) and [attendee list](#) from the first edition

To be kept informed about this workshop, click [here](#).

Extra visibility for your organisation:

If you would like to present your company to the highly targeted audiences that the technology workshops attract contact Tim Robinson on techworkshops@ewea.org or tel: +32 2 213 1844 to discuss the exhibition & sponsorship opportunities available.

Support EWEA because we support you

Revenues from EWEA events and membership go right back into the industry, making EWEA's policy and lobbying activities possible. By attending this event you are directly strengthening the voice of the industry. Your money goes further than you think!

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