



Monthly TPWind Newsletter
January 2012

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If you have any **feedback or questions** about the newsletter, or to **unsubscribe**, please contact Manuela Conconi (manuela.conconi@ewea.org, +32 2 2131813).

Past TPWind newsletters are available here: <http://windplatform.eu/?id=138>.

Section 1 – Funding opportunities

Intelligent Energy Europe

Call deadline: 8 May 2012 (except for the BUILD UP Skills Initiative which has different deadlines: please [click here](#) for more details).

The 2012 IEE call for proposals of the intelligent Energy Europe programme (IEE) was launched on 20 December 2011 and will close on 8 May 2012.

The objective of the Intelligent Energy - Europe II Programme (“IEE II”) is to contribute to secure, sustainable and competitively priced energy for Europe, by:

- Fostering energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources;
- Promoting new and renewable energy sources and supporting energy diversification;
- Promoting energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources in transport.

The Programme in particular contributes to the EU Energy 2020 Strategy, and facilitates the implementation of the EU action plan for energy efficiency and of the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

The IEE programme is managed by the Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation (EACI). The indicative total budget available for this call is about EUR 67 million. Accordingly, the amount granted will be up to 75% of the total eligible costs (except for the projects funded under the Build Up Skills Initiative). It is expected that this call for proposals will result in about 60 projects being supported.

The IEE programme covers action in the following fields:

Energy efficiency and rational use of energy resources (SAVE strand). In 2012 SAVE will cover the three following key actions:

- Industrial excellence in energy: for actions to increase the competitiveness of European small and medium size enterprises (SME's) by empowering them to save energy.
- Consumer behaviour: for actions to help transform the market towards more energy-efficient products and systems, and change the behaviour of consumers.
- Energy Services: for actions to increase market transparency and confidence for all market actors, to develop the energy services market for small consumers and to empower households to ensure the effectiveness of smart meters.

New and renewable energy resources (ALTENER strand), including:

- Electricity from renewable energy sources (RES-e): for actions to increase the share of renewable electricity in Europe's final energy consumption.
- Bioenergy: for actions promoting increased production and use of biomass, bio-liquids and biogas in energy markets.

Energy in transport (STEER strand). In 2012 STEER will cover the two following key actions:

- Energy-efficient transport: for actions to reduce the demand for travel by car and transport by road freight, and to shift travel and transport to more efficient transport modes.
- Clean and energy-efficient vehicles: for actions to help transform the market towards more energy-efficient vehicles, supporting and complementing the recent legislation in this area.

Integrated initiatives: action combining several of the specific fields (SAVE, ALTENER and STEER) or relating to certain EU priorities may include:

- Integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in several sectors of the economy;
- Combining various instruments, tools and actors within the same action or project

More information on the specific actions cover by the programme is available here:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/files/call_for_proposals/call_2012_en.pdf

7th Framework Programme for Research and Development

The new FP7 Energy calls for proposals (belonging to the 2012 Work Programme) were published on 20 July, 2011. The topics outlined below are relevant to wind energy operators.

For a full description of these topics and more information on the application procedure, please visit the following web-page: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/fp7_calls.

Call deadline: 24 January 2012

NMP.2012.4.1-4 Substitution of critical raw materials: networking, specifying R&D needs and priorities

Content/scope: Raw materials are an essential part of both high tech products and every-day consumer products. The European Commission has adopted a new integrated strategy which sets out targeted measures to secure and improve access to raw materials for the EU (Communication on raw materials COM(2008)699 and accompanying Commission Staff Working Paper SEC(2008)2741 of 4 November 2008). The ad-hoc group of the Raw Materials Supply Group has issued a report containing policy-oriented recommendations to secure access to critical raw materials and to enhance its efficient use (Critical raw materials for the EU – Report of the Ad-hoc Working Group on defining critical raw materials).

Amongst other actions, the report recommends: (i) to improve the availability of reliable, consistent information in relation to raw materials; encouraged more research into life-cycle assessments for raw materials and their products on a 'cradle-to-grave' basis; (ii) to create a working group(s) to further analyse the impact of emerging technologies on demand of raw materials; and (iii) to engage in policy actions to make recycling of raw materials or raw material-containing products more efficient, including the promotion of research on system optimisation and recycling of technically-challenging products and substances, according to an appropriate LCA approach. The report also recommends that substitution should be encouraged, notably by promoting research on substitutes for critical raw materials in different applications and to increase opportunities under EU RTD Framework Programmes.

The proposed support action should network interested stakeholders, in order to create a pole of competence on the emerging field of the substitution of critical raw materials. It should identify and propose initiatives to help to address relevant EU policies effectively, and also address the specificities of this area such as its industrial, environmental, economic and geopolitical aspects. During its life, the action should collect and elaborate data and make available to the EU Institutions and Member States accurate pictures, analysis of needs, threats and opportunities and proposals for further action. A roadmap of actions, actors and timing, including mapping and networking of existing national activities and/or centres should be developed. During negotiations, complementarity will be ensured with work performed in response to topic GC.SST.2012.1-3, 'European strategy for rare materials and their possible substitution'.

Call deadline: 8 March 2012

Topic ENERGY.2012.2.3.2: Demonstration of innovative designs to reduce fatigue loads and improve reliability of multi-MW turbines

Contents/scope: A strategic objective of the industrial initiative of the SET Plan on wind energy is to reduce cost of energy by improving reliability and availability of wind turbines and their components. Optimizing operation and maintenance is an additional strategy for achieving this objective. Both increasing reliability and optimizing operation and maintenance have a direct impact on the availability of wind turbines and thus reduce costs and increases energy output.

This strategy contributes considerably to making wind energy fully competitive. This topic focuses on the first strategy: improving reliability by incorporating this concept in the design process of the entire wind turbine system. The main goal of the project will be to upgrade existing reliability engineering methodologies to large wind turbine systems and demonstrate their effects during operation. The projects could address different types of climatic conditions and geographical locations in order to demonstrate improved reliability and availability under such operating conditions.

The application of reliability engineering methods and their validation may be applied to new rotor concepts and other turbine components, such as drive train components, designed for very large wind turbines (in the 2 to 6 MW range), in particular for offshore applications.

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Section 2 – Secretariat news

New TPWind Steering Committee members announced on 12 December 2011

The selection of new TPWind Steering Committee (SC) members was completed recently. New SC members were officially announced on 12 December.

The new composition of the Steering Committee, the main TPWind decision-making body, is the following (see also <http://www.windplatform.eu/5.0.html>):

1. Henning Kruse (Siemens – current ExCo member)
2. Pep Prats (Alstom – current ExCo member)
3. Angeles Santamaria (Iberdrola – current ExCo member)
4. Allan MacAskill (Seanergy Renewables – current ExCo member)
5. Takis Chaviaropoulos (CRES – current ExCo member)
6. Christian Nath (Germanischer Lloyd – current ExCo member)
7. Erik Petersen (Risoe/DTU – current WG 1 Chair)
8. Jos Beurskens (ECN – current WG 2 Chair)
9. Hannele Holttinen (VTT – current WG 3 Chair)
10. John Tande (SINTEF – current WG 4 Chair)
11. Carlos Gasco (IEA – current WG 5 Chair)
12. Allan Taylor (UK Department of Energy and Climate Change – current Member States Mirror Group Chair)
13. Christoph Hessel (GE)
14. Peter Tavner (Durham University)
15. Mike Anderson (Res)
16. Lars Christian Christensen (Vestas)
17. Lars Landberg (GL Garrad Hassan)
18. George Kariniotakis (Mines Paristech)
19. Mauro Villanueva (Gamesa)
20. Ignacio Marti (CENER)
21. Koen Hoedemaekers (Hansen Transmission)
22. Dolf Elsevier van Griethuysen (Ballast Nedam)
23. Jens Ingemann Madsen (Vattenfall)
24. Wiebke Langrader (Suzlon)
25. Lars Gertmar (ABB - retired)

New SC members were selected through an ad-hoc call for expression of interest, launched by TPWind on 18 July and closed on 30 September.

The selection committee, in charge of scoring applications and select new SC members, was composed of:

- TPWind Executive Committee members:
 - Henning Kruse (Siemens – TPWind Chairperson)
 - Angeles Santamaria (Iberdrola)
 - Pep Prats (Alstom)
 - Allan MacAskill (MacAskill Associates)
 - Christian Nath (Germanischer Lloyd)
 - Takis Chaviaropoulos (CRES)
- TPWind Working Group Chairs:
 - Erik Petersen (Risoe/DTU)
 - Jos Beurskens (ECN)
 - Hannele Holttinen (VTT)
 - John Tande (SINTEF)
 - Carlos Gasco (IEA)
- TPWind Secretariat:
 - Filippo Gagliardi (EWEA)
 - Peter Hjuler (Risoe/DTU)
 - Sarah Barber (GL Garrad Hassan)

The European Commission was also involved in the procedure, through the submission of non-binding remarks to the selection committee.

New TPWind Steering Committee members will serve a 3-years term, starting on 1 January 2012 and finishing on 31 December 2014.

The selection of new SC members completes the Platform renewal process, which started in 2010 with the selection of new Working Group member and continued in July 2011 with the publication of the new TPWind Terms of Reference (available online here: http://windplatform.eu/fileadmin/ewetp_docs/Documents/TPWind_Terms_of_Reference_-_July_2011_version.pdf).

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Section 3 – Members' news

EU energy research funding puts 2020 targets at risk

EU funds for non-nuclear energy R&D double in the new research budget proposed on 1 December 2011 by the European Commission - but are nothing like enough to fund what the European Commission says is necessary to achieve its 2020 targets.

The European Commission unveiled on 30 November 2011 'Horizon 2020' - its proposal for a new Framework Programme for Research and Innovation for the seven years from 2014 to 2020.

Under the proposal, all non-nuclear energy gets only 7.5% of the research budget - 6.5bn Euros out of 87.7bn Euros. Nuclear alone gets 1.8bn Euros for just five years under Euratom - as well as additional funds for ITER (and even a slice of the SET Plan - the Strategic Energy Technology Plan, i.e. the 2007 EU blueprint for the development of low-carbon technologies).

R&D for low-carbon technologies (contained in the SET Plan as part of the 6.5bn Euros for non-nuclear energy) appears to be severely underfunded in the first proposal published.

The European wind industry was counting on 1.3bn Euros of EU research funding for wind, but today's announcement makes that impossible. Even the full 6.5bn Euros for non-nuclear energy (of which the SET Plan is only a part) is not enough to cover all SET Plan needs.

The Commission's 'Proposal for a Regulation on Horizon 2020' published today acknowledges that "the resources required to implement the SET Plan in full have been estimated at 8bn Euros per year over the next 10 years."

"The EU has missed an opportunity to make its R&D budget reflect new European priorities," said Vilma Radvilaite, EWEA's Regulatory Affairs Advisor. She added: "The European Commission is proposing that the EU abandons its political commitment to fund the SET Plan, and risks allowing China, South Korea, Japan and the US to take the lead in renewable energy technology development."

Parliament and Council take opposing sides on 2012 budget

Both the European Council and Parliament have now adopted the final EU budget for 2012. However, their positions were very different. The Parliament got several key areas of the EU budget increased for post-2012 spending, including a 7.7% increase for EU energy research worth €382 million. It asked for a symbolic €1 million to be put into the dedicated budget line for wind energy.

On the other hand, the Council significantly cut most of the budget lines covering energy research by up to 20% for next year's spending, but was more generous to nuclear research project ITER. Indeed, given the austerity measures applied to all the EU policies during the budgetary negotiations it is difficult to understand the €1.3 billion of new funds the institutions have now agreed for the ITER nuclear project which may not provide results before 2050.

"It is worrying to see the huge decreases in next year's EU budget payments, which will have a major impact on the implementation of renewable energy-related projects," commented Vilma Radvilaite, EWEA's Regulatory Affairs Advisor. "However, the European Parliament's strong position is welcome and should help get financing for more energy R&D projects in the years to come."

In particular, the Parliament's support for the dedicated budget line for wind energy R&D is a clear step forward, even though it was strongly opposed by the European Commission.

The final overall budget for the next year is smaller than the draft budget proposed by Commission in April - amounting to €129.1 billion - and may be not sufficient to pay all bills next year.

The EU increases co-financing rates for EU funds to counter crisis

On 12 December, the Council adopted a regulation providing for a temporary increase of EU co-financing rates from Structural funds and the Cohesion fund for member states under financial difficulties (Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Hungary, Latvia and Romania). The new rules provide for an increase of the EU co-financing rates by ten percentage points above the usual co-financing rates and may be applied retroactively from 1 January 2010 and are limited until 31 December 2013. However, this does not increase the total appropriations for the affected countries.

“Five of these countries (except Ireland) have a total of EUR 208 million allocated for wind projects which were not used so far,” commented Vilma Radvilaite, EWEA’s Regulatory Affairs Advisor. “I encourage investors to use this opportunity of the increased co-financing rate and to spend the EU funds dedicated to wind energy projects”.

More information: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ecofin/126789.pdf

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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 him their contribution by 20 January at the latest (manuela.conconi@ewea.org ; +32 2 2131813).

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

March 2012

TPWind 8th General Assembly

6 March 2012 - Brussels, Belgium

The 8th General Assembly will be a key event for TPWind, as it will be the first since the selection of its new Steering Committee members.

As always TPWind members will have the opportunity to hold Working Group meetings where future projects and activities of the Platform will be discussed. Specifically, TPWind members will focus on the implementation of the European Wind Initiative (EWI) over the 2013 – 2015 period.

Furthermore, a plenary session will be organised to provide TPWind members with a comprehensive update on Platform's plans and EU wind energy policies.

The 8th General Assembly will include a networking cocktail.

For more information on the event, which is **for TPWind members only**, please contact Manuela Conconi (manuela.conconi@ewea.org; +32 2 2131813).

April 2012

EWEA 2012 Annual Event

16 – 19 April 2012 - Copenhagen, Denmark

The EWEA Annual Event is Europe's **premier wind energy event**; a place where the industry's brightest minds meet to exchange the latest knowledge, forge meaningful business relationships and create connections with influential people from around the world.

It combines a comprehensive, **high-quality conference** with a **first class exhibition** and **incomparable networking opportunities**. This is why it is considered unmissable by the international wind energy community.

Over 10,000 professionals from around the world are expected to attend and experience the **power** of the wind energy industry.

The call for abstracts closed on 25 November. EWEA received over 600 submissions along the six thematic lines of the conference program:

1. **Policies, markets & programmes**, chaired by Jan Hylleberg, DWIA
2. **Financing**, chaired by Michael Liebreich, Bloomberg New Energy Finance
3. **Hardware technology**, chaired by Henning Kruse, TP Wind
4. **Resource assessment**, chaired by Jos Beurskens, ECN Wind Energy
5. **Grids & infrastructure**, chaired by Frans van Hulle, EWEA
6. **Science & research**, chaired by Peter Tavner, EAWE

A committee of experts will review all of the abstracts and select the freshest and most cutting-edge ideas for the conference programme, which will be communicated by the end of January 2012.

The preliminary conference programme can already be consulted online and if you register before 20 December you can benefit from the early bird rates and save up to 25%.

More than 300 leading companies from the whole wind energy value chain have already reserved their booth at the exhibition grounds. [See the exhibitor list already on the exhibition floor](#)

Upcoming EWEA Workshops

In addition to its main events, EWEA also organises focused events on issues of strategic importance to members and the industry as a whole. In 2012, EWEA will return to Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria with its fourth consecutive series of conferences in emerging wind markets organised in co-operation with the national associations.

EWEA will continue its highly successful series of policy debates in Brussels, attracting key EU decision makers and making wind energy an integral part of energy discussions at EU level.

Following the success of the technology workshop for specialists in 2011, EWEA will hold a second one in 2012, plus an 'introduction to wind energy' seminar for those new to the industry on the eve of EWEA Annual 2012, as well as further events related to European projects including Twenties, TPWind and SEANERGY 2020.

Industry for Industry

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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