European Wind Energy Technology Platform

Monthly TPWind Newsletter

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*If you have any **feedback or questions** about the newsletter, or to **unsubscribe**, please contact Filippo Gagliardi (filippo.gagliardi@ewea.org, +32 2 2131813).*

Past TPWind newsletters are available here: http://www.windplatform.eu/9.0.html.

Section 1 – Funding opportunities

Intelligent Energy Europe

Call deadline: 12 May 2011 (except for "Building Workforce Training" and "Qualification Initiative" actions, whose deadline is 15 June 2011)

The 2011 call for proposals of the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE) was published in January 2011 and will close on 15 June 2011.

The objective of IEE 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 to support 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 covers action in the following fields:

- Energy efficiency and rational use of energy resources (SAVE strand);
- New and renewable energy resources (ALTENER strand);
- Energy in transport (STEER strand) to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energies;
- Integrated initiatives combining several of the specific fields referred to SAVE, ALTENER and STEER or where related to certain EU priorities.

The total budget of this call for proposals is € 67 m.

It should be noted that from this year onwards ALTENER, which is the most relevant strand of the programme for wind energy operators, will focus on actions contributing to the implementation of the new RES Directive and on accelerating the growth of renewable energy markets to meet the EU 2020 target.

In greater details, ALTENER aims at:

- Promoting new and renewable energy sources for centralised and decentralised production of electricity, heat and cooling, and thus supporting the diversification of energy sources;
- Integrating new and renewable energy sources into the local environment and the energy systems;
- Supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

In 2011, ALTENER projects should focus on one or more of the following priorities:

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

More information is available here: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/index_en.htm.

European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP)

Call deadline: 20 March 2011 (for PRTs) and 3 October 2011 (for JRPs)

EURAMET e.V. has launched a Call within the EMRP (European Metrology Research Programme) addressing the topic areas 'Metrology for Health', 'SI Broader Scope' and 'Metrology for New Technologies' on 4 February 2011.

Stage 1 of the Call for proposals for Potential metrology Research Topics (PRTs) is open from 4 February 2011 to 20 March 2011.
Stage 2 of the Call for proposals for Joint Research Projects (JRPs) and associated EMRP Researcher Grants is open from 20 June 2011 to 3 October 2011.
The JRPs are supported by a number of EMRP Researcher Grants (see details below). Whilst the EMRP is executed primarily by the national metrology institutes and designated institutes of the participating countries, all interested parties are invited to submit potential topics in Stage 1. Opportunities for wider participation also exist at later stages.

The Call encompasses a two-stage process and includes three grant schemes:

A. The core activity is multi-partner trans-national projects.

Stage 1 – Call for PRTs:

- Identifying the challenge, problem or opportunity for potential research topics;
- Offering the chance for all stakeholders from any country worldwide to influence the R&D undertaken by the European metrology community.

Stage 2 – Call for JRPs:

- The basis will be provided by the highest priority ideas for research from Stage 1, accompanied by a EURAMET-owned supporting document;
- A competitive European-wide independently refereed evaluation will result in a list of collaborative JRPs, executed primarily by the NMIs and DIs of the participating countries;
- Possibility to include proposals for Researcher Excellence Grants within the JRP proposals;
- Opportunity for organisations to participate with their own resources;
- Opportunity for organisations with an interest in the research area to collaborate with their own resources.

B. The JRPs are accompanied by the following EMRP Researcher Grant schemes, which are available:

At Stage 2:

- Researcher Excellence Grants (REG) — provided to increase the number of organisations with capacities closely related to metrology and to open metrology research to the best science. They will be made available to eligible European organisations and/or individuals capable of making a substantial contribution to the research activities of the JRP, and must form an integral part of the JRP.

At Stage 3:

- Researcher Excellence Grants (REG) — provided to increase the number of organisations with capacities closely related to metrology and to open metrology research to the best science. They will be made available to eligible European organisations and/or individuals capable of making a substantial contribution to the research activities of the JRP. They allow individuals capable of scientific excellence to add additional value to the research objectives of the JRP.
- Researcher Mobility Grants (RMG) — provided to develop the capability of the European metrology researcher community through mobility. They will be made available to eligible researchers.

C. In addition, an Open Call for Early-Stage Researcher Mobility Grants (ESRMG):

- Provided to ensure sustainability in the cooperation between NMIs and DIs of the participating States in the EMRP and to prepare the next generation of metrology researchers. They will be made available to eligible researchers.

Details can be found on the dedicated call webpage: www.emrponline.eu/call2011

Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS)

Call deadline: 15 September 2011

The Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS) finances research projects in the areas of coal and steel. Its annual budget is about € 60 m, of which 72,8% is earmarked for steel-related and 27,2% for coal-related projects.
The RFCS has its origin in the former European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). The ECSC is seen as the foundation of today's European Union. Established by the Treaty of Paris, it expired after 50 years in 2002.

The European Commission manages its residual assets and uses the interests generated yearly to finance research projects in the areas of coal and steel.
These projects cover several areas including steel applications within the renewable energy sector.
The main features of the RFCS scheme are the following:

- NO BUDGET LIMIT FOR PROJECTS - Typically in the range of 1-2 million €
- ORGANISATIONS WORLDWIDE CAN PARTICIPATE - Only consortium partners from the EU receive funding.
- ANY CONSORTIUM SIZE IS WELCOME
- NO SET PROJECT DURATION - Typical research projects last 3-4 years.
- USE THE EXPERIENCE OF PREVIOUS PROJECTS - Programme synopsis are available on http://cordis.europa.eu/coal-steel-rtd/synopsis_en.html
- GET FULL INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME - Please refer to the Information Packages (Infopacks) available on http://cordis.europa.eu/coal-steel-rtd/submit_en.html

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) - Eco-Innovation

Call deadline: 8 September 2011

The CIP Eco-Innovation Programme aims to bridge the gap between research, technological demonstration, prototyping and commercialisation. Pure research, which receives support at EU level through the 7th Framework Programme, is therefore not covered.
CIP Eco-Innovation supports projects dealing with the first application or market replication of eco-innovative products, processes or practices which have already been technically demonstrated but due to remaining risks need incentives to penetrate the market. Projects should be innovative and bring both economic and environmental benefits.

The objectives of this call:

- Promote the adoption of new and integrated approaches to eco-innovation in fields such as environmental management and more environmentally friendly products, processes and services;
- Encourage the uptake of environmental solutions by increasing the market and by removing barriers to market penetration. Solutions are understood to include high added value products, processes, technologies or services;
- Increase innovation capacities of SMEs.

Five strands are included in this call:

- Materials and processes recycling;
- Buildings;
- Food and drinks;
- Water;
- Greening business (including green procurement).

The total budget of this call is € 36 m and the EU co-funding share is 50% of eligible project costs.

More information is available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/about/index_en.htm.

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Section 2 – Secretariat news

Funding the SET-Plan and the European Wind Initiative (EWI)

By the end of 2011, the European Commission will publish the first proposal for the establishment of the Common Strategic Framework (CSF), which will represent the successor of the FP7 and will provide EU funding for R&D and innovation project over the 2014 – 2020 period.

TPWind, thanks to the role it plays in the SET-Plan and in the allocation of EU funds for wind power research and demonstration, will contribute to the discussion.

The FP7 is currently characterised by several shortcomings:

- Its application and management procedures and rules are too heavy and complex;
- Time-to-grant is too long;
- There is almost no room for bottom-up activities, since the vast majority of funds are allocated through calls for proposals launched by the European Commission (i.e. through a top-down methodology);
- The allocation of EU funds does not match EU political priorities (such as climate change and energy security). The FP7 has a budget of € 53.272 bn (including EURATOM) for 2007 – 2013 and counts on a budget line partially devoted to renewables. A total of € 2.35 bn (only 4.4%) is dedicated to non-nuclear energy (€ 335 m per year), of which at least 50% to all renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency (€ 167 m per year – nuclear R&D alone has a much higher allocation: € 550 m per year under the 2007 – 2011 FP7 EURATOM Programme). Refocusing the EU budget to reflect the change in EU's political priorities towards increasing renewable energy and fighting climate change therefore appears to be essential.

On the basis of these considerations, the main features of the CSF should be the following:

- Streamlined EU Programmes:
    - The Framework Programme (FP) and the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP), which includes the Intelligent Energy-Europe (IEE) Programme;
    - The European Investment Bank (EIB) Risk Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF, which provides loans to R&D projects) and Marguerite Fund (allowing the EIB to invest in equity),
    - The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) facilities, like the Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).

- Reduced time-to-grant and simplified rules. An open-call system, with no deadlines and a single access point for any EU R&D and innovation funding scheme could be a viable solution. It would encourage a bottom-up approach in the development of projects and would make application procedures more flexible and similar to negotiations with potential investors.

- Refocused resources on EU priorities, in particular on the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) and its Industrial Initiatives, essential to meet the RES Directive's (2009/28/EC) 2020 targets. The European Wind Initiative (EWI) alone needs € 190 m/y in grants and € 80 m/y in loans and equity for 2010 – 2020, assuming a 50/50 split between private and public funding: EU funding for its should therefore be dramatically increased.

TPWind will participate, in June, in a workshop organised by the European Commission on funding the SET-Plan and the EWI. The European Investment Bank will also be involved: this will represent an important step to have a comprehensive discussion on the financial needs of the EWI with relevant EU Institutions.

Additional information on the implementation and funding of the EWI will be provided in upcoming issues of this newsletter.

EWEA's new economics tool online

How much does electricity really cost?

The question of electricity cost is tricky. Most of us know oil prices go up and down - and are currently at record highs – which in turn affects the electricity price. And we know that not only to the costs of importing such fuels change constantly, they also – unlike renewables - produce carbon, which has to be paid for.
But while more and more people are saying onshore wind energy is at "competitive" price levels, others still insist that renewables are expensive and impractical.

In order to clear up the issue, EWEA has developed an online tool that instantly calculates electricity costs, including any fuel and carbon risks, for five different technologies – gas, coal, nuclear, onshore and offshore wind.
"Using the tool, you can calculate levelised costs – that means, the yearly cost of the electricity once the plant or wind farm is installed, based on the plant's expected life-time and energy output," explains EWEA's Athanasia Arapogianni, who helped develop the tool.

By choosing to compare, for example, onshore wind and coal for the year 2010 and projected costs for 2020, the tool shows that last year, wind cost €65.7 per megawatt hour (MWh) compared to coal's €69.4, and by 2020 the gap should be even wider – €82.5 for coal and just €58.2 for wind.

Try the tool for yourself: http://ewea.org/index.php?id=201

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Section 3 – Members' news

Growing support for 2030 EU renewable energy targets

On 9 May the European Parliament's influential Industry Committee (ITRE) voted on the European Commission to "analyse and if appropriate to increase the legally binding renewable energy target" beyond 2020.
This is the latest signal that European Union policy makers are seriously considering extending renewable energy targets beyond 2020.

Recently Commissioner Connie Hedegaard told The Guardian newspaper that the EU "should be discussing a renewable energy target for 2030. We need to have ambitious targets. It would be one way to send a long-term price signal for renewable energy - that renewable energy is not just going to stop growing after 2020".

Günther Oettinger, the European Commissioner for Energy, recently said: "We will have....a proposal from the Commission side for a long-term [renewable energy] target for 2030 and 2040 and 2050".
"There is growing momentum for the European Commission to propose binding renewable energy targets for 2030" said EWEA's Senior Advisor on Climate and Environment Rémi Gruet. "For the last fifteen years the European Union has had a very successful renewable energy policy based on ambitious targets. If you have a successful policy it doesn't make sense to abandon it after 2020. It's important that the EU adopts a renewable energy target for 2030 and does so within the lifetime of this Commission and Parliament. Uncertainty about the policy framework after 2020 will do nothing to encourage investment".

The ITRE committee's move came in a vote on the Jordan Cizelj opinion to the Eickhout report on "Options to move beyond 20% GHG emission reductions".
The report also called on the Commission to assess the effects of domestic emissions reduction policies on the EU economy, provide proper financing to the SET-Plan and orient research and funding towards energy and climate issues Rémi Gruet commented: "Next to the call for renewable energy targets post-2020, we welcome the priority given to funding for research. But we regret that the report falls short of recommending a move to 30% greenhouse gas reductions. The report portrays the ETS as a burden on the economy, whereas it currently offers a subsidy for sectors like steel or cement that can make a profit by selling their emissions allowances".

The Eickhout report is due to be voted in plenary on 22-23 June.

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EP vote and EREC report: Pressure grows for stronger EU climate and energy action

The vote on 25 May in the European Parliament's powerful Environment Committee and the launch of a new report by the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) have increased the pressure for a higher EU emissions reduction target and a renewable energy target for 2030.
The EP Committee voted in favour of increasing the EU's greenhouse gas emission reduction target to 30% including "25% internal reductions by 2020" within the EU.

"This is a very positive signal for the EU industry. It is in the EU's interest to reduce emissions at home and hence develop its green industry even further, as it holds a clear competitive advantage in renewable technologies", said Rémi Gruet, EWEA Senior Regulatory Affairs Advisor for climate and environment.
"Heavy use of clean development mechanisms and joint implementation offsets outside the EU will only be beneficial for our international competitors, such as China".

The report also acknowledges the many positive impacts of higher climate protection and higher production of renewable energy, including six million potential additional jobs and a more competitive European Union.
The proposal for a binding 45% renewable energy target by 2030, made by the European Renewable Energy Council in a new report launched today in Brussels, would have similarly positive impacts.

"EWEA fully supports a 45% renewable energy target for 2030," said Gruet. "400 billion Euro need to be invested in new wind power generation over the next two decades. EU governments must send a clear message that such

investments must be made in renewable energy sources. A new regulatory framework covering the period after 2020 needs to be in place by 2014 - within the lifetime of this Parliament and Commission".

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Clean Energy technologies and patent management conference

The “European Patent Office” will organise in June a Public conference in Oslo on "Clean Energy technologies and patent management" (Oslo, 20 -21 June 2011).

Climate change and energy shortages are amongst the greatest challenges facing us today. Patents support innovation, none more so than the vital clean energy technologies which are essential to secure our planet's future. The patent, energy and climate change experts at this conference will demonstrate the role the patent system has in fostering clean energy technologies. Various conference sessions will explore how patents can provide incentives for developing new energy resources, as well as how patent information can support the energy business.

The registration will be open until 31 May 2011.
For Further Information and registration: http://www.epo.org/learning-events/events/search.html

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 Filippo Gagliardi and send him their contribution by 17 June at the latest** (filippo.gagliardi@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 300 people in total).

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Section 4 – Events

EWEA's first technology workshop a success!

EWEA's Wind Resource Assessment Technology Workshop (report back)

10 & 11 May 2011 - Brussels, Belgium

Over 180 participants attended at EWEA's technology workshop on wind resource assessment (Brussels, 10 & 11 May 2011) and feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Reducing uncertainty in wind energy predictions can have a massive impact on wind farm financing. That's what participants at EWEA's Wind Resource Assessment Technology Workshop heard.

Andrew Tindal from Garrad Hassan presented a case study of a theoretical 28 MW wind farm with four different levels of uncertainty in its calculated future energy output. The lowest level of uncertainty meant the lowest risk for the bank, which therefore would have given the biggest loan to the developer.
The same theoretical 28 MW wind farm, located south-west of Glasgow in Scotland, was used as the basis of a 'resource measurement comparison exercise', the results of which were presented at end of the workshop. Thirty-seven teams from 16 countries took the wind measurement data provided and tried to calculate the potential energy the wind farm could produce.
Niels Mortenson from Risø DTU correlated and assessed the data. Although there was a range of results and some outliers because the different teams used a range of models and methodology, Mortenson considered the results on the gross energy output "promising". This is because they were all within 12% of the mean, which was 121 GWh.

Overall, panellists stressed that this was a much simplified exercise, which did not, for example, take all the surrounding topology into account in the measurement data. Certain steps could be improved - such as uncertainty estimation and engineering best practices, said Mortenson. However, he and other panellists stressed the value of the comparison exercise and that it should be repeated.

"We are delighted with the overwhelmingly positive feedback on the workshop that we received from attendees and with the enthusiastic participation of thirty-seven teams in the 'Comparison of Resource and Energy Yield Assessment Procedures' exercise," said Tim Robinson, EWEA's Event Manager. "We are now discussing topics for additional technology workshops. We would of course welcome feedback and ideas from WW readers: TechnologyWorkshop@ewea.org."

180 people attended the workshop, which was held in Brussels on 10-11 May.
Full workshop information, access to proceedings and photos.

Suggest an idea for a technology workshop: TechnologyWorkshop@ewea.org

June

EU energy policy after 2020"

15 June 2011 – Brussels, Belgium - Global Wind Day

16.00-17.30 followed by a drinks reception

Public debate hosted by EWEA and the Press Club Brussels Europe (PCBE)

Confirmed speakers include:

- Claude Turmes, Member of the European Parliament;
- Niels Ladefoged, Member of Cabinet, Cabinet of Climate Action Commissioner Hedegaard, European Commission;
- Folker Franz, Industrial Affairs Director, BUSINESSEUROPE;
- Josche Muth, Deputy Secretary General, European Renewable Energy Council (EREC)

Information and registration. **Attendance to this event is free of charge.**

October

First TPWind energy R&D event

4 October 2011 – Brussels, Belgium

The 1st TPWind energy R&D event will take place on Tuesday 4 October, 2011, at the "Management Centre Europe", in Brussels (the same venue as for TPWind General Assemblies - http://www.mce-ama.com).

The morning will be dedicated to Working Groups' meetings and will therefore be for TPWind Working Groups' members only.

The afternoon, on the other hand, will be devoted to the first TPWind energy R&D conference, which will be open to the public for free. The event will focus on grid integration and will represent an opportunity to explore and discuss relevant R&D issues that wind energy players share with other sectors / stakeholders (e.g. ocean energy, oil & gas and grids).

The agenda of the event will be developed in the coming weeks: more information will be provided in upcoming issues of this newsletter.

November / December

EWEA OFFSHORE 2011: The world's largest offshore wind energy conference and exhibition

29 November – 1 December 2011 - Amsterdam, The Netherlands

It is the world's largest offshore wind energy event – a place where the industry's brightest minds will meet to share expertise and forge meaningful business relationships.
Over 7,000 participants from diverse business backgrounds will be part of shaping tomorrow's energy market.

Conference: Many thanks to all who submitted abstracts. Over 500 abstracts were submitted and the conference programme will soon be announced online.

- Conference chair has been announced: Ian Marchant, CEO of SSE Renewables.

Exhibition: the 2011 edition will be the largest ever and is already 85% sold out. Exhibitors represent a cross section of all offshore industries (full list is available on the exhibition webpage).

- View the key players who are exhibiting on the online exhibitor list

Registration will open soon: keep up-to-date by visiting www.ewea.org/offshore2011 and benefit from early bird rates on registration fees!

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