

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

Date: 23 March 2023

Time: 13:00 - 17:30 CET

Location: Faculty of Electrical Engineering 313 Splaiul Independentei, Bucharest, 060042

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

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

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

The PANTERA project and the EIRIE platform

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

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



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

The European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and SUPEERA project

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

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

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



Draft Agenda

Welcome address
<p>The SUPEERA project: Mobilization of EU-13 national public research resources in the Clean Energy Transition: challenges and opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SET Plan and CET - benefits and engagement possibilities ○ Investment and reform measures for Romania for CET
<p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● R&I activities supporting clean energy transition in Romania ● Romania's participation in EU funded projects ● Romania's involvement in the SET Plan
Coffee break
<p>Panel discussion: Opportunities to increase participation in joint R&I activities</p>
<p>R&I opportunities for collaboration and funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Horizon Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clean Energy Transition Partnership ○ Widening Calls ● Norway/EEA Grants
<p>PANTERA project and the launching of the EIRIE platform in support of the R&I community in Romania: Objectives and opportunities</p>
Open discussion and Q&A
Wrap up and feedback
Networking



Background information for Romania

Based on Romania's final national energy and climate plan, and on the investment and reform priorities identified for Romania in the European Semester, the Commission services invite Romania to consider, while developing its national recovery and resilience plan, the following climate and energy-related investment and reform measures:

- Measures boosting renewable energy generation; measures aimed at fostering the renovation of buildings and the energy efficiency of district heating networks;
- Measures improving transport infrastructure and sustainable mobility, including reforming the transport agencies and supporting the deployment of recharging and refuelling infrastructure;
- Measures supporting the phase-in of green taxation and green budgeting.

The above-mentioned measures are indicative in nature and not meant to be exhaustive. They aim to orient reflections in the development of the national recovery and resilience plan. They do not prejudge the position of the Commission on the actions to be proposed. This position will, inter alia, need to comply with the agreed legislative text on the Recovery and Resilience Facility. The Research & Innovation component in the execution of these measures is essential, and in this regard the PANTERA/SUPEERA projects aim to support the research institutions in their efforts in reaching 2030 & 2050 climate goals.

