

PANTERA and SUPEERA PANEL

Boosting the R&I of Smart Grids, Storage and Energy communities The 13th Mediterranean Conference on Power Generation, Transmission, Distribution and Energy Conversion

Country: Valletta - Malta

8th of November 2022 from 14:00 to 17:30 hrs CEST

Malta is an active member of the EU since 1st May 2004 and actively works in the success of the energy transition objectives to achieve the declared policies for achieving a low carbon economy. However, the following areas are still a concern in achieving carbon neutrality and we would like to address them in this panel that brings together stakeholders in the field of smart grids, storage and local energy systems:

- R&I activities in the field are weak calling for more national and European support to raise opportunities, bring closer to the wealth of EU knowledge and offer the means to address local needs with the support of the industry and broader communities.
- Enabling technologies like digitalization, storage, smart grids, e-Mobility and reliable communications are not adequately addressed to facilitate the much-wanted transition for the effective use of emerging technologies that include distributed RES, e-mobility with smart charging and V2G attributes and demand flexibility.
- End users and citizens are not adequately empowered through codes, appropriate regulation and market instruments to build and operate effective energy management systems utilizing the emerging technologies that can grow into efficient energy communities with appropriate technologies in place to facilitate optimal use of local resources for the benefit of the citizens.

The panel aims to bring the stakeholders of Malta actively participating in the proceedings to address all the above issues and together try to pave the way forward for helping the country to move faster toward the much-wanted energy transition to the low carbon economy.

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 Malta).

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 PANTERA. 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.

The Agenda

Time (CEST)	Topics	Description	Presenter
14:00 14:30	SUPEERA	The SUPEERA project: Mobilization of EU-13 national public research resources in the Clean Energy Transition: challenges and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SET Plan and CET - benefits and engagement possibilities • Investment and reform measures for Malta for CET 	Dr Ivan Matejak , SUPEERA coordinator, EERA, Belgium
14:30 14:50	The PANTERA project and the regional approach	Opening the workshop and setting the scene for open dialogue on the role of the PANTERA process in helping Malta to grow stronger in sustainable energy R&I	Dr. Venizelos Efthymiou(FOSS)
14:50 15:10	Malta: Energy and R&I landscape	Opportunities and Vision amidst an Energy Crisis	Ing. Abigail Cutajar Ministry for Environment, Energy and Enterprise
15:10 15:30	EIRIE at your service	EIRIE: The multifunctional platform that can make the difference: Step-by-step introduction to its capabilities that serve your needs	Mr. Tasos Tsitsanis (Suite5) and Dr Anna Mutule (IPE)
15:30 15:50	Coffee Break		
15:50 16:20	SUPEERA	R&I opportunities for collaboration and funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clean Energy Transition Partnership ○ Widening Calls Norway/EEA Grants 	Spyridon Pantelis , Project Manager, EERA, Belgium Petter Støa , Vice President Research, SINTEF Energi AS, Norway

<p>16:20 17:20</p>	<p>Panel Discussion and Q&A session</p>	<p>How to accelerate the R&I activities of Malta in support of the energy transition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Collaboration • National regulations • Policy issues • Financing opportunities • good practice 	<p>Moderator: <i>Venizelos Efthymiou</i></p> <p>Panellists: Ing. Mark Anthony Sammut (Parliament) Ing. Sandro Lauri (EWA), Dr Ing. Brian Azzopardi (Chair FiR.mt Senior Academic)</p>
<p>17:20 17:30</p>	<p>Closing Remarks</p>	<p>Wrap up giving emphasis to the outcomes of the workshop</p>	<p>Dr Shafi Khadem (IERC)</p>