

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

ANNUAL PLAN 2022

WORKING GROUP LEADERS

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OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the Energy & Climate Change Working Group is to act as a platform to discuss and share information on energy-related priorities and funding programmes, especially looking at the Green Deal (with its Fit for 55 Package) and Horizon Europe. The priority areas also feature climate change issues (such as climate adaptation), nature-based solutions and natural resources. The WG is set to explore links and synergies with other areas in which energy and climate change play central role and cooperate with other ERRIN Working Groups.

CONTEXT

- The key EU level priorities, strategies, and events that the Working Group aims to follow up in 2022:
 - Green Deal (Fit for 55 package)
 - EU Partnerships (e.g. Hydrogen Valleys, Batteries, Built4People)
 - EU Missions (Mission on adaptation)
 - Innovation Agenda
 - The New European Bauhaus
- Important funding programmes for the Working Group and how the WG aims to facilitate project development:
 - Horizon Europe (clusters 5 and 6)
 - Innovation Fund
 - EIT Climate

The WG will consider organising short and informal coffee meetings to facilitate project development and partnership building.

- How the group supports partnership building and collaborate with other European organisations or networks:
 - European Hydrogen Valleys Partnership
 - Batteries Partnership and Alliance
 - Built4people Partnership

ACTIVITIES

Coffee meetings

Throughout the year

The WG will consider organising short and informal coffee meetings to facilitate project development and partnership building. These meetings will give the opportunity to members to present project ideas, highlight their interest in specific calls and join existing partnerships. The WG is planning to organise these coffee meetings on an ad hoc basis through the year, depending on upcoming call deadlines.

Mission on Adaptation to climate change

22 February | Online

Following the policy debate on EU Missions during our Annual General Meeting, ERRIN has been invited to organise a joint ‘sounding board’ meeting together with the European Commission on the Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change. The meeting will be an excellent opportunity to discuss further how members can get further engaged in the mission, raise your concerns and help shaping the next steps of the adaptation mission process.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday 22 February, between 14:30 and 17:00 (online) and will be co-chaired by the Mission Manager Clara de la Torre. This topic will be followed up later this year and may conclude with another meeting focused on adaptation.

EU Missions – coordination meeting

24 March

Policy WG co-leads bring together the five Working Group co-leads working on the EU Missions to discuss joint issues related to them (governance, portfolio approach...) based on WG work plans.

As a main outcome of the meeting, recommendations related to the EU Missions will be collected and shared with the Commission with the aim of influencing the Horizon Europe Mission Work Programmes 2023-2024.

Fit for 55 Package

Spring

In the Commission work programme for 2021, the revisions and initiatives linked to the European Green Deal climate actions, and in particular the climate target plan's 55% net reduction target, are presented under the Fit for 55 Package. An online information session will be organised for the ERRIN members to give an overview of the Package, including some regional examples (e.g. on alternative fuels or maritime sector).

Buildings

June (TBC) | Online

An online meeting focused on integrated urban planning, linking to energy grids, energy efficiency, zero-emission construction sites. This meeting will feature a speaker from one of the coordinators of the Built4People partnership: EC, the European Construction Technology Platform (ECTP) or the World Green Building Council (WGBC). The New European Bauhaus perspective on buildings or smart grids will also be tackled. Members will present their regional examples to showcase their activities within the wider integrated urban planning.

This meeting is set to be organised jointly with the Smart Cities WG.

Sustainable batteries

Autumn

An online meeting focusing on the Battery Alliance and Battery Partnership. The purpose will be to look at what the ongoing, and upcoming calls on the green battery production value chain are focusing on, and what are important ongoing projects that the EC wishes to build on. This meeting will also focus on the role regions can play together with industry and other stakeholders. Possible angle will also look at new innovation on battery and storage solutions.

Hydrogen – hype meets realism

Autumn

This online meeting will focus on the importance to create a common picture of where we are with the development of concrete solutions. The main questions for the meeting are following:

- On which scale can hydrogen be a solution? What is possible and on what cost?
- EU Hydro-partnerships and EC vision for hydro.
- Bringing together hydro-actors-researchers from the regions to debate the current research

- Networking and creating contacts: a lot is happening on the company level but there is need for researchers to connect and find each other.

Energy systems and integrating renewables to the grid

Autumn

Instead of looking at separate renewable solutions Europe needs to urgently focus on energy systems: a lot of investments and discussion about the technology – the big challenge will be integrating renewables to the grid & electricity network.