

Welcome to the 53rd Autumn Edition of the ESEIA Newsletter!

Dear ESEIA members, colleagues and friends,

This Autumn Newsletter takes you to reading about how the ESEIA Working Groups are jointly developing the new **Work Programme 2025**. Several meetings have been held since early summer until decision-making which will take place at the **ESEIA General Assembly in Brussels, 19 November**.

Also enjoy reading the new blog featuring an **interview with President Brian Norton** about the future role of ESEIA.

Next to an update on **ESEIA projects**, you will also get insights into running project proposals.

In the **EU Policy section**, check out news about the **Revised SET Plan** cross-sector task forces and the new **ESEIA Article** about FP10 in the autumn edition of the European Energy Innovation Magazine.

Finally, if you have not registered for the **15 Year Anniversary**, you still have a **last chance**. I recommend you do not miss this wonderful moment of togetherness. And rest assured, we have a great program for you with many discussions and there will be cake!

Enjoy reading,

Brigitte Hasewend
ESEIA Director



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1. News from ESEIA

1.1. ESEIA Working Groups Define Joint Work Programme 2025

Starting in the summer ESEIA has conducted a comprehensive review to identify the most relevant calls for proposals from the European Green Deal and Horizon Europe that align with both member interests and ESEIA’s strategic vision.

In collaboration with the Working Group (WG) Coordinators and Focus Group Leaders, ESEIA carefully curates a shortlist of these opportunities. This shortlist is then shared with WG members, who are invited to express their interest in the selected calls. This structured process provides ESEIA and its members with a defined Work Programme for 2025 enabling early preparation and more efficient proposal development. *For newsletter sections dedicated to ESEIA Members: make sure to contact us to receive your credentials for accessing My ESEIA.*



[Read more](#)

Contact: ESEIA Project Manager Zina Mejbri: zina.mejbri@eseia.eu

1.2. Introducing ESEIA’s Sustainable Energy Insight: Exclusive Perspectives from ESEIA President Brian Norton on Shaping the Future of the Energy Industry

The ESEIA Blog - Sustainable Energy Insight aims to create a vibrant platform that informs, engages, and inspires sustainable energy experts. The blog will serve as a knowledge hub for ESEIA members, partners, and stakeholders, providing regular updates on projects, achievements, and opportunities in the renewable energy sector.

First Interview: The inaugural interview features Professor Brian Norton, ESEIA President, discussing ESEIA’s strategic vision, current projects, and the future of sustainable energy innovation in Europe. His insights will set the stage for upcoming discussions on challenges, opportunities, and collaborations within the industry.



[Read full interview](#)

For more details or to contribute, contact us at office@eseia.eu or visit www.eseia.eu

2. News from ESEIA Members

2.1 Driving Innovation for a Sustainable Future: Explore ESEIA Members' Pioneering Projects

The ESEIA website features a dedicated section highlighting the diverse range of innovative projects led by our members, covering key areas in technology & innovation, enhancing impacts, strategy setting, and capacity building. These projects tackle critical challenges such as decarbonization, energy transition, and system transformation, showcasing expertise in biorefineries, biobased economy, bioresource utilization, Spatial & Urban & Traffic planning, and education and training.

We invite you to explore these initiatives and learn how ESEIA members contribute to the transition toward a more sustainable and resilient future. Discover the full range of projects and stay informed on the latest developments in sustainable energy innovation!

[Learn more](#)

Contact: office@eseia.eu



2.2. 2024 Climate Crisis Conference in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East: A Collaborative Initiative

Following two highly successful Climate Conferences in [2018](#) and [2021](#) that resulted in the [Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Climate Change Initiative \(EMME-CCI\)](#), ESEIA member The Cyprus Institute has partnered with the Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts to co-organize the 2024 iteration, Climate Crisis in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East.

Source: *The Cyprus Institute*

[Read more](#)

Contact: Fabio Montagnino, CYI, f.montagnino@cyi.ac.cy



2.3. Key Insights from the 19th SDEWES Conference: Paving the Way for Sustainable Development

The 19th SDEWES Conference, held from 8 to 12 September 2024 in Rome, Italy, brought together 690 scientists, researchers, and experts in sustainable development from 62 countries across six continents. Among them were participants from ESEIA member UNIZAG FSB, who were actively involved in the event. Read the report and learn more about the key messages from the conference.

[Read more](#)

Source: Nikola Matak, UNIZAG FSB

Contact: Nikola Matak, nikola.matak@fsb.unizg.hr



2.4. Moving2Neutrality: Driving Hydrogen Solutions for a Sustainable Energy Future

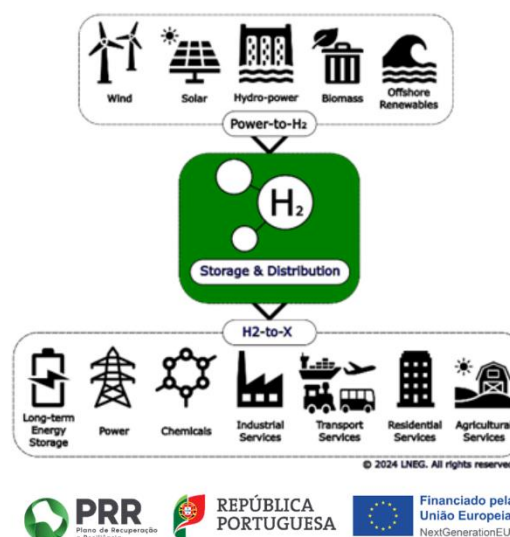
As Europe advances towards its 2050 carbon neutrality goals, hydrogen is emerging as a key energy vector for achieving a diversified and sustainable energy system. The *Moving2Neutrality* agenda, led by the ESEIA member National Laboratory for Energy and Geology (LNEG) in Portugal, is a pioneering project dedicated to the technical and economic evaluation of hydrogen (H₂) transport solutions.

This project focuses on developing competitive and sustainable business cases for hydrogen, evaluating its use in both gaseous and liquid forms, and exploring its potential transformation into other compounds and e-fuels.

[Read more](#)

For more information, visit the [Moving2Neutrality project page](#).

Contact: Juan Portillo (juan.portillo@lneg.pt); Sofia Simões (sofia.simoies@lneg.pt)

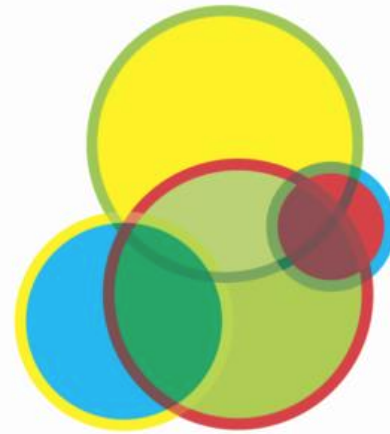


3. ESEIA Projects

Driving Sustainable Innovation: ESEIA's Active Role in Horizon Europe Projects and Proposals

ESEIA continues to drive innovation in sustainable energy and mobility systems through active participation in Horizon Europe and other funding programs. In this section, we highlight one proposal that has been successfully submitted, DigiSHIFT, as well as three promising proposals currently in development. These initiatives involve collaboration between ESEIA, its members, and international partners, aiming to tackle key challenges in digital transformation, renewable energy systems, bio-refinery concepts, and clean energy integration in the built environment.

The projects aim to promote innovation, sustainability, and market uptake of advanced technologies, contributing to the EU's ambitious climate and energy goals. For newsletter sections dedicated to ESEIA Members: make sure to contact us to receive your credentials for accessing **My ESEIA**.



3.1 One Proposal Submitted and Three Proposals in the Making

One proposal submitted

DigiSHIFT- HORIZON-CL5-2024-D6-01-08: Digital transformation for human- and cargo-centric mobility infrastructure upgrades. **DigiSHIFT** led by Thu Trang Nguyen and Mario Hirz, TU Graz, Austria, was successfully submitted on 5 September 2024. The proposal aims to create a comprehensive digital mobility management system that integrates prediction, optimization, operation, and monitoring across multiple transport modes and use cases.

The partners involved in this proposal include ESEIA and ESEIA members TU Graz, Jožef Stefan Institute, Vilnius Tech. Proposal budget: € 5 Mil.

Contact:

Coordinator Thu Trang Nguyen: t.nguyen@tugraz.at

ESEIA Project Manager Zina Mejbri: zina.mejbri@eseia.eu

Three Proposals in the Making

3.1.1. HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-03: Development of smart concepts of integrated energy-driven bio-refineries for co-production of advanced biofuels, bio-chemicals and biomaterials

The proposal under this [call](#) focuses on the development of advanced, integrated bio-refinery concepts powered by renewable energy for the simultaneous production of biofuels, bio-chemicals, and biomaterials. It aims to promote market uptake and innovation in renewable energy systems to support sustainable energy and circular bioeconomy solutions.

The proposal, is due to be submitted 21 January 2025, the partners involved in the proposal from ESEIA members: TU Graz, Unizagreb-PBF, TU Vienna. Project budget: € 3.5 Mil.

Coordinator: Marlene Kienberger, TU Graz, marlene.kienberger@tugraz.at

Contact: ESEIA Project Manager Zina Mejri, zina.mejri@eseia.eu

HORIZON-CL5-2024-D3-02-10: Market Uptake Measures of renewable energy systems

The proposal under this [call](#) is dedicated to accelerating the market uptake of several specific renewable energy systems. It recognizes the societal and policy importance of this market uptake and the potential for general lessons from the examples in the proposals. This proposal's main expected impact is to ignite a more effective market uptake of renewable energy systems as envisioned in the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan).

The deadline for submission is 21 January 2025. The proposal is coordinated by **Frans Coenen**, University of Twente, NL. The partners involved in this proposal include ESEIA and ESEIA members EAST, ADENE, UTBV, BAV, IERC, Utwente and Karelia UAS. Project budget: € 2 Mil.

Coordinator Frans Coenen, UTwente: f.h.j.m.coenen@utwente.nl

ESEIA Contact: Sila Celebi, sila.celebi@eseia.eu

3.1.3. CM2024-10 Clean energy integration in the built environment

The two-stage proposal under this [call](#) published by CETP aims to develop technologies and methodologies that enhance energy production, storage, and efficiency within built environments, focusing on seamless integration into both new and existing infrastructure. The expected outcome is to accelerate the market adoption of sustainable, competitive, and affordable solutions for building construction and renovation.

The deadline for submission of pre-proposals is 21 November 2024 (full submission 2 April 2025). The partners involved in this proposal include ESEIA and ESEIA members TU Dublin, Vilnius Tech and UTBV. the coordinator has not been determined yet.

ESEIA Contact: Sila Celebi, sila.celebi@eseia.eu

3.2 Education & Training Program. ESEIA International Summer School 2024: A Transformative Learning Experience

The ESEIA International Summer School 2024, held online from 16-27 September in collaboration with Savonia University of Applied Sciences and North Savo Energy Cluster, focused on Net Zero Solutions for Climate-Friendly Energy.

The program brought together 20 participants who actively engaged in exploring key topics like clean energy, CCUS, synthetic fuels, and the decarbonization of mobility. Through a combination of lectures, company presentations, and hands-on project work, they developed initiatives aligned with Horizon Europe and Interreg goals. Their projects were reviewed by experts during a final peer review session, providing valuable insights and practical experience.

Contact: office@eseia.eu



3.3 Spotlight on EMERGE: Paving the Way for Africa's Sustainable Energy Future

The EMERGE EU project is playing a pivotal role in advancing Africa's energy transition through innovative modeling and close collaboration with key stakeholders. To learn more about the project's objectives, watch our introductory [video](#) and stay updated with our "Did You Know?" insights on [social media](#).

The upcoming Co-Design Workshop will be held at UMP in Morocco on 27 November, followed by the General Assembly on 28-29 November*, where the next steps in Africa's energy transformation will be discussed.

**dates to be updated*

Explore the EMERGE [website](#) and follow the project on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), and [Facebook](#) to stay updated on our progress and subscribe to the [EMERGE newsletter](#).

Contact:

Project main contact Nikola Matak: nikola.matak@fsb.unizg.hr

ESEIA Project Manager Zina Mejbri: zina.mejbri@eseia.eu



3.2 INITIATE Project: Advancing European Collaboration and Innovation

The INITIATE Project, in collaboration with ESEIA, has made significant contributions to European research and innovation in 2024. Key events included a "Lump Sum Funding in Horizon Europe" training on 11 July, which brought together members from 12 organizations across 8 countries, and a "Data & Analytics on the Green and Digital Transition" workshop hosted by ISCTE on 18 June, engaging over 20 experts. Additionally, the INITIATE team from FEEIT/UKIM visited KONTRON to explore digital transformation solutions in sectors like energy and transport. Through these initiatives, INITIATE drives digital innovation and sustainable energy progress.

You can find more information about the INITIATE project [here](#) and follow the project on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), and [Facebook](#) to stay updated on our progress.

Project Coordinator Marko Mimica Marko.Mimica@fsb.hr

ESEIA Project Manager Sila Celebi: sila.celebi@eseia.eu



4. European Policy News

4.1. **Shaping the Future of EU R&I for Climate-Neutrality: Key Questions for the Design of FP10: ESEIA Article published in EEI Magazine**

This article by **Brigitte Hasewend and Hana Lee** published in the fall edition of the [EEI Magazine](#) is a contribution to the [ongoing European debate](#) on the future design of the 10th EU Research and Innovation (R&I) Framework Programme with the working title **FP10 covering the period 2028-2034**.



What are the **key challenges** to enhancing European competitiveness while transforming to a green and circular economy for climate neutrality? How can these challenges be addressed by FP10? Which questions remain open for future debate? This article presents findings from the ESEIA survey underlying the ESEIA FP10 Position Paper.

Contact: Brigitte.Hasewend@eseia.eu

4.2 **Strategic Energy Technology Plan Revision: Cross-Cutting Task Forces to Start Work**

In December five Task Forces dedicated to cross-cutting topics for the energy technologies of the SET Plan will start working according to the [Communication on 'the revision of the Strategic Energy Technology \(SET\) Plan'](#). By April 2026 they will provide a means for strategic discussion on challenges and solutions for integrating these topics in the work of the revised SET Plan. The ESEIA Director **Brigitte Hasewend** will lead Task Force 5 on **Access to Market**. She will work with stakeholder groups of the SET Plan including IWGs, ETIPs, EERA, CET, and DUT. Stay tuned!



[Read more about the 5 cross-cutting SET Plan Task Forces and their objectives.](#)

Contact: Brigitte.Hasewend@eseia.eu

4.3. Call for SSH Experts: Horizon Europe Cluster 5 Project Evaluations

The European Commission is seeking experts from the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) research community to evaluate projects under Horizon Europe in the fields of Climate, Energy, and Mobility. Selected SSH researchers will review topics related to the societal aspects of technological developments, such as ethics, culture, governance, and sociology in climate, energy, and transport.



Evaluations will take place remotely in the second half of 2025. Interested experts must register in the European Commission's expert database and complete the application by October 4, 2024.

For more information: [Become an evaluator](#) | [Apply here](#).

Source: [ERA Portal Austria – Commission seeks SSH experts for evaluation of cluster 5 projects](#)

4.4 Canada Joins Horizon Europe in Landmark Research Partnership

In November 2023, Canada officially joined Horizon Europe, the EU's €95 billion research program, becoming one of the first non-European countries to associate, alongside New Zealand and South Korea.

The agreement, signed by EU research commissioner Iliana Ivanova and Canada's science minister François-Philippe Champagne, allows Canadian researchers to collaborate seamlessly with European partners under Pillar II, focusing on industrial, social, and environmental challenges.



This marks a new chapter in Canada-EU research cooperation, streamlining funding access and strengthening geopolitical alliances aimed at addressing global challenges through collaborative innovation.

Source: [ScienceBusiness](#)

5. ESEIA Upcoming Events

5.1 Unlocking Innovation: How Circular Bioeconomy Start-Up Villages are Shaping the Future

ESEIA 11th Lecture: Circular Bioeconomy Start-Up Villages: From Idea to Market | 24 October 2024 | 19:00 to 21:00 CET | Aula, TU Graz and online. This hybrid event promises to be a thought-provoking and insightful discussion.

Evelyn Reinmuth, UNI Hohenheim, DE, will explore how rural European areas can leverage start-up villages to drive sustainable innovation and growth. Responses will be provided by Kristina Sermuksnyte-Alesiuniene, AgriFood Lithuania, LT and Annalisa Spalazzi, Regional Science and Economic Geography, GSSI, IT, with Fabio Maria Montagnino, Cyprus Institute, CY, chairing the event, hosted by the Rector TU Graz. Supported by partners like Vilnius Tech and LNEG, this hybrid event aligns with the European Commission's vision for rural regions. Register by 21 October!

We invite you to [register](#) for onsite or online participation before 21 October 2024.

Contact: office@eseia.eu



Circular Bioeconomy Start-Up Village From Idea to Market

Guest lecture: Evelyn Reinmuth, UNI Hohenheim, DE



Response 1: Kristina Sermuksnyte-Alesiuniene, AgriFood Lithuania, LT
 Response 2: Annalisa Spalazzi, The Gran Sasso Science Institute, IT
 Chair: Fabio Maria Montagnino, The Cyprus Institute, CY
 Host: Rector TU Graz, AT

[REGISTER NOW](#)

24 October 2024 | 19:00-21:00 CET | Aula, TU GRAZ, Hybrid Event

Recommended by:



5.2 ESEIA 15- Year Anniversary and ESEIA General Assembly, 19 November 2024, in Brussels and online

The ESEIA General Assembly will take place in Brussels on 19 November 2024 in a hybrid format. The assembly will discuss the new Work Programme and Budget for 2025, review ESEIA Membership, and appoint decision-makers for the GC and GA. Additionally, updates from the ESEIA Working Groups will be presented.

On the same day, we will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of ESEIA, marking 15 years of innovation and collaboration in sustainable energy systems. Join us for a series of special events and activities reflecting on our journey and looking ahead to future achievements. Save the date for this momentous occasion!

Contact: office@eseia.eu



ESEIA 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Join Us in Celebrating 15 Years of Innovation, Growth, and Success!

Tuesday, 19 November 2024

17.00 – 21.00 CET

Brussels, Fondation Universitaire,
 Rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels

office@eseia.eu

5.3. 6th ESEIA International Conference: “Net Zero and Beyond” – Join Us in Kuopio, Finland!

Join us on 4 December 2024 in Kuopio, Finland, for the 6th ESEIA International Conference, hosted by Savonia University of Applied Sciences, ESEIA, and Energy Cluster North Savo.

The event will explore key topics like renewable energy, energy storage, smart technologies, and policy frameworks for sustainability. Energy professionals and researchers are invited to submit abstracts by 31 October 2024 to contribute to shaping the future of sustainable energy systems and the journey beyond Net Zero. Don't miss out! Visit eseia2024.fi for details.

[Abstract submission](#)

[Registration](#)

Contact: office@eseia.eu



5.3 ESEIA Upcoming Events: 12th Lecture on Energy System Modelling in EU and AU

12th ESEIA Lecture: Energy System Modelling in EU and AU | 5 December 2024 | 19.00-21.00 CET | Online. This lecture seeks to introduce energy systems modeling for policymakers, academics, investors, and citizens.

Illustrated by the case of Morocco, the lecture discusses the knowledge required to increase the production of clean energy and the sustainable use of resources while bridging cultural and socioeconomic divides. The lecture will highlight co-design methods in energy communities and the EMERGE Toolbox by integrating and building upon existing tools, methodologies, and approaches.

For more information and registration, visit the [ESEIA Lecture Series](#).

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Stay Connected with ESEIA

Join the ESEIA Conversation

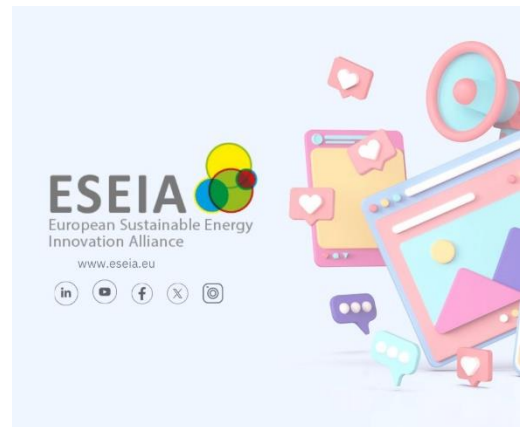
ESEIA is more than just a network—it's a community of innovators and experts driving the future of sustainable energy. Stay in touch with us across all of our communication channels:

[ESEIA YouTube Channel](#): Watch ESEIA Lecture events, event highlights, and project updates.

[LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#): Follow us for the latest news, opportunities, and insights in the renewable energy sector.

Newsletter: Subscribe to our newsletter to receive timely updates on ESEIA projects, events, and European policy news delivered straight to your inbox.

Join the conversation and be part of a network that's shaping Europe's energy transition!



Recommend & Share the ESEIA Newsletter

Stay up-to-date with the latest news and insights in the sustainable energy field by subscribing to the ESEIA newsletter. Get exclusive access to member highlights, important events, and policy updates shaping the future of energy. Don't miss out—subscribe now and share with your network to help spread the word!

Contact: office@eseia.eu



Become an ESEIA Member

Are you passionate about driving innovation in sustainable energy? Join ESEIA as a member and collaborate with leading organizations, researchers, and experts. As a member, you'll gain access to:

Exclusive networking opportunities

Participation in ESEIA projects and events

Influence on policy and innovation strategies in Europe

Become part of the ESEIA community and help shape the future of sustainable energy!

Contact: office@eseia.eu



European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance – ESEIA

Director: Brigitte Hasewend

Dissemination and Communication Manager: Nicoleta Talpes

ESEIA Services:

- **Close contact** to the **European Commission** facilitated by our desk in Brussels, as well as contacts to funding agencies and thorough **know-how of funding programmes**.
- **Knowledge building** and **dissemination** through ESEIA projects, such as the ESEIA journal and EC-SET Plan Education and Training Initiative.
- **Long-term contact** with **international** and **cross-sector organisations** working in the area of renewable energies.
- Support for **consortium building** and the **coordination and management** of large-scale proposal preparation process.
- **Information sharing** through interactive workshops, business meetings and quarterly newsletters including news from the grapevine of EU policy regarding renewable energies.

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ESEIA Website

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found on our website
www.eseia.eu

ESEIA Newsletter Calendar 2024

Newsletter	Deadline sending input to ESEIA	Issue
53 rd Edition	1 September	1 October 2024
54 th Edition	1 December	20 December 2024

The ESEIA Team is looking forward to your inputs.

Responsible for content:

ESEIA Team

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Printing and record error reserve

Layout conception and production:

ESEIA Team