

ESEIA 15-Year Highlights

Brigitte Hasewend, ESEIA Director



ESEIA

European Sustainable Energy
Innovation Alliance

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About ESEIA

The European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance is a recognized European association of leading organizations representing the entire renewable energy innovation landscape. As a cross-sector alliance, ESEIA approaches energy transition from a systemic point of view, from energy provision to energy consumption, in research, teaching, business, and governance.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Our Vision

is to be the first European address for sustainable energy systems innovation.



Our Mission

By 2050 ESEIA will have enabled Europe to reach Green Deal targets by contributing **research for innovative solutions**, as well as education and training for a climate-neutral sustainable energy system.

How it all began

Founders from TU Graz

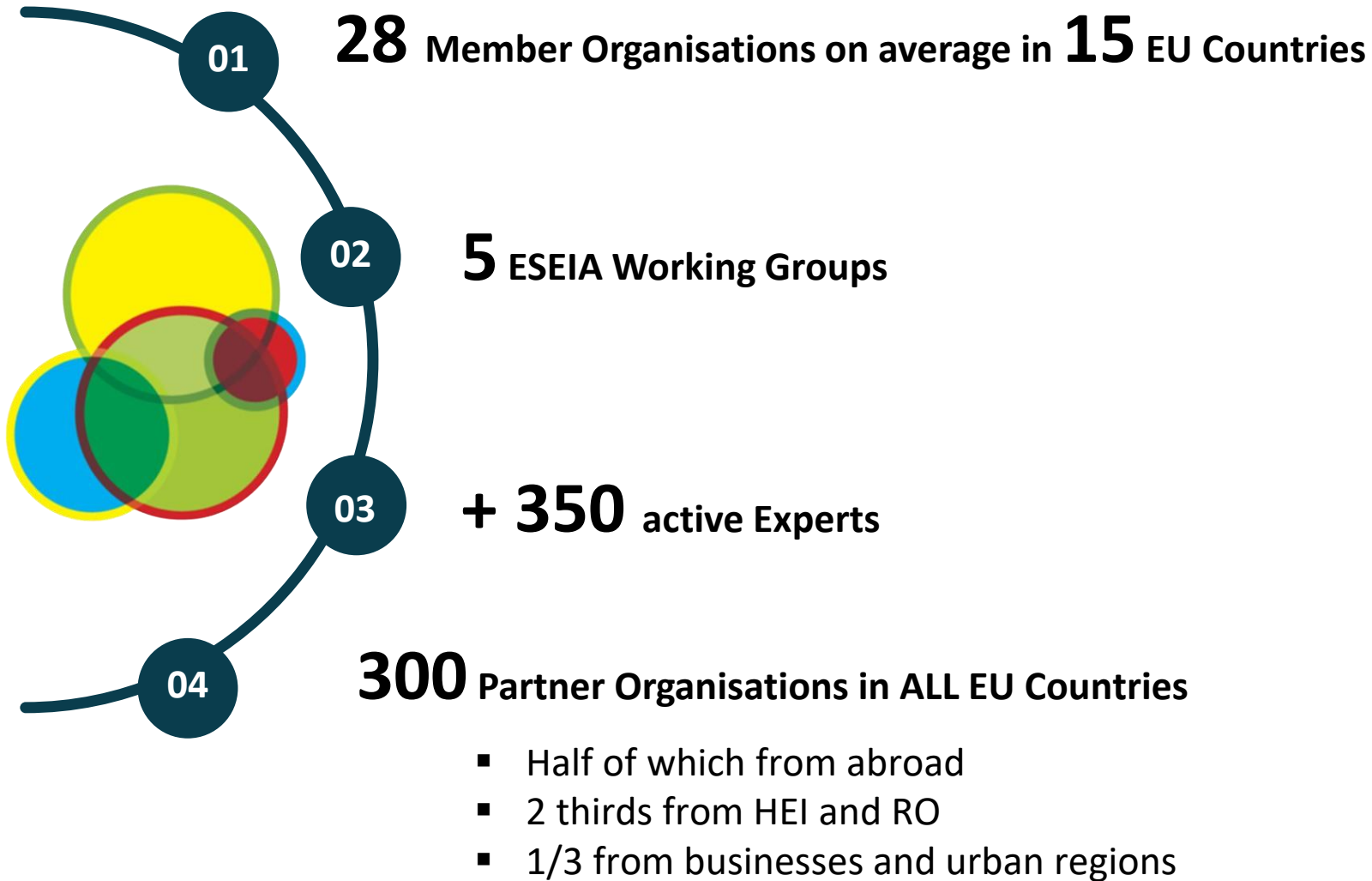
- Franz Stelzer, Vice-Rector Research
- Brigitte Hasewend, Director ISP
- Michael Narodslawsky, Process Engineering

Graz, 19 November 2009

- 1st General Assembly following EIT KIC Energy Proposal
- Founding President Hans Sünkel, Rector TU Graz
 - Harald Kainz, Rector TU Graz, ESEIA President for 12 years



1. A Strong Alliance: *Members and Partners*

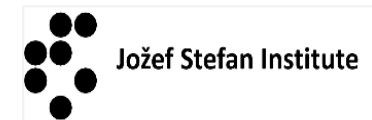


1. A Strong Alliance: Member Organisations



23 member organisations:

- 12 EU countries
- 13 higher education institutions
- 4 research organizations
- 6 businesses



1. A Strong Alliance: *ESEIA Members*

GERMANY

TH Cologne
BAV

NETHERLANDS

UTwente

IRELAND

TU Dublin
IERC

AUSTRIA

FH Burgenland
EAST
Energie Steiermark
Uni Graz
TU Graz
TU Vienna

SLOVENIA

JSI

PORTUGAL

ADENE
LNEG

FINLAND

Savonia UAS
XAMK
Karelia UAS

LITHUANIA

Vilnius Tech

ROMANIA

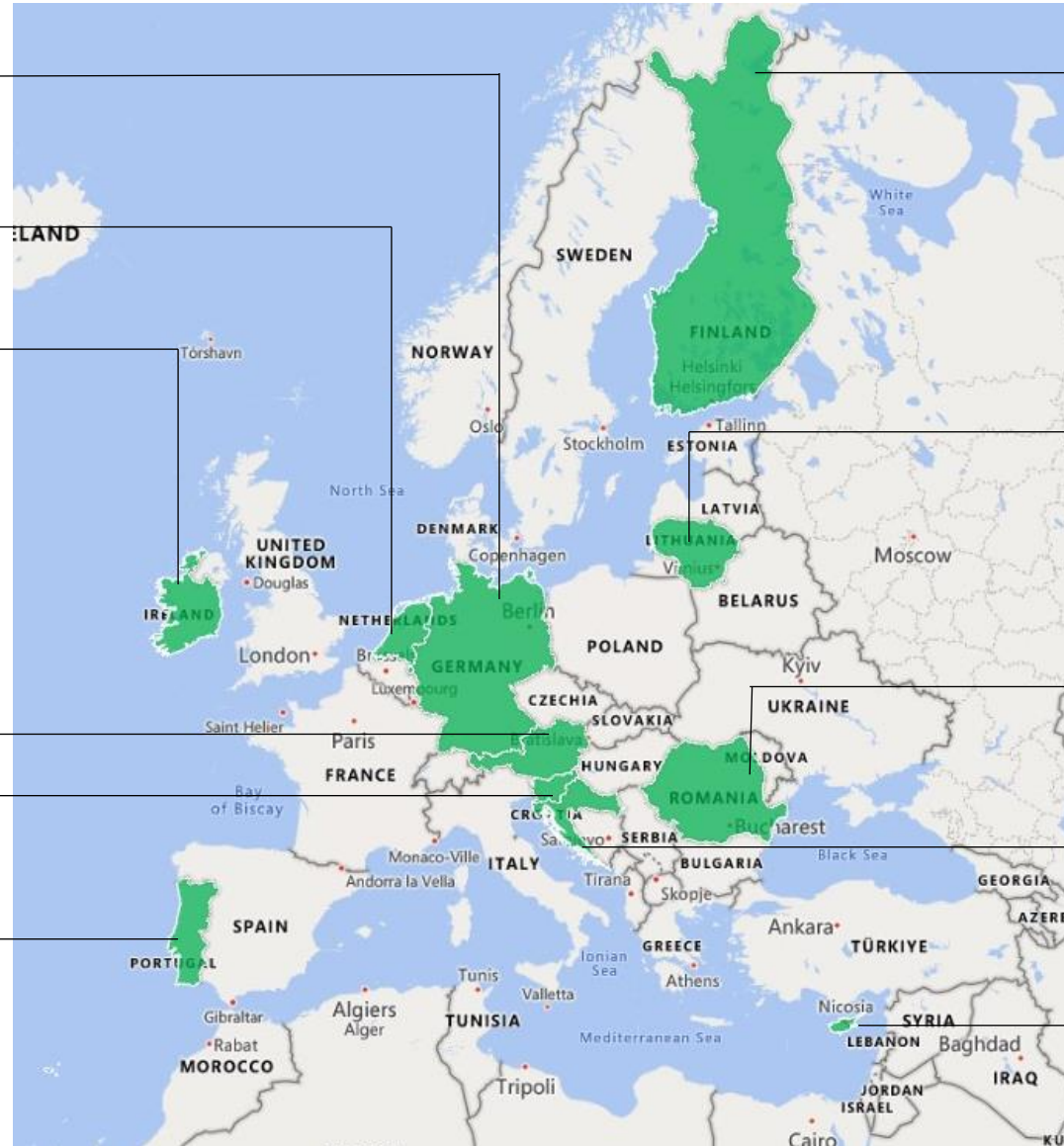
UTBv

CROATIA

UNIZAG- PBF

CYPRUS

CYI



1. A Strong Alliance: *ESEIA Partners*

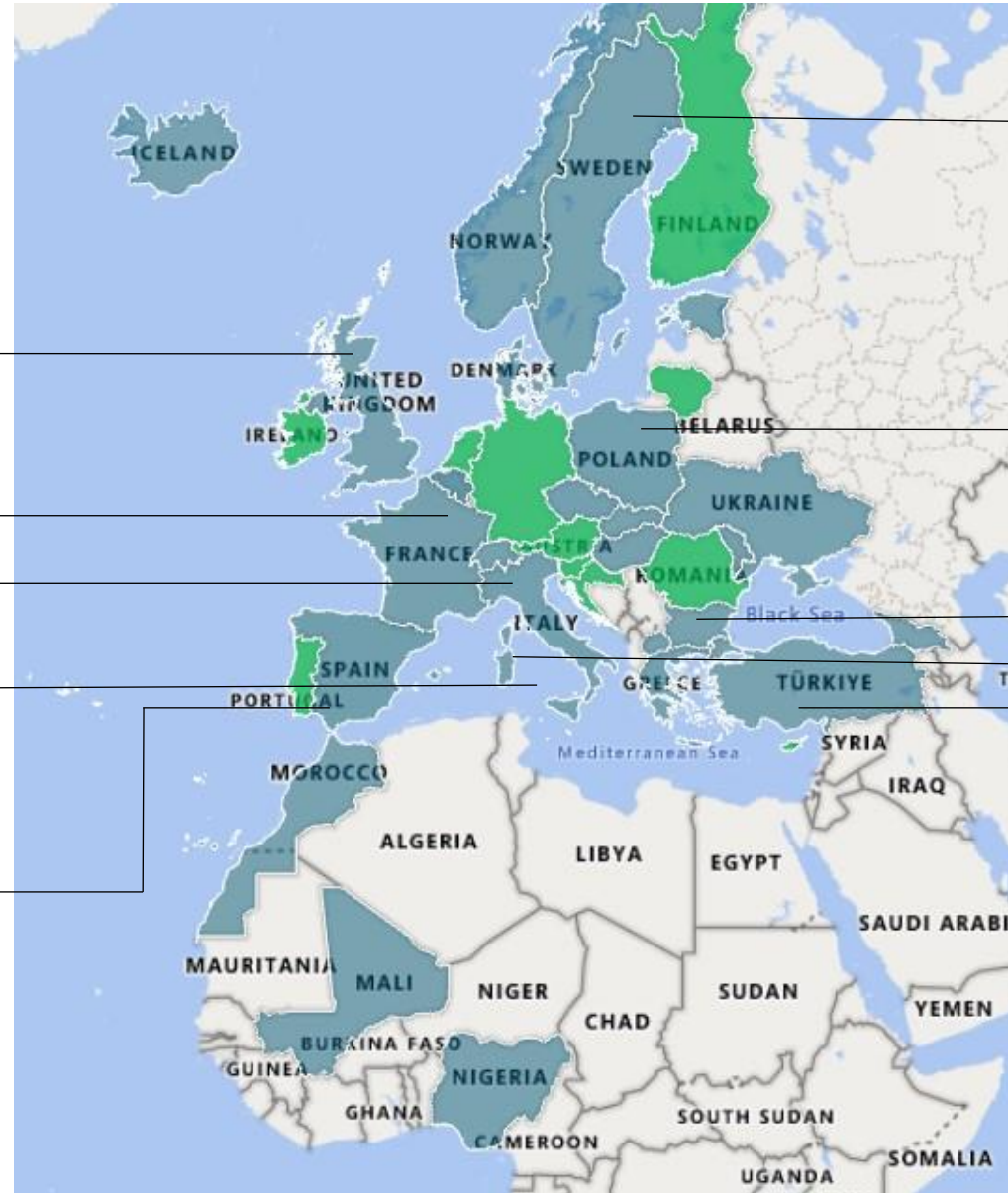
SCOTLAND
U of Glasgow

FRANCE
U Savoie Mont Blanc
Grenoble INP Pagora

BELGIUM
KU Leuven

ITALY
Fondazione Bruno Kessler

SPAIN
U de Catalunya



SWEDEN
U of Uppsala

POLAND
U of Krakow

BULGARIA
TU of Sofia

MALTA
Malta CAST

TURKIYE
Middle East TU

1. A Strong Alliance: *Public-Private Partnership*

ESEIA collaborates with: **71** private and public businesses and **41** cities

Public energy agencies: i.e. ADENE, PT



Municipal companies: i.e. Vilnius Public
Transport, LT



City administrations: i.e. Municipality of Brasov,
RO



Start-ups: i.e. Ecolyte, AT



▪ **SMEs:** i.e. waste companies like BAV, DE



▪ **Energy Providers:** i.e. Energy Styria Grids, AT

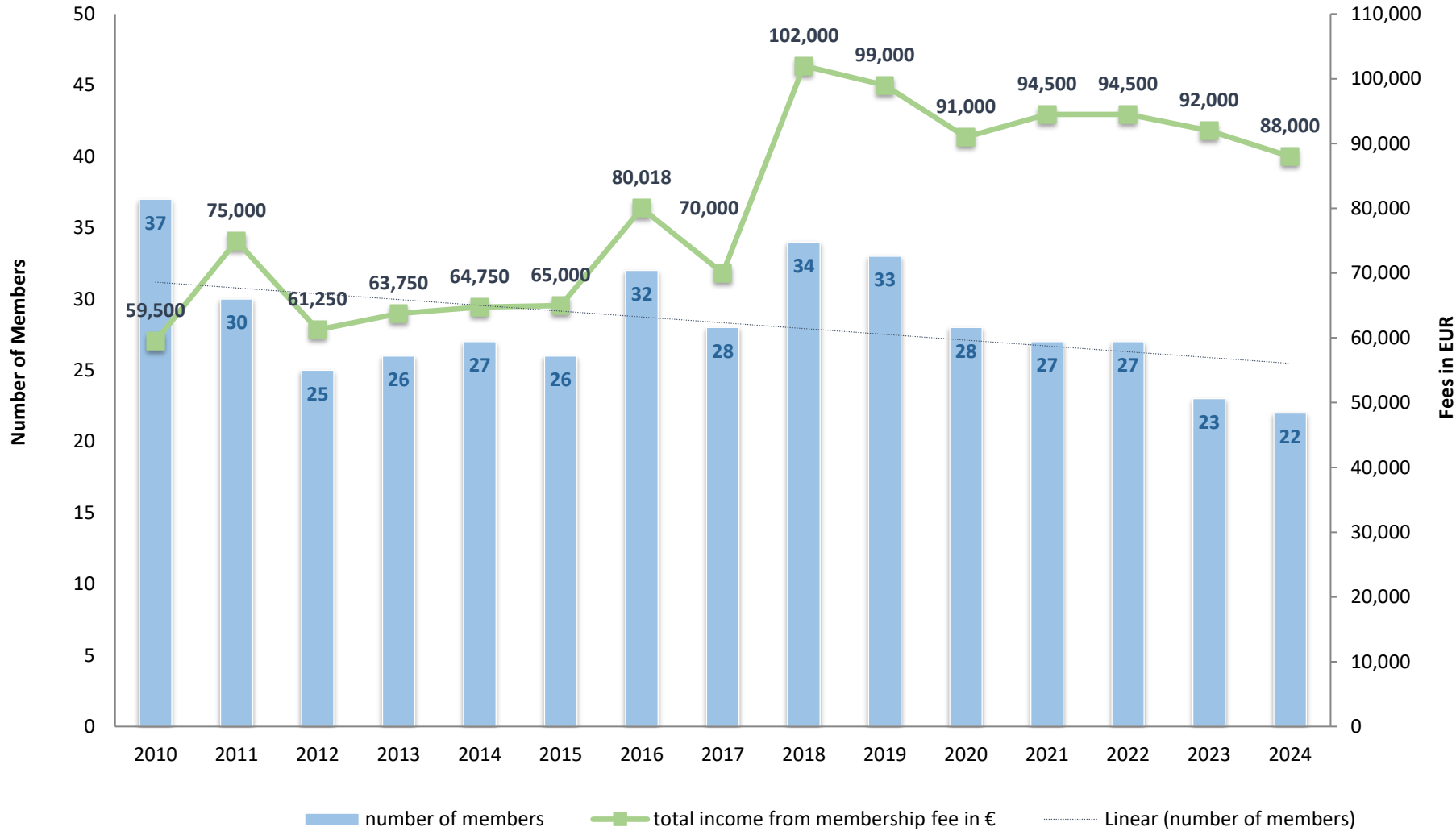


▪ **Industry:** i.e. energy-intensive industries, like
cement plant Mytilneos, GR



2. Impact: Revenues from Membership fees

€ 1,2 Mio. ESEIA Membership Fee Income 2010-2024

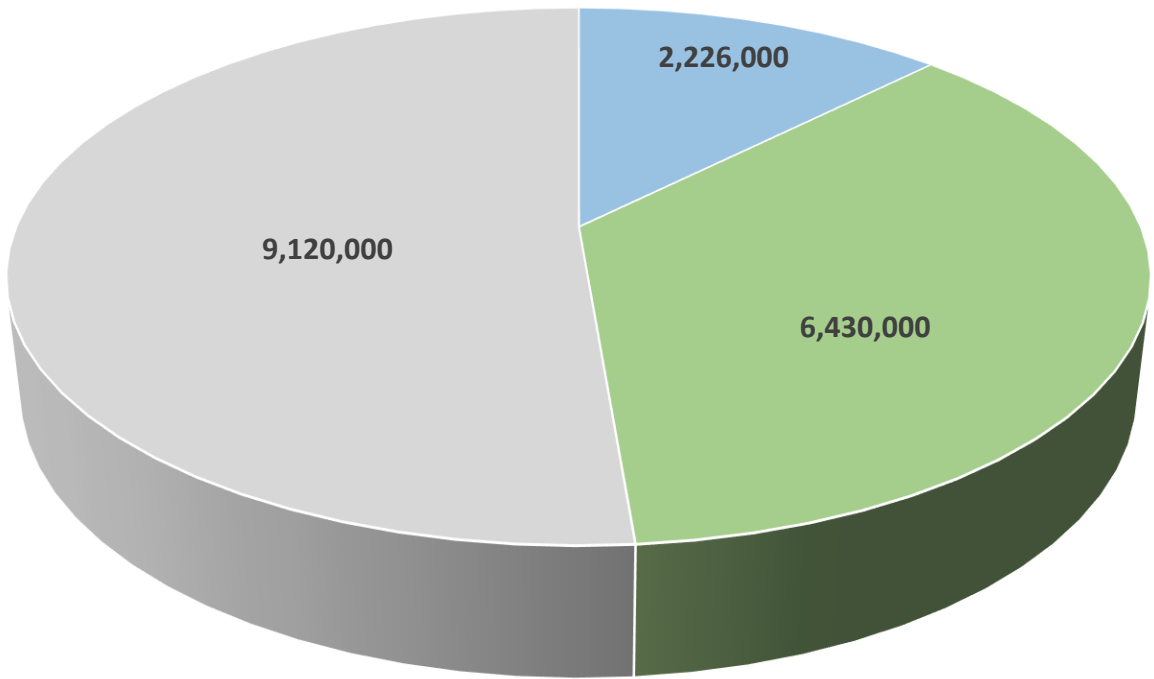


1,2 Mio € from membership fees

- 2/3 from HEI and RO
- 1/3 from business

2. Impact: Revenues from projects

17,7 Mio € ESEIA Project Income 2009-2024



■ ESEIA ■ ESEIA Members ■ Partners



17,7 Mio € from 10 EC funded R&I projects:

- 51% for Partners
- 36% for Members,
- 13% ESEIA

2. Impact in Numbers: Portfolio



Working Groups



Focus Groups



Vertical topics

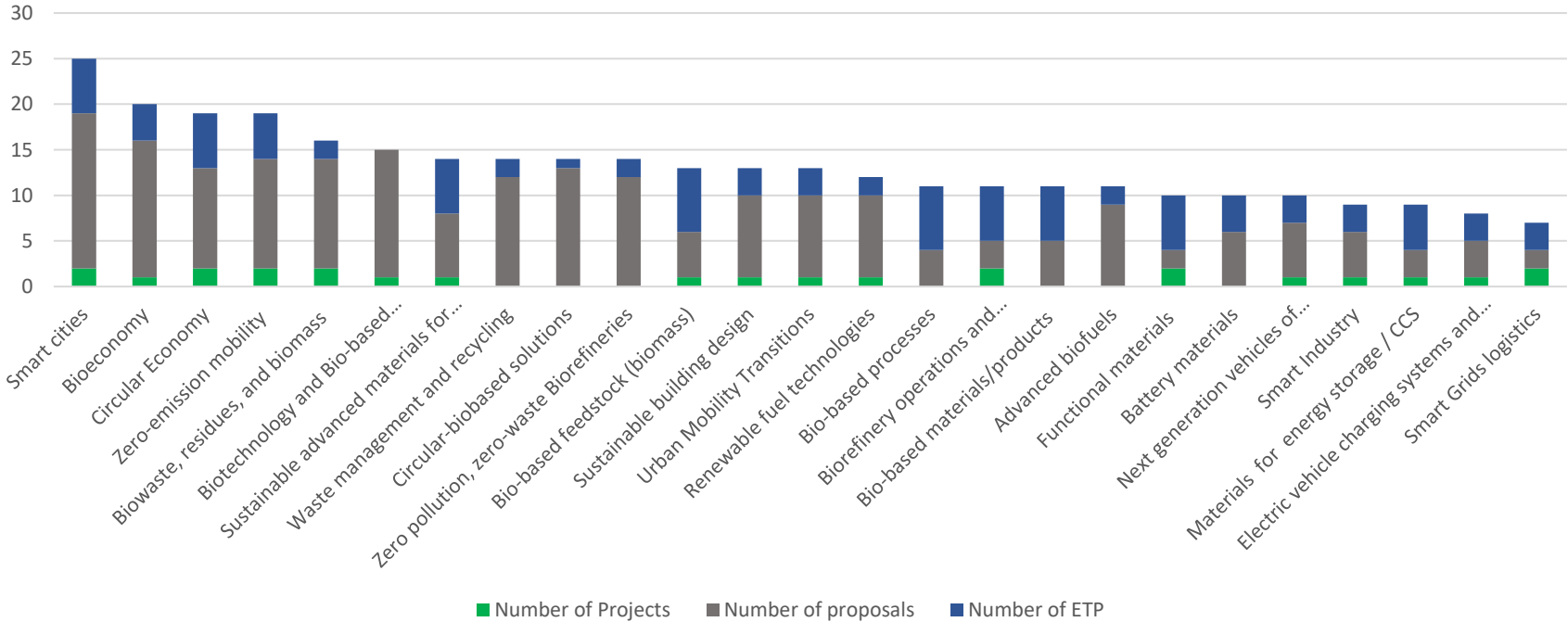


Horizontal Topics



Matrix of Expertise developed

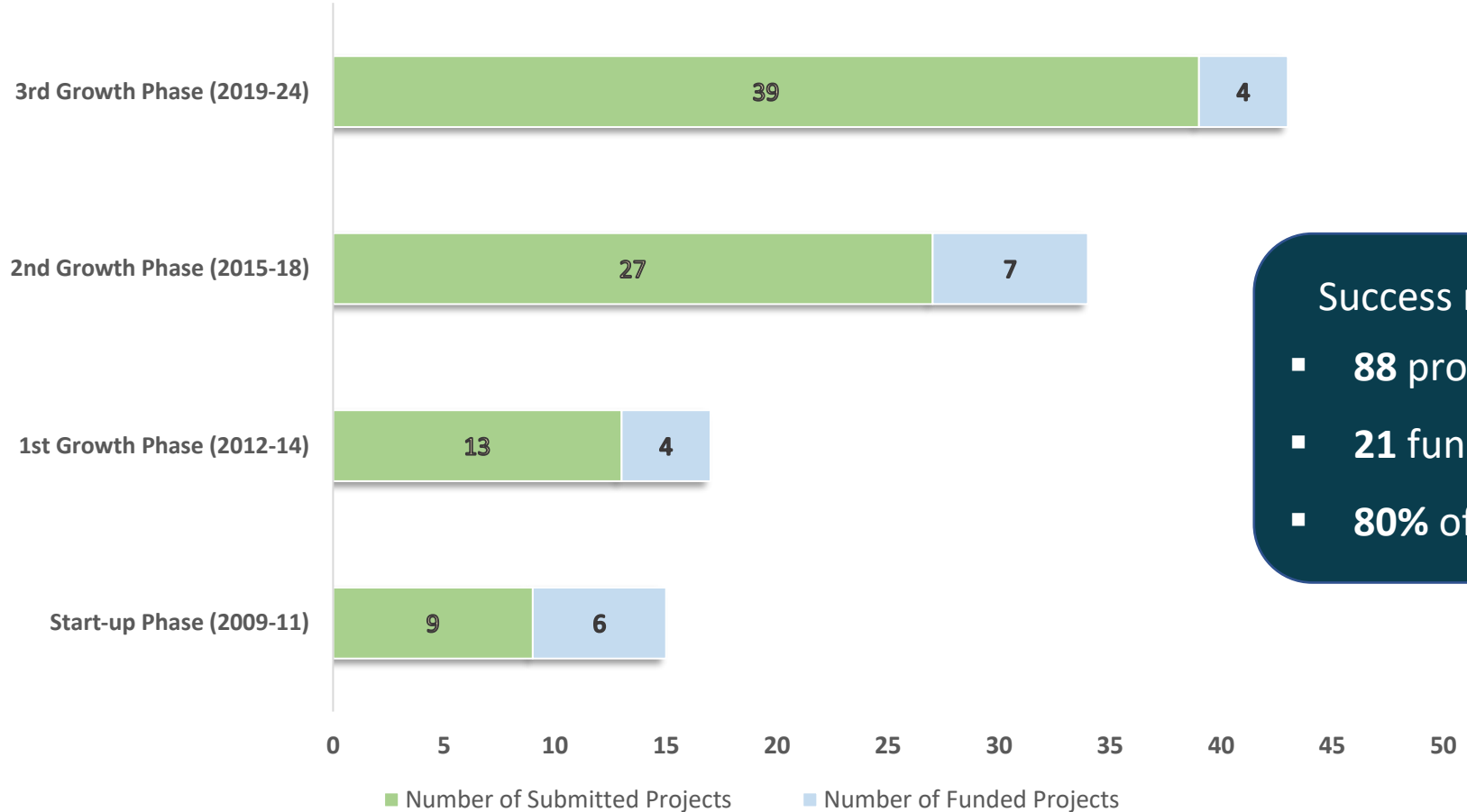
Key Focus Areas in ESEIA's Activities



2. Impact in Numbers: R&I Proposals submitted to EC FPs



ESEIA Proposals



Success rate overall : **1 in 4 funded** ✓

- **88** proposals submitted
- **21** funded projects
- **80%** of proposals above threshold

2. Impact: Setting Agenda for RES on the European Market



ESEIA
European Sustainable Energy
Innovation Alliance

Agenda Setting: ESEIA FP10 Position published Oct 24 in European Energy Innovation Magazine

Communication

Shaping the Future of EU R&I for climate neutrality: key questions for the design of FP10

By **Hana Lee**, Senior Project Manager and **Brigitte Hasewend**, Director, European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance (ESEIA)

About the Authors



Hana Lee is Senior Project Manager at ESEIA, a role she has held since November 2020. With over 13 years of international experience across academia and industry – covering construction, environment, and innovation projects – she brings a wealth of expertise to her role. She earned her Doctorate in Applied Geoscience from TU Graz, AT and a Master's in Engineering Geology from Kyungpook National University in South Korea. Before joining ESEIA, she worked as senior engineer and consultant with major international firms like WSP, Capgemini, and Hyundai Engineering & Construction. At ESEIA, she plays a key role in project acquisition and coordinating the ESEIA Working Groups.



Brigitte Hasewend is founding and acting Director and Member of the Governing Council of ESEIA. In this executive capacity, she has been responsible for devising the New ESEIA Strategy 2034 in the context of the European Green Deal. In 2023 Brigitte Hasewend was appointed Member of the Board of EIT Climate KIC Association. Since 2013, Brigitte Hasewend has worked for the European Commission as expert evaluator mainly for Horizon capacity-building projects. During 2024-17 she was Vice-President of the Supervisory Board of Joanneum Research GmbH. Since 2007 she has headed the International Strategic Research Partnerships at TU Graz, AT. Previously, Brigitte Hasewend had spent 10 years living and working in Brussels where she held several positions at the European Commission.

This article 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 a Europe-wide survey underlying the ESEIA FP10 Position Paper¹.

Challenges for Research and Innovation in relation to the European Green Deal
If we take survival on earth seriously and if we want the European Green

Deal to become a success by 2050, Europe needs to undertake fundamental measures to steadily transform into a climate-neutral continent. The Green Deal challenge cannot be viewed in isolation as it is entwined with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, as well as resonating with the twin challenge of digital transition.

In this existentialist quest, Europe will also need to face megatrends, namely scarce resources, aging populations, conflict, and migrations. Europe, like no other continent, is committed to building a more resilient, competitive, inclusive, and democratic society as part of the EC Strategic Plan 2025-27².

Come 2030, the Green Deal will already have reached a key milestone in green and circular economy, climate adaptation, carbon markets and pricing, sustainable finance, biodiversity,



Five Key ESEIA Recommendations for FP10

1. Enhance Role of European Thematic Alliances	2. Foster Global Innovation Eco-system Partnerships	3. Prioritise Horizontal Topics in Research and Innovation	4. Ensure Actionability of the Framework Programme	5. Provide Room for Self-Organisation and Entrepreneurship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AT POLICY LEVEL: Involve European Alliances from design to implementation. • AT PORTFOLIO LEVEL: Jointly create exploitation pathways. • AT PROJECT LEVEL: Use European Alliances as sounding boards for new R&I topics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase International Relevance by creating international innovation ecosystem partnerships for co-creation. • Enhance international access to R&I Infrastructure. • Implement strategies to effectively facilitate capacity building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritizing cross-cutting horizontal topics. • Provide support for deep tech projects fostering sustainability. • Boost Excellence and Innovation by providing support mechanisms tailored to Widening countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By dedicating actions to multi-actor innovation ecosystem approach. • Improving coordination across the innovation cycle and different TRLs. • Simplification, to make participation more accessible and efficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously take on board novel thematic challenges. • Support maturation and validation of novel ideas from lab to business. • Start-Ups and SME scale-up to new markets.

‘The FP should not be a straitjacket; it should provide flexibility to adjust to new R&I needs and trends.’

ESEIA President Brian Norton



2. Impact in Numbers: *Education and Training Programme*

Total participants: **1,750** in **44 Events** building capacity of people and institutions



International Summer Schools



Bi-Annual Conferences



Decarbonisation Workshops for Industry



Lecture evenings



Brokerage Events



Student Camps



Pilot Plant Courses



2. Impact in Numbers: *Education and Training Programme*



Graz, Austria | 21 October 2022


FOR INDUSTRY:

RE4Industry Knowledge Transfer, 100 participants from gathered to discuss de-fossilisation plans for energy-intensive industries, explore solution packages, and discuss the push and pull factors of the energy transition.


2. Impact in Numbers: *Education and Training Programme*

 **ESEIA Lecture Series: Smart Energy Solutions: Key Facts (Oct 2022 – Dec 2024):**
12 Lectures for 12 Topics and 60 Speakers from 31 organizations in 9 countries



 **86 Organizations:**
45 Business
25 High Education
Institutions,
16 Research Organizations

 **58 Countries**
29 Countries worldwide
17 European countries
9 African countries
1 Middle Eastern country
2 South Asian countries

 **600 Participants**
1/3 on site
2/3 online

2. Global Impact: *Forging International Partnerships*

EMERGE: Energy System Modelling for Green Development of Africa

Call

HORIZON-CL5-2022-D3-02-02

Partners

11

Countries

9

3 Demosites

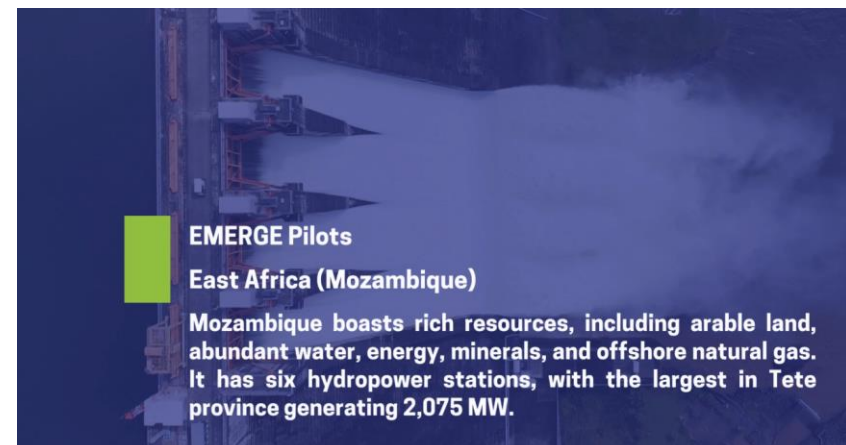
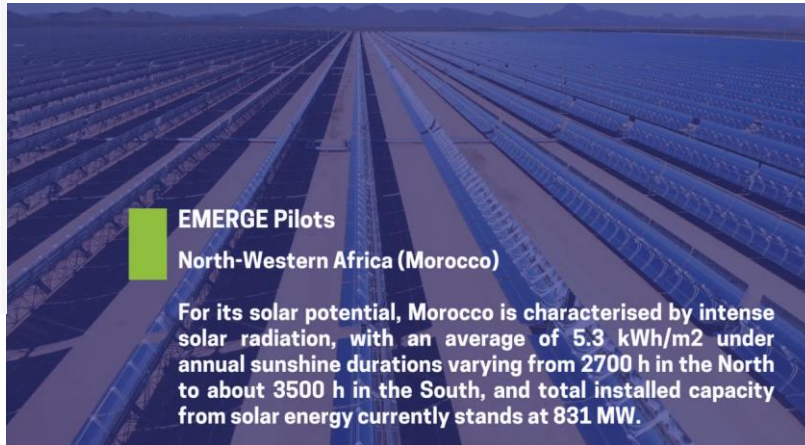
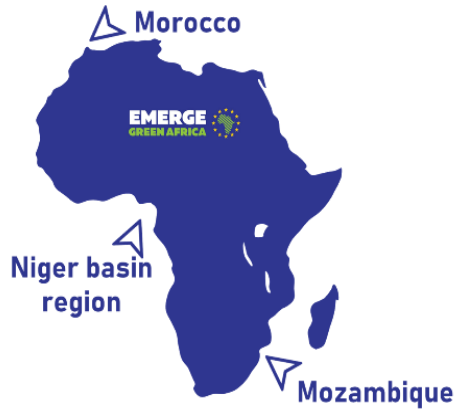
Morocco, Mozambique and Niger river region

Budget

€2.49M

Duration

36 Months



3. Benefits

HEIs and Ros

- converging research agendas
- enhanced profiles of Coordinators
- facilitated Consortium-building
- use cases from business and public agencies

SMEs

- EU funded R&I projects coordinated by ESEIA
- direct access to wide network of expertise

Industry

- latest research results to improve solutions
- use cases for de-fossilisation
- knowledge transfer

People

- training
- peer-to-peer
- access to innovation
- visibility on ESEIA Media:
3,500 users on social media monthly

4. Recognition: 15 Years of Impact



ESEIA is recognised by the European Commission and ESEIA European sister organisations alike



Reliable partner for R&I projects and excellent provider of Education and Training



ESEIA Member contributions get recognised externally and internally (Award Ceremony)

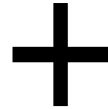
5. Way Forward: The 3 M – Model of Co-Creation



Members



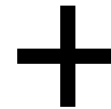
Reliable Members
engaged in ESEIA
Working Groups



Mindset



Performance Mindset
driven by
Coordination Team



Mechanism



Effective Mechanism of
Co-Creation

Long Live ESEIA!

ESEIA Team



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How to get involved?

Join our activities and become an ESEIA Member!



BENEFITS

- Joint ESEIA Work Programme
- European Cross-Sector Partnership
- Share and gain knowledge
- Involvement in EC Policy-Making
- Access to EC Funding Opportunities

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BECOME A MEMBER

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