

**25th September 2020**

**EnR Online Regular Meeting (M67)** **(Day 2)**

**Minutes**

Chaired by Presidency RVO, NL

***Participants:*** *Oggi, SEEA, Bulgaria, Lovorko, EIHP, Croatia, Irmeli & Paivi, Motiva, Finland, Philippe & Irina, Ademe, France, Pia, Dena, Germany, Roberta & Enrico, Enea, Italy, Vasilis & Charlampos, CRES, Greece, Eva, Hungarian Energy Agency, Manuel, Henry, Sandro, EWA, Malta, Barto, Marian, Rebecca & Jacques, RVO, Netherlands, Piotr & Ryszard, Kape, Poland, Luis, Rui, Neuza, Adene, Portugal, Artur, SIEA, Slovakia, Virginia, Marisa, Therese, IDEA, Spain, Josephine, STEM, Sweden, Emilie, Philip, Niro, Colin, Katy & Katie, EST, UK*

*+ Andres & Teresa (IDAE, Spain), Ruud, Jacqueline & Walter (RVO, Netherlands) for the presentation/ discussion with Karlis Goldstein.*

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| **Item** | **Description** | **Responsible** |
| **1.** | **Opening session** |  |
|  | **Opening by RVO***Barto Piersma, Head of National Programmes, RVO opened day 2 of the Regular meeting (M67).** + All participants introduced themselves by name, organisation and country. It was noted that there were more participants than usual (over 30).

M67 Agenda adoptedIn the light of Timmerman’s recent announcement of the even more ambitious target of 55% reduction of CO2 emissions by 2030, our meeting comes at the right time. With our powerful convening ability, and impartiality we could act as a catalyst to achieving many of the goals set out in the European Green Deal. There is a real urgency in the energy sector for this transition. Our energy system must not only be as circular as possible, but our energy and climate plans will need to be economically viable. There is a strong link between Smart Integration, the Renovation Wave and our Green Recovery plans.**Report on meetings with the Commission**Barto gave a short update on the online meeting held with Ms Joergensen, Director of DG Ener and the Troika plus, which took place on 18th September. During the meeting a brief introduction to the EnR was given to our activities and how they are aligned with various aspects of the Green Deal, emphasing our added value. This was followed by a short presentation by Philip Sellwood, EST in which he focused on a selection of best practices of our members, in relation to smart integration, the renovation wave and just transition. This he did with the aid of a spreadsheet which you will have the opportunity to see this afternoon just prior to the presentation of Karlis Goldstein. Please note that we only focused on a few examples as there was not time to cover all best practices of course. We did however send the whole package of Factsheets – both the national and European ones, and the Infographic to Ms Joergensen prior to this meeting. We also made it clear that these only represent a sample of our work and that we are creating a library of best practices and initiatives from all our members, which we will continuously be updating. Barto encouraged members to send more examples via the Factsheet Template. Wiesje to re-send the Factsheet Template to all. RVO will then use this information to populate the Excel spreadsheet.In addition Ms Joergensen mentioned the importance of our Green Recovery plans and of job creation. We offered to share a catalogue of Green Recovery Plans from our members. Emilie will start this off with some examples from the UK and you will be invited to add examples from your countries.Ms Joergensen very much appreciated EnR’s readiness to support the work of the Commission. She recognised our broad knowledge on national opportunities and technical expertise, and knowledge on needs for investment and how to contribute to national energy and climate plans. She sees a significant role here for the EnR. She welcomed our idea of holding a joint European Commission/ EnR event later this year to identify specific activities where EnR could be of added value. We are in touch with Gaspard Demur responsible for the Renovation Wave under DG Ener, and Karlis Goldstein to identify an appropriate date and whom to invite to such an event.  | BartoEmilie, ESTRebecca |
| **2.** | **RVO Presidency update** * Progress & forward plan

(see attached slides).**Update Task Force Smart Integration****Task force**: Troika plus, WG Chairs + IDAE & KAPE first meeting 9th Sept**Goal:** to learn from EnR agencies about successful approaches to smart sector integration (including how to overcome bottlenecks) & to provide recommendations to both the European Commission and national governmentsA Task force on Smart Integration has now been set up consisting of theTroika plus, WG Chairs + IDAE & KAPE.The Task force had its first online meeting on 9th September where the general approach was discussed and agreed upon.Rebecca reminded those members who have not already done so to provide names and contact details for the smart integration interviews to be carried out in October. Jacques clarified that it is possible to name more than 1 person for the interviews, as they are planning to carry it out in a two-phase approach: an overall interview in the first phase with one or more colleagues who can tell more about a smart integration project and an in-depth interview with one person in the second phase.A final draft of the report on Smart Integration will be presented during the TGM on 30th October. **Update Brainstorm session WG Industry & EC****Online Brainstorm Workshop EASME & EnR** WG Industry (+ other EnR Members) took place on 8th June. EnR contribution to EASME Consultation on Industry & SMEs for the LIFE programme was submitted.**Update Brainstorm session Behave conference**The first brainstorm was held on 3rd September to discuss EnR workshop at the BEHAVE Conference in April 2021. It was decided to prepare an inventory of our best practices concerning consumer engagement and behavioural change to crowd-source examples. Best practices to be prepared in the form of the Factsheet to be included in the online Excel database which is currently being worked on. Next online meeting 1st October. **Planning TGM and EnR Full meeting** The TGM will be held online on 30th October 2020 10.30 – 14.30 (CET) The Full Meeting will be held in February 2021 in the Netherlands ( if the situation permits) or otherwise online and the date will be decided through a Doodle Poll.Options given:Thursday 11th & Friday 12th Feb orWednesday 17th & Thursday 18th Feb**Presidency 2022?**The floor was opened for nominees for the Presidency for 2022. Candidates were urged to come forward as soon as possible, also to ensure a smooth handover in the Troika.**Letters of Support H2020 proposals**RVO signed multiple letters of support the last months for te following proposals :* Act2share
* SEJ Supporting Energy Justice
* CrossCert

Rebecca also mentioned the opportunity to submit proposals e.g. related to Renovation Wave through the Green Deal call: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2018-2020/main/h2020-wp1820-cc-activities_en.pdf>**Membership (ANRE, SEAI, Danish Energy Agency)*** **Current Membership** – RVO following up with the less active members. It was noted that colleagues from KAPE, Poland had joined this meeting, and the Task Force on Smart Integration. KAPE is an active member of the EU Heroes project.
* **SEAI, Ireland** – Andrea Carol has left SEAI. Looking for a replacement. Possible new contact via Enrico WG Industry.
* **ANRE, Romania** – changes in organisation - RVO to follow up with a phone call with ANRE
* **Potential new Membership** – Troika to follow up with Belgium, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania (contacts via the CA EED)
* Rebecca welcomes new contacts at CRES and the Hungarian Agency.

Lastly Rebecca mentioned the Solar Power Summit, which was scheduled for 28th September. | RebeccaJacques/ FrankAll |
| **3.** | **TAFTIE – Network of the Innovation Agencies**Marian reported that an initial meeting took place during the summer between RVO, ENEA, SIEA and the Portuguese Chair of the TAFTIE network, to briefly introduce the two networks to each other. It was recognised that it would be of added value to combine competencies of the energy agencies of EnR with the Innovation agencies of TAFTIE. Consequently Rebecca gave a presentation on EnR at the TAFTIE meeting on 18th September and TAFTIE was invited to give a presentation at the EnR meeting.Marian gave the floor to Artur from SIEA, Slovakia, (who is also member of the TAFTIE network) to give a presentation on TAFTIE. She added that SIEA will take on the Presidency of TAFTIE in 2021. (see attached slides).Artur mentioned reports on benchmarking, which Roberta then shared through the chat (see below):TAFTIE website 🡪 <https://taftie.eu/news-list>Internal use 🡪 <https://taftie.eu/content/structural-network-benchmarking-conclusion-report-november-2019> Possible areas of cooperation mentioned were:* Learning from each other/ exchange of information (especially through WG Industry
* Identify TAFTIE agencies interested in exchanging best practice
* Identify a possible common action – e.g. dialogue with the EC on contributing to/ supporting EU policy and design of R&I programmes. The Green Deal is also related to innovation.

TAFTIE has an important role towards SMEs.Contrary to EnR, TAFTIE currently has no common approach to European calls. TAFTIE likes the EnR approach and would like to adopt such an approach to taking part in European calls.SIEA, ENEA and RVO to explore further ways of collaboration between TAFTIE and EnR.  | Marian/ArthurArthur/RobertaMarian/Rebecca |
| **4.** | **Updates WGs & Follow-up recommendations WG survey & progress to date on website survey** Wiesje gave an update on the communication activities, in particular the website survey. An online survey was carried out during the summer to get some feedback on the perceived purpose of the website, and how the users experience using it. Wiesje expressed her thanks to all the colleagues who took the time to fill out the survey. “We received over 20 responses and in the coming weeks we will draw up some conclusions and recommendations on how to improve some aspects of the website and the overall communication. Once we have finalised this report we will of course share it with the network”. After that, all the WG Chairs gave brief updates on their WG activities. Prior to the meeting all WG Chairs were asked to provide 1 or 2 slides on activities carried out since the Full & Regular meeting in February & June, and plans for the coming months. Please see attached slides.**WG Behave (Irmeli, Motiva)****WG Buildings (Rui, Adene)****WG Industry (Enrico, ENEA)** **WG Transport (Colin, EST)****WG Labelling & Eco-Design (Katie & Colin, EST)****WG Energy Efficiency (Vassilis, CRES)**Vassilis has taken on the role of Chair of the WG on EE now that Louiza has left CRES. **WG Renewables (Pia, DENA)**Pia reported that there has been an extension of the THERMOS project as more time was needed for the development of the software. This project covers renewable heat, supply mapping and modelling.Rebecca added that the EU Heroes project is now coming to an end and referred attention to the Policy recommendations and lessons learnt document available on the EU Heroes website.<https://www.euheroes.eu/news/>**WG Monitoring (Irina, Ademe)**In the absence of Didier Irina reported on the WG activities on his behalf. |  |
| **5.**  | **Presentation on the Renovation Wave Karlis Goldstein, European Commission** Prior to the presentation from Karlis Goldstein Rui gave a brief update on the meeting held on 22nd September with the Troika Plus, Chair of the WG Buildings and Karlis. After a brief presentation of the EnR by Barto, RVO, Rui gave a presentation on the WG Buildings and how the work of the WG is aligned with the Renovation wave. Karlis mentioned the good cooperation with the Concerted Actions. He used to be in charge of the CA ESD. He raised the following points:* Fuel switch to renewables;
* Managing energy consumption;
* Energy use – how much energy is used/ wasted and the interaction with the energy system

in relation to the importance of trust.He also asked what’s in it for us i.e. what is the most important aspect of the Renovation wave from the perspective of the EnR. Philip replied that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to take up this challenge in a just and equitable fashion. “Getting it right from a technical point of view, but doing the right thing”. Careful messaging will be crucial.**Presentation of Excel spreadsheet of EnR best practices**Philip presented an Excel spreadsheet which maps the best practices of EnR members showing how each project is aligned with specific elements of the Green Deal. This is the first attempt at creating a library of best practices/ initiatives. He also mentioned a new subsidy programme, which is not yet included in the Excel – the Renovation Accelerator from RVO, the Netherlands. The Renovation Accelerator stimulates large-scale renovation projects of housing corporation homes through innovation on both the demand and supply side. The goal of this subsidy programme is to create more cooperation among suppliers, and to deliver on an integral, standardised and industrialised supply of renovation schemes. Following the meeting EST offered to elaborate this spreadsheet and make it more user-friendly and uploadable on the website. A draft will be presented at the TGM.All members were encouraged to provide more examples of best practices, and to fill them in in the Factsheet Template. RVO will then ensure that the projects are included in the Excel spreadsheet.**Presentation Karlis Goldstein**Karlis thanked the EnR for this invitation and referred the meeting held on 22nd September with the Troika plus and the Chair of the Buildings WG. He stated that there is no way of under-estimating the added value of EnR. Karlis presented a personal narrative on the Renovation Wave by means of talking about his personal experience when renovating his home and the challenges one faces when undertaking such a job. The building which is your home is something very intimate and personal. It is all about building trust in the renovation; it is not about the cheapest solution, it is about the right solution.Renovation is both a challenge and an opportunity. The level of understanding and focus is there and the current health crisis due to COVID-19 has made the message even stronger than before. The challenge is the large number of buildings to renovate. 87% of the 210 billion buildings were constructed before European legislation on sustainability was introduced.The Renovation Wave will target four focus areas:* Public buildings;
* Affordable homes;
* Multi apartment blocks
* Neighbourhood approach 🡪 strong role for municipalities.

Karlis gave some background into the idea of the Competency Centres. Ideally the centres would serve as one-stop shops for:* Finance 🡪 one central contact point to apply for EU funding;
* Dissemination of best practices 🡪 need to be validated at a local level;
* Renovation services 🡪 suggestion/database of people or a toolbox of trustworthy people one can turn to for renovation issues.

ADENE raised the question of the Renovation Wave’s agenda in the short- term and how just transition is linked to it. Karlis replied that for the short-term, relevant EU legislation (EED, RES Directive, EPBD, Eco-design & labelling) are currently being reviewed and an impact assessment on EU legislation is being carried out also relating to behaviour, taxation and energy performance certificates and audits. The revisions of the EED, RES Directive and EPBD will be finalised by July 2021. On the Just Transition side eligibility for infrastructure improvements will be important IDAE asked about the financing mechanism of the Renovation Wave. Karlis replied that 30% of the EU budget is directed to climate change goals, (including renovation wave). There is the Recovery and Resilience Fund and the Just Transistion Mechanism and there is a scope for private services and private equity and the European Investment Bank. Karlis offered to put the EnR in touch with the EIB. Rebecca to follow up with Karlisa also regarding the possibility of organising a Round Table discussion with members of the Commission and the EnR. | ESTAllRebecca |
| **6.** | **Wrap-up & Closing**Barto thanked everyone for attending the second day of the online Regular Meeting and for the most inspirational discussion with Karlis Goldstein. The first steps have been made for creating our library of EnR best practices. We will look into how to align this/ provide input to the competency centres idea of the Commission. He also thanked the WG Chairs, the backbone of our network for their efforts and continued support.  |  |