

**4th June 2020**

**EnR Online Regular Meeting (M67)**

**Minutes**

Chaired by Presidency RVO, NL

***Participants:*** *Kerstin, AEA, Austria, Tsvetti, SEEA, Bulgaria, Lovorko, EIHP, Croatia, Irmeli & Paivi, Motiva, Finland, Philippe, Irina & Didier, Ademe, France, Pia, Dena, Germany, Inga, PtJ, Germany, Roberta, Alessandro & Enrico, Enea, Italy, Louiza, CRES, Greece, Erika & Aniko, Hungarian Energy Agency, Manuel, Charles, EWA, Malta, Barto, Marian, Bert, Rebecca, Wiesje & Jacques, RVO, Netherlands, Helle, Norway, Piotr & Ryszard, Kape, Poland, Luis, Rui, Neuza, Adene, Portugal, Artur, Stanislas, SIEA, Slovakia, Virginia, Marisa, IDAE, Spain, Patrick, Swiss Energy Agency, Switzerland, Emilie, Philip, Niro, Colin, Katy & Katie, EST, UK*

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| **Item** | **Description** | **Responsible** |
| **1.** | **Opening session** |  |
|  | **Opening by RVO***Barto Piersma, Head of National Programmes, RVO** + Barto gave a warm welcome to the participants of this first ever online Regular meeting. He expressed his regret that the meeting could not be hosted in Budapest as was planned, due to COVID-19 and showed a short video of the beautiful city of Budapest. He thanked the Hungarian colleagues for their kind invitation and explained that the invitation still stands for 2021 for hosting the Regular meeting in Budapest.
	+ All participants introduced themselves by name, organisation and country. It was noted that there were more participants than usual. In total 41.
 | Barto |
|  | **M67 Agenda adopted** |  |
|  | **M66 Minutes adopted** |  |
| **2.** | **RVO Presidency update** * Progress & forward plan

(see attached slides).Rebecca reminded the participants of the main themes of the RVO Presidency of EnR for 2020:**Main theme = “Smart Integration** *of renewables, energy efficiency and other sustainable solutions across sectors will help to achieve decarbonisation at the lowest possible cost.”* Other elements of the Green Deal will be dealt with within the WGsOther priorities include enhancing collaboration with similar networks & beyond Europe & seeking new funding opportunities.In addition RVO will focus on strengthening communication – strive to make the EnR website more attractive & user-friendly, and promote the Member’s area to all Members including members of the WGs. Rebecca reported that she had discussed with Jelle van Nuland, RVO, Dutch representative in the TAFTIE network possible collaboration with TAFTIE. Subsequent to the meeting Jelle also mentioned exploring cooperation with EnR during their recent TAFTIE Board meeting.Rebecca to organise for a presentation on TAFTIE at the next Regular meeting in September and EnR presentation at the next TAFTIE meeting.**Meeting with Ms Joergenson DG Ener**Due to COVID-19 the meeting with Ms Joergenson has had to be postponed until 18th September and will take place online. Rebecca is also in contact with Karlis Goldstein and will propose to meet on 21st or 22nd September. Infographic & Factsheets to be sent to the Commission prior to the meetings.Rebecca thanked all those who provided input for the Factsheets. In total there are about 30 Factsheets including national best practice examples and European collaborative project examples. The Factsheets will be circulated amongst all EnR Members and RVO will consider an appropriate place on the EnR website to upload them.**Online Brainstorm Workshops****8th June Brainstorm EASME & EnR** WG Industry + other EnR MembersEnR was invited by EASME via the WG Industry to an online brainstorm stakeholder consultation on the future LIFE – Clean Energy Transition Funding priorities for SMEs and industry. Most members of the WG Industry and Leap4SME will take part. The invitation is open to all EnR members incl. WG Chairs. Enrico to circulate agenda and dial-in code for Webex. **Follow-up Smart Integration** (date to be confirmed via Doodle poll)* Preparation for meetings with the Commission
* Preparation of a possible Round table with other DGs

**Brainstorm EnR workshop at BEHAVE Conference** with BEHAVE WG members and other interested EnR Members(Date to be confirmed via Doodle poll)It was noted that the BEHAVE Conference has been postponed until 21st – 23rd April 2021* Main organiser DTU - Technical University of Denmark (UNEP DTU Partnership in Copenhagen)
* Co-organiser EnR network (WG Behaviour Change)

<https://c2e2.unepdtu.org/behave2020/> * Call for Abstracts and Proposals
	+ **31 October** 2020 – Extended abstracts (max. 1000 words)
	+ **15 December** 2020 – Notice of acceptance

<https://c2e2.unepdtu.org/behave2020/> **LIFE Programme (sub-programme CET)** The Presidency provided guidance for filling in Public Consultation. Rebecca thanked the Troika plus and Virginia, IDAE for all their support in preparing the guidance.**Taskforce Long-term Strategy** Final internal report to be circulated by EST.Subsequent to the meeting the final internal report was circulated to all members. RVO to explore where to upload this on the website.It was agreed that this report would serve as an important resource for many years to come, and will serve as useful input for further discussions on the long-term strategy of the EnR. A round of applause was give to EST for all their efforts in carrying out the survey and reporting the results**.****Communication*** **Follow-up recommendations of WGs survey**

It was noted that a presentation on the results of the WGs survey and final report was circulated amongst the WG Chairs. RVO is following up with the recommendations from the survey.* **Catch-up calls Members**

Due to this meeting being held online, as opposed to face-to-face, and thus no conversations during the coffee, lunch breaks and during the dinner Rebecca & Wiesje carried out “catch-up calls” with Members in which the added value of EnR was addressed. * **EnR website survey (incl. Facts & News)**

Further questions relating to the added value of the network, Facts and News and improvement of the website will be taken on board in an online survey to be carried out by Wiesje during the coming couple of months.* **Current Membership** – RVO following up with the less active members. It was noted that colleagues from KAPE, Poland had joined this meeting, who are also active members of the EU Heroes project.
* **SEAI, Ireland** – Andrea Carol has left SEAI. Looking for a replacement
* **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)

**Date of 2nd day of online Regular meeting** 25th or 30th September (to be confirmed via Doodle poll). Duration: ½ day**Date of Thinking Group Meeting (TGM)** 30th October in Malta or online (to be confirmed)**WG Chairs meeting online**To be confirmed via Doodle poll**Full meeting 2021** – Date to be confirmedLocation: the Netherlands**Regular meeting 2021** – Date to be confirmedLocation: Budapest (to be confirmed)**TGM 2021 –** Date to be confirmedLocation: Lisbon | RebeccaRebeccaRebeccaWiesjeEnricoRebecca/ WiesjeIrmeli & Rebecca & WiesjeRebecca/ WiesjeWiesjeWiesjeRVORVOTroika |
| **3.** | **Presentations Smart (Sector) Integration** Marian moderated the session on Smart Integration. She explained that the Dutch presidency has chosen Smart Integration as a cross-cutting theme.The European Commission launched the European Green Deal for the European Union and its citizens to tackle climate and environmental related challenges. The EU Green Deal is a response to these challenges. It is a new growth strategy that aims to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy, where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050, and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use. One of the topics in the transformative policies and EU long-term strategy is smart sector integration.The EC states that we need integrated systems to accelerate the achievement of the 2050 goals, while also guaranteeing secure and affordable energy for consumers. In addition Bloomberg New Energy Finance underlines in her report with Eaton and Statgraft that smart coupling of sectors is by far the most efficient way to decarbonise Europe, and to increase energy efficiency. The EC says by electrification, also of sectors that are hard to decarbonise like industry; there will be a key role for hydrogen from renewables. And to become more circular. But how do we do that in our countries? And how do we do that in an inclusive way?Marian thanked everyone for sending in preparations and homework with excellent examples for the afternoon discussion.Marian introduced both speakers Bert and Jacques, colleagues from the Energy and Innovation department of RVO. She added that Bert is also Vice-President Innovation at the Energy Delta Institute in Groningen (part of the University of Groningen), where he give lectures, and that Jacques also gives lectures at the “Hogeschool” in Heerlen. **The New Energy Reality - connected, integrated & resilient by Bert Stuij, RVO, the Netherlands**(Please see attached presentation)Connection and integration benefit the economy and the energy system on all levels - from the individual household to the world as a whole. On each scale integration can accelerate the transition to sustainability, and it can also improve the stability and resilience of the energy system. And a resilient energy system is a pre-requisite for a resilient society. In his presentation Bert reflected on integration issues on each level – households, city quarters, cities, industries, regions, countries and finally Europe as a whole. Concluding remarks:* Integration & connection is beneficial on any scale for resilience and sustainability;
* Integration can be used as a guiding principle for us agencies that implement energy policies in our countries;
* Integration per country on every scale and perhaps together for Europe.

Questions for BertMarian – which region serves as an example?Bert explained that there are clear differences, and that we manage to benefit from these differences.If the North Sea region evolves into an Offshore region – physical connection through power etc.Philip asked whether Smart Integration requires Trade- offs?Bert replied that Integration is not free. Huge investments are needed regional trade offs, costs and societal aspects.**Smart Sector Integration – possible approaches and consequences by Jacques Kimman, RVO, the Netherlands**(Please see attached presentation).*Sector Coupling*Smart sector integration has many linkages with other topics of the Green Deal such as the Renovation wave, Smart grids, Digitalisation and Just Transition: “leave no one behind”. “We think that energy transition has to be inclusive, with societal and political commitment, and fair divisions of costs. Smart inclusive integration involves many stakeholders and challenges at the local and regional level as well as at the national and international level. To include these other values, sector-coupling has to be facilitated”.*Inclusive Value Creatio****n***From the consumer’s perspective, the transition challenge represents a change in value systems from one that priced development at its lowest cost, to one that is more holistic and identifies a product’s value by its impact on society and the environment. Investments in energy efficiency can provide many different benefits to many different stakeholders that are often overlooked. Since multiple stakeholders have the potential to experience multiple benefits, a stronger business case that engages public and private interests can be created. The inclusion of these benefits creates the true impact or value of an action, and can significantly affect any comparison process.*Implementation in cities*As cities are the main contributors of greenhouse gas emissions, they offer great potential for implementation of energy efficiency measures and emissions reduction. While urban planning is a major task in each city, its contribution to the energy transition is not fully clear due to lack of knowledge and instruments. Jacques showed that urban energy planning is only possible when energy planning is integrated into the entire urban planning process. There are many inter-related challenges and obstacles which hinder efficient urban energy planning. Although it has been proven that coupling with other sectors is successful, through international analysis of case studies of front-runner cities all over the world (IEA-EBC-Annex 63), evidence shows that it is extremely difficult for the cities to organise sector coupling. *Pilot projects, exchanging learning experiences*Using the international learning experiences on sector integration as a starting point, the cities Apeldoorn, Zutphen, Deventer and Zwolle established a Task Force to organise the renovation of a total of 40.000 buildings towards zero energy districts. Questions for JacquesSometimes the role of agencies is underestimated in the whole energy transition.Is it a goal or an end?It is complicated. The essence is that it is necessary - agencies have to facilitate the process. It’s the only way. Frontrunner cities all have this integral approach.Philip: How to deal with incumbents?Jacques replied that energy companies can take part on the condition that they agree to the inclusive business case. This has up until now proved to be challenging, but there are network operators and distribution companies who are exploring offering new services and looking for new revenue models. We are in discussion with these companies.**Presentation of results of homework**(Please refer to attached sheets and overview)Prior to the meeting a survey containing six questions was sent to all EnR members regarding:* Best practice examples of smart integration;
* existing instruments to implement smart integration;
* bottle-necks and possible solutions;
* how to exchange learning between the EnR members and between the EnR and the European Commission.

Rebecca and Wiesje presented the results of the survey. Please note that the responses do not represent the complete input from the entire EnR Network, but provide an impression of a number of examples, successful projects and priorities of many of our members. As agreed during the meeting, RVO will prepare a short accompanying document to the slides, demonstrating the main results of the survey, as a response to the European Consultation on Smart Integration. (Subsequent to the meeting this was sent by e-mail to all EnR members prior to submission in case of any objections).No objections were received so the document, slides and Infographic (outlining the goal and added value of the Network) were submitted to the European Commission emphasising that the responses given illustrate some examples from some, but not all of the Members. It was also emphasised that the responses given provide answers to some (but not all) of the questions asked in the Consultation). It was agreed that this was a good opportunity to promote the Network and to pull together real evidence from the Network necessary for an integrated future.Marian asked members to consider interest in joining a Task Force on Smart Integration.Roberta mentioned that ENEA was also submitting a response to the Consultation on Smart Integration, and promised to share it with the Network. She added that there is also a question relating to on hydrogen in the Consultation and expressed that hydrogen is very important for Italy.Roberta expressed interest in joining the Task Force. It was queried what the role of the Task Force and what the purpose of the workshop on Smart Integration would be. It was clarified that the brainstorm session was just a one-off event to discuss how to proceed with Smart Integration, and that the Task Force would be a continuous cooperation which would address the important aspects and develop a strategy. RVO to take this up further and contact those who have shown interest in joining this Task Force. | RVO |
| **4.** | **WG Activities WG Chairs****(Please refer to attached slides).**Prior to the meeting all WG Chairs were asked to provide 2 or 3 slides on activities carried out since the Full & Regular meeting in February, and plans for the coming months. In addition they were asked to indicate how their activities are, or could be linked to specific areas of the Green Deal.* **WG Behave (Irmeli, Motiva)**

Charles from Malta stated that he would like to join the group to discuss the EnR session at the BEHAVE Conference.Irmeli invited all EnR members to confirm their interest in participating in an online brainstorm session regarding the organisation of an EnR workshop at the BEHAVE Conference (see above). * **WG Buildings (Rui, Adene)**

Links to the Green Deal:1. The renovation wave initiative;
2. The assessment of National Energy and Climate Plans;
3. The strategy for smart sector integration;
4. Proposals for revision of different legislative measures that are somehow linked with the building sector, or;
5. A proposal on a European “Climate Law” with the focus of 2050 climate neutrality
6. Evaluate and share best practices related with the transposition of the **2018 amended EPBD** at national and regional level
7. Contribute to the discussion on the particular aspects related with the EU Commission initiative related to the **Green Deal**, specially the renovation wave initiative;
8. Promote better share of national experiences and best practices related with the **Long-Term Renovation Strategies** concerning its design, implementation and monitoring.
* **WG Renewables (Pia, Dena)**

Due to the absence of Pia Rebecca gave a brief update on the EU Heroes project, which she is coordinating. She announced a series of dissemination webinars to be held on 1st, 8th and 15th July.(please refer to attachment). **WG Transport (Colin, EST)**Links with the Green Deal:* Sustainable transport fuels
	1. Fuels from waste – circular economy
	2. Innovation in fuel production - eFuels
* Sharing and piloting best practice
* Smarter freight movements

 Optimised supply chains Integrated multimodality* Connected vehicles
	1. Smart meter and charging
	2. Integrated energy systems V2G

**WG Labelling & Eco-Design (Katie & Colin, EST)**Links with the Green Deal* Electrification & decarbonisation of heating and cooling
* Repair and circulatory standards/circular economy
* Energy label re-scale
* EPREL database development and implementation

**WG Energy Efficiency (Louiza, CRES)**Links to Green Deal* Strategy / Policy beyond EED, RED II & EPBD – deepening sector integration
* **Energy Poverty –**expanding into Just Transition
* insight / recommendations in the review of the EED

Efficiency First principle [and **beyond energy efficiency to sufficiency** –  can be  tackled together with  Behaviour change and Monitoring WGs]RES Justice proposal to be submitted in H2020 EC2 call (5 EEWG members)Mapping survey on Role of Agencies in sufficiency policy implementation (in collaboration with WG Behaviour) schedule for Autumn 2020 -> potentially feeding into EnR BEHAVE eventDiscussion on how the post-Covid stimulus plan can address energy efficiency (through organisation of webinar).**WG Industry (Enrico, Enea)**Enrico was happy to announce that the Grant Agreement for the H2020 Leap4SME project has now been signed. Nine EnR agencies are members of this project of which eight are members of the Industry WG. The next Industry WG webinar will be linked to the eceee conference in Sweden.Enrico also announced the online Brainstorm session with EASME on 8th June (see above).Links to the Green Deal:Climate AmbitionProposals for the revisions of legislative measures to deliver on the increased climate ambition, following the review of the Emissions Trading Systems Directive, Effort sharing regulation, Land-use, land-use change and Forestry Regulation, Energy Efficiency Directive, Renewable energy Directive, CO2 emissions performance standards for cars and vans (June 2021). Industrial Strategy for a clean and circular economy* EU Industrial strategy
* Circular Economy Action Plan including a sustainable products initiative and particular focus on resource intense sectors such as textiles, construction, electronics and plastics
* Initiatives to stimulate lead markets for climate neutral and circular products in energy intensive industrial sectors.

Mainstreaming sustainability in all EU policies* Stakeholders to identify and remedy incoherent legislation that reduces the effectiveness in delivering the green Deal

**WG Monitoring (Didier, Ademe)**Please refer to attached sheets.Didier reported that new software is being developed for Odyssee Mure and that the database is being re-furbished. |  |
| **5.**  | **Wrap-up** Barto summed up the main actions relating to Smart Integration.* Presidency to prepare response to the European Commission’s Consultation on Smart Integration and to send the sheets summarising the results of the homework on issues concerning smart integration as an attachment.
* Presidency to organise a follow-up brainstorm session to prepare for the meetings with the Commission
* Presidency to set up a Task Force on Smart Integration.

Barto thanked all participants for joining the meeting and Marian, Rebecca and Wiesje for the organisation and preparation. He ended the meeting with a short video of Malta where “we hope to meet next time”. |  |