

# SET PLAN CONFERENCE 2020

## EERA SIDE EVENT

### 1. Policy Context

Achieving a climate neutral society by 2050 constitutes one of Europe's top political priorities under the new von der Leyen Commission<sup>1</sup>. This objective is anchored in the set of policy initiatives under the EU Green Deal supporting the Clean Energy Transition. It was recently reaffirmed through the European Recovery Plan, proposed as a response to the social and economic crisis generated by the Covid pandemic and aiming at supporting a green and digital recovery in Europe.

The Clean Energy Transition consists in a sustainable and socially fair transformative process moving away from fossil fuels towards a generalised use of clean energy technologies. It will encompass all of the technological, social, economic, and political dimensions and will require accelerated cross-sectoral, multi-disciplinary and collaborative transformative actions to concur in the 3 coming decades.

Research and Innovation (R&I) will play a central role in accelerating these necessary societal transformations by designing, demonstrating, de-risking and supporting deployment of innovative solutions. To this end, the upcoming Horizon Europe framework programme will generate a wave of multidisciplinary mission-driven R&I actions supporting the transition, among which the Clean Energy Transition Partnership (CETP) will play a central role.

Since 2008, The Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) has been the core EC instrument fostering the energy transition in Europe. It currently sets the roadmap for EU to meet its Energy Union targets by 2030 and helps align R&I priorities between stakeholders across the innovation chain, including the European Commission, EU Member States and Associated Countries, the research community and the industry.

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<sup>1</sup> POLITICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2019-2024, "A Union that Strives for More", by candidate for President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen.



## 2. Event Concept

The redefinition of the SET-Plan priorities in the wider context of the green recovery and the Clean Energy Transition should also seize the opportunity for better integrating the multi-disciplinary aspects of the transition, notably Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), acknowledging that, beyond technology advances, the transition will require social innovation to achieve the deep societal transformation needed to achieve a climate neutral society.

EERA has aligned its mission to Europe 2050 climate targets and has therefore recently been expanding its endeavours by advancing research and supporting policymaking in all key dimensions of the transition beyond technology excellence. Central to this effort is the White Paper<sup>2</sup> on the CETP, which proposes a robust framework for approaching the transition from a holistic, systemic, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary perspective. The proposed side event to the SET Plan Conference ambitions to:

- analyse how to leverage existing projects and initiatives for greater impact,
- reflect on new initiatives that could further increase the impact of EU collaboration and substantially accelerate the speed of transition.

### ***Part 1: Connecting the dots***

The first part of the debate will discuss how EERA could contribute connecting the dots between the various undergoing activities it contributes to, so to increase their alignment and maximise their impact. Based on the framework developed in the EERA White paper on the CETP, several non-technological dimensions required for achieving the transition will be discussed. It will also integrate knowledge and insights from the key projects, notably the SUPEERA project regarding climate-energy related policies, and the Energy-SHIFTS project regarding the better integration of SSH into the EU energy policy making process.

### ***Part 2: Building capacities***

The second part of the debate will be looking at possible new initiatives that could further bolster the impact of the SET-Plan within and beyond Europe. The discussion will look into linking R&I action with the National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs) and ways to further improve MS/ACs research collaboration. It will also discuss how proposed EU instruments, could be used to support the Clean Energy Transition. Finally, the conference will debate how EERA could contribute to leverage EU efforts and support international collaboration.

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<sup>2</sup> EERA White Paper on the Clean Energy Transition Partnership (draft v0.1)



### 3. Objectives of the conference

- 1) Provide stakeholders with the most recent developments regarding the Clean Energy Transition EU initiatives as well as research outputs produced within the framework of EERA projects, notably the SUPEERA and Energy-SHIFTS projects.
- 2) Discuss the sought role of EERA in connecting the dots between the various initiatives and programmes linked to the Clean Energy Transition (CET) and the SET-Plan, from a systemic, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary perspective.
- 3) Identify opportunities, together with key SET-Plan stakeholder, in the way forward regarding the integration of the SET-Plan in the broader context of the CET, within and beyond EU.

### 4. Target Audiences

In line with its stated objectives, the conference endeavours to reach a range of CET stakeholders spanning beyond the established SET-Plan core community.

- European Commission (DG RTD, DG ENER, DG JRC, ...)
- MS/AC policy makers (SET-Plan Steering Group and MS/AC representatives)
- SET-Plan community (ETIPs, EITs, EUA, EMIRI, etc.)
- Researchers & other representatives from Academia: EERA and beyond.
- Representatives from other R&I organisations
- Representatives from industry
- Representatives from international organisations (MI, IEA, IRENA, ...)
- Representatives from climate/energy related non-profits organisations

### 5. Practicalities

Online	
<b>Date</b>	25 November 2020
<b>Time</b>	09:00 – 12:00 CET
<b>Location</b>	Online



## 6. Side event agenda

Time	Session	Speaker
09:00 - 09:05	Introduction	<b>N. Røkke</b> , <i>President, EERA</i>
09:05 - 09:20	Connecting the dots and building capacities: Building a robust framework	<b>A. El Gammal</b> <i>Secretary General, EERA</i>
9:20 - 10:25	<b>Part 1: Connecting the dots</b>	Panellists:
9:20 - 9:50	Interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and regulation</li> <li>• Market design &amp; Sector Coupling</li> <li>• Environmental sustainability</li> <li>• Social sustainability</li> <li>• The CET partnership approach</li> </ul>	<b>P. Støa</b> , SINTEF (NO) <b>L. de Vries</b> , TU Delft (NL) <b>L. Malerba</b> , Ciemat (SP) <b>R. Robinson &amp; C. Foulds</b> Ruskin Anglia University (UK) <b>G. Breembroek</b> , RVO (NL)
09:50 - 10:25	Panel Discussion I	Moderator: <b>G. Gladkykh</b> <i>Energy Transition Expert, EERA</i>
10:25 – 10:35	Break	
10:35 – 11:50	<b>Part 2: Building capacities</b>	Panellists:
10:35 – 11:20	Interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EU R&amp;I strategy: CET Partnership and SET Plan</li> <li>• Accelerating R&amp;I national &amp; EU collaboration SET Plan Steering Group view</li> <li>• Accelerating R&amp;I national &amp; EU collaboration Partnership &amp; Alliances</li> <li>• NECPs – linking Climate with R&amp;I strategies</li> <li>• Green Deal – State of EU competitiveness (CPR)</li> </ul>	<b>H. Chraye</b> , DG RTD, HoU Clean Energy Transition <b>M. March</b> ( <i>to be confirmed</i> ) Ministry of Science & Innovation (SP) <b>B. Bouchet</b> , CEA (FR) <b>I. Moorkens</b> , Vito (BE) <b>V. Berrutto</b> , DG ENER HoU Innovation, Clean Technologies & Competitiveness
11:20-11:50	Panel Discussion II	Moderator: <b>A. El Gammal</b> , <i>Secretary General, EERA</i>
11:50 – 12:00	Concluding remarks	<b>N. Røkke</b> <i>President, EERA</i>

