

# Smart Specialisation Platform for Energy

## Thematic Partnership

*Smart Grids*

Start Date (2016)

## MONITORING PROGRESS REPORT

***Reporting Period: from June 2018 to December 2018***

This Report is presented to the relevant Working/Steering Committee.  
It contains two parts:

- I. Management Report prepared by the Lead Region(s)***
- II. Progress Report prepared by the Lead Region(s)***

Confidentiality: this document (part I) will be made available to the public via the Partnership's web page except for chapter *II.E. Self evaluation*.

Based on the monitoring results, the European Commission will decide on the following year's support.

**Executive summary (max. 250 words):**

*The Smart Grids Partnership was established to highlight the most promising smart grid areas for regional development, to identify replicability/scalability investment priorities and to allocate funding resources more effectively. The Partnership, which is led by the Basque Country (ES) and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (FR) regions, currently comprises 10 European regions.*

*Currently, the partners have jointly identified 4 working areas of interest for the development of pilot projects: (1) Efficient use of information (data & cybersecurity), (2) Grid level Cybersecurity, (3) Integration of renewables & storage, and (4) Micro-grids / off-grids. However, none of these projects have been developed further and partnership activity still remains in the Learning and Connecting phases.*

## I. Management Report prepared by the Thematic Platform/Lead Region(s)

### I.A. Partnership Action Fact Sheet

- **Partnership:** *Smart Grids*
- **Partnership's web-page:** <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/smart-grids3>

- **S3 Thematic Platform:** *Energy*

- **Objectives:** *The aim of this partnership is to highlight the most promising smart grid areas for regional development, to identify replicability/scalability investment priorities and to allocate funding resources more effectively. A special attention is given to the potential for interregional collaboration, building on existing and future synergies at institutional and industrial level. By identifying existing similarities and differences and by facilitating the effective exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned, regional authorities will become naturally more capable of devising more solid energy strategies. On their turn, better formulated strategies can contribute to a faster development and implementation of smart grid solutions at European level.*

- **Lead Region(s):** *list of regions/countries leading this partnership*

<i>Basque Country (ES)</i>
<i>South Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (PACA) (FR)</i>

- **Official partner regions:** *list of regions/countries that have officially committed to follow this partnership and have been active in the last six months.*

<i>Algarve (PT)</i>	<i>Brittany (FR)</i>	<i>Cyprus (CY)</i>
<i>East Central Sweden (SE)</i>	<i>Ostrobothnia (FI)</i>	<i>Pomorskie (PL)</i>
<i>Apulia (IT)</i>	<i>Slovenia (SI)</i>	
<i>Any other comments</i>		

- **Other regions:** *list of regions/countries that have expressed their interest in this partnership but have not signed a commitment letter).*

<i>North-West Croatia (HR)</i>	<i>Valencian Community (ES)</i>	<i>Scotland (UK)</i>
<i>Region Dalarna (SE)</i>	<i>Western Macedonia (EL)</i>	<i>Vastmanland (SE)</i>
<i>Any other comments</i>		

- **Intentions to join:** *list any regional/national authorities*  
(Please list here all other regions that have expressed their interest to join the partnership)

- **Other participants (other than national/regional authorities):**  
(Please list here all other (non-region) participants (clusters, institutes, RTOs, etc.))

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<i>Any other comments</i>		

<b>Representative of Lead Region 1:</b> <i>(name, institution, address, phone, e-mail)</i> Cristina OYÓN, Basque country, Head of strategic initiatives, SPRI cristina@spri.eus	<b>Representative of Lead Region 2</b> <i>(if applicable): (name, institution, address, phone, e-mail)</i> Constance POIRE, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur cpoire@REGIONPACA.FR
<b>European Commission Coordinator:</b> <i>(name, e-mail)</i> Fernando Mérida Martín, S3PEnergy, Unit B3, JRC, European Commission Fernando.MERIDA-MARTIN@ec.europa.eu	Any other relevant information: Please enter here...

### I.B. Thematic Working Areas (WA)

- **Thematic Working Areas** *(if any, please list of WAs, region(s) in charge of it, names and affiliations of involved regional/national authorities, and other actors)*

Working Area	Region in Charge	Involved regions	Other actors
Efficient use of information (data & cybersecurity)	East Central Sweden	Algarve, Basque Country, Cyprus, Ostrobothnia, Pomorskie, Slovenia, Region Vastmanland	Other actors
Grid level Cybersecurity	Pomorskie (Institute of Power Engineering) and Ostrobothnia (tentative)	Basque country, PACA, Cyprus, Pomorskie (Gdansk University), Slovenia, East Central Sweden	Other actors
Integration of renewables & storage	Lead: PACA (Capenergies) and Colead: (tentative) Pomorskie (Gdansk University), Ostrobothnia	Algarve, Basque Country, Cyprus, East Central Sweden, Puglia, Slovenia	Other actors
Micro-grids / off-grids	PACA (CEA) and Colead (tentative): Pomorskie (Institute of Power Engineering), Ostrobothnia	Algarve, Basque country, Cyprus, Pomorskie (Gdansk University), Slovenia, East Central Sweden	Other actors
Ideas or proposals for future collaboration opportunities are also under discussion, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NEWGRID Innosup proposal, Basque Country</li> <li>- Proposal for collaboration on H2020 DT-ICT-11-2019 Big data solutions for energy, SUD-PACA</li> <li>- Proposal for collaboration on H2020 Smart Cities and Communities, Central Sweden</li> <li>- Proposal for collaboration on H2020 2020 calls on Micro-grids and Islands, CEA Tech</li> </ul> Smart Grids Projects of Common Interest (PCI): JRC Unit C3: Energy Security, Distribution and Market			

**I.C. Overview of past activities (past six months, the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2018)****Past Meetings**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
<i>Smart Grids Partnership Meeting</i>	<i>28.11.2018</i>	<i>Bilbao</i>
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<i>Any other comments</i>		
<i>The meeting on the 28th November had a good effect to revitalise the partnership, after a period Since the support provided in March-April 2018, the SG partnership again some interest from the regions and new regions to join (namely Scotand and Dalarna).</i>		

**Past Workshops**

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<i>Any other comments</i>		

**Past Dissemination Activities**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
<i>Bilbao - S3 Thematic Platform Days</i>	<i>26-28.11.2018</i>	<i>Bilbao</i>
<i>S3PEnergy Joint Partnerships meeting - EUSEW</i>	<i>06.06.2018</i>	<i>Brussels</i>
<i>Any other comments</i>		

**I.C. Overview of future activities (the next 6 months – the 1st half of 2019)****Future Meetings**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
Partnership meeting and B2B event with companies of the member regions during the event in Marseille in March <a href="https://www.energy4smartmobility.eu/">https://www.energy4smartmobility.eu/</a> (tbc)	14-15.03.2019 (tbc)	Marseille
Partnership meeting and B2B event with companies of the member regions during the 2019 International Electrical Equipment Conference - JIEEC (see: <a href="https://www.tecnalia.com/en/energy-and-environment/events/xv-international-electrical-equipment-conference-jieec-2017.htm">https://www.tecnalia.com/en/energy-and-environment/events/xv-international-electrical-equipment-conference-jieec-2017.htm</a> )	Autumn 2019 (tbc)	Bilbao
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<i>Any other comments</i>		

**Future Workshops**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
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<i>Any other comments</i>		

**Future Dissemination Activities**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
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<i>Any other comments</i>		

**II. Progress Report** prepared by the Lead Region(s) of the partnership, describing **results achieved during this period**, in no more than 3 pages (the report is “cumulative”).  
All items listed in Sections A, B, and C, below, must be addressed.

Additional documentation such as extended technical reports and/or proceedings of workshops may be provided separately as an annex to this report (and should be referenced in the report).

### II.A. Innovative results

- Innovative results and achievements that could be attributed to the Partnership.  
(Specific examples of Results vs. Objectives)

*The partnership has, since the start of 2018 selected 6 potential pilots to work on and then narrowed these to 4 pilot areas: efficient use of information, grid-level cybersecurity, integration of renewables & storage and microgrids/offgrids. The partners are currently, at the partnership and pilot level, still engaged in the learning and connecting phases of the S3P defined methodology. At the level of the partnership, regions are still involved in the engagement of new partners and in the definition of information necessary for the partnership on-boarding. At the level of the pilot, learning is focussed towards the scoping and definition of the objectives, challenges, applications areas for the pilot leaders. This process will involve more learning upon engagement with the participating regions.*

*In terms of connecting, at the partnership and pilot level activity is still ongoing, since partners are still engaged in bringing the newly interested regions into the partnership and connecting them with the associated pilots, as well as bringing together partners within the pilots.*

- Tangible short- and medium-term socio-economic impacts achieved or expected.  
(Specific examples)

*Through the activity of the partnership, the goal is to accelerate the deployment of smart grids across Europe, increase the competitiveness of partner regions and contribute to the development of an overall and combined approach to the value chain of smart grids. In general terms, these goals will have a considerable socio-economic impact in the European regions where they materialise, since they will strengthen the transition to low carbon economies. More particularly, the partnership activity could have an even larger impact in coal mining and carbon-intensive regions transitioning to low carbon economies, since increasing the competitiveness of clean energy sectors would help regions substitute economic activity away from carbon-intensive sectors.*

### II.B. Inter-regional and inter-partnership collaborative results

- Additional results obtained from working with other partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms. (Specific examples)

*Much of the inter-partnership collaboration of the Smart Grids partnership has taken place within the S3PEnergy in the form of S3PEnergy platform joint organised activity such as joint workshops, meetings and working groups. From these sessions, partnerships have been able to exchange their experiences and the challenges they have faced developing S3 energy projects and this has enabled them to learn from each other. For example, during the S3PEnergy Joint Partnerships Meeting of the 28th of November in Bilbao, leaders from all platforms shared with other leaders and partners their experiences on topics such as: raising funding to finance partnership activity, maintaining regional support and commitment from partners, introducing a global value chain thinking approach to partnership activity focused on local energy solutions, linking partnerships to clusters etc.*

*Moreover, during the S3 Thematic Platform Days in Bilbao, the Partnership interacted with partnerships from the other two Thematic Platforms of Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation. During the Joint Event, the partnership benefited from joint discussions on topics such as: how to use partnerships as a tool to upscale activities beyond regional borders and access new markets, the challenges involved in engaging businesses in thematic platforms and the future support from the Commission to S3 Thematic Platforms.*

- Evaluation of the involvement of relevant business sector (clusters, SMEs, business associations, chambers of commerce, etcetera) in the Partnership activities. (Specific examples)

*The partnership counts involvement of business sector agents in its pilot activities. Notably, the energy cluster Capenergies from the PACA region is the leader of the proposed pilot on Integration of Renewables and Storage.*

- Evaluation of whether **the level of inter-regional cooperation is sufficient** to potentially provide **practical and relevant socio-economic impacts**. (Specific examples)

*So far, the partnership and all pilot developments within it remain in the first two phases of learn and connect. At this stage of development of the partnership, socio-economic impact could result from exchanges of best practices, where regions learn from projects successfully implemented in other partner regions.*

*Evaluation of whether the level of interregional cooperation in the partnership is sufficient for to be socio-economically impactful cannot take place until the partnership activity enters the Demonstrate, Scale-up and Commercialise phases.*

## II.C. New activities

- Involvement of regions from EU13 Member States in the Partnership, in particular with respect to scoping, mapping and/or matchmaking. *In addition, justification should be provided if no EU13 regions are involved.*

*Cyprus and Slovenia are EU13 Member States which are part of the partnership. Similarly, Pomorskie (PL), Cyprus, Slovenia are involved in several pilot projects as leaders or partners. The participation of the region of Pomorskie in the upcoming pilots is particularly noticeable, since, not only the region as an entity but also one of its universities (Gdansk University) and its Institute of Power Engineering lead two of the pilots.*

- Involvement of regions/countries from outside of EU28 Countries. (Number of participants from non-EU countries. Specify their contribution)

*None are involved so far.*

- Advancement and promotion of the Partnership through publications and other communication/outreach activities. (Number of outreach activities that resulted from the Partnership. A complete list with references and web-links should be given in an annex)

*[Please enrich]*

- Activities and projects with partnerships working under other S3 Thematic Platforms (Agri-Food, Energy and Industrial Modernisation).

*The S3PEnergy Smart Grids partnership was involved in joint activities with the other S3 Thematic Platforms of Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation during the S3 Thematic Platform Days in Bilbao (26-28th November). The SG partnership had representatives participating in panels during the S3 Energy meeting and the joint thematic platform event.*



## II.D. Your Partnership and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The EU has a strong position when it comes to sustainable development and is also fully committed to be a frontrunner in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda<sup>1</sup>, together with its member countries and regions. Many interregional partnerships under the thematic S3 Platforms contribute strongly to the attainment of these 17 goals.

**Please indicate to which Sustainable Development Goals and to what extent your thematic Partnership contributes?**

### Your Partnership and Sustainable Development Goals

Goals to which your partnership (can) contribute:	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not applicable
Goal 1. <b>End poverty</b> in all its forms everywhere	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Goal 2. <b>End hunger</b> , achieve <b>food security</b> and improved <b>nutrition</b> & promote <b>sustainable</b> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Goal 3. Ensure <b>healthy lives</b> & promote <b>well-being</b> for all at all ages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Goal 5. Achieve <b>gender equality</b> & empower all women and girls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of <b>water and sanitation</b> for all	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 7. Ensure access to <b>affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable <b>economic growth</b> , full and productive <b>employment</b> & decent <b>work for all</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 9. Build resilient <b>infrastructure</b> , promote inclusive and sustainable <b>industrialisation</b> & foster <b>innovation</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 10. Reduce <b>inequality</b> within and among countries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 11. Make <b>cities</b> & human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable <b>consumption &amp; production patterns</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat <b>climate change</b> and its <b>impacts</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the <b>oceans, seas &amp; marine</b> resources for sustainable development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of <b>terrestrial ecosystems</b> , sustainably manage <b>forests</b> , combat <b>desertification</b> , halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Goal 16. Promote <b>peaceful &amp; inclusive societies</b> for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the <b>Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<sup>1</sup> The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the United Nations (UN) in September 2015, gave a new impetus to efforts to achieve sustainable development.