



# Steering Committee Online meeting – Minutes 24 OCTOBER 2023

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# Table of Contents

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION .....	3
2. KEYNOTE SPEECH .....	3
3. UPDATE OF ETIPWIND'S STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA .....	3
4. PRESENTATION OF ETIPWIND R&I PRIORITIES.....	3
5. NEXT STEPS FOR THE ETIPWIND'S STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA .....	5
6. SESSION ON WIND ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY & CIRCULARITY.....	5
7. CONCLUSION.....	6

# 1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Adrian Timbus (*Chair of the Steering Committee*) welcomed the participants and opened the meeting with a quick introduction addressing the Wind Power Package and its Action plan to be released by 24 October, the Innovation Fund and its clean tech manufacturing window, a summary of the last Chief Technology Officers (CTOs) meeting in Copenhagen, and the objectives of the meeting:

- to get the CTOs feedback on the first draft of the ETIPWind's Strategic R&I Agenda, in particular on the R&I priorities defined for 2025-2027; and
- to discuss how to enhance sustainability and circularity of the wind energy supply chain.

He then presented the agenda of the meeting.

# 2. KEYNOTE SPEECH

Claus Meineche (*Head of Secretariat, Energy Technology Development and Demonstration Programme at the Danish Energy Agency*) took the floor for a keynote speech on the funding for wind R&D in Denmark.

He gave an overview of the Danish funding landscape for energy and climate and explained the scope of projects that are particularly eligible by the funding programmes. He then focused on the EUDP programme and its financing strategy.

He finally presented the main trends in wind energy projects that are funded in Denmark, which focused mainly on cost reduction (production, material, installation, maintenance), efficiency (turbines, blades, forecasting tools), retrofitting, decommissioning, and recycling.

# 3. UPDATE OF ETIPWIND'S STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

Capucine Vannoorenberghe (*ETIPWind Secretariat*) started with reminding the methodology followed to develop the R&I priorities of the Strategic R&I Agenda (SRIA). She presented the ETIPWind's vision for wind energy and the general scope of the R&I priorities identified for 2025-2027.

She then provided the list of the 23 R&I priorities identified and explained how the budget for each R&I area was defined within the SRIA Working Groups.

She then opened the floor for comments and feedback from the SC members and CTOs. Several members asked questions and clarification about the methodology to define the budget for each priority.

# 4. PRESENTATION OF ETIPWIND R&I PRIORITIES

A representative from each SRIA Working Groups presented the consolidated list of R&I priorities in each R&I area.

### ***R&I area 1 – Wind energy system integration***

Adrian Timbus (Hitachi Energy) presented the list of R&I priorities:

- Definition and modelling of future system needs
- Advanced grid capabilities
- Interoperability
- Solutions to manage curtailment
- Wind power to X
- DC Grid solutions

### ***R&I area 2 - Industrialisation, scale-up and competitiveness***

Aidan Cronin (Siemens Energy) presented the list of R&I priorities:

- Mass production supported by automation and reliable supply-chain
- Design for large volume manufacturing / deployment
- Design for reliable and lasting products
- Improve construction and installation methods
- Research to find innovative financing routes to scale-up

### ***R&I area 3 – O&M and Digitalisation***

Lars Landberg (DNV) presented the list of R&I priorities:

- New decommissioning methods
- Digital tools for lifecycle optimisation, park level control and operating domain
- Autonomous O&M
- Enable digital ecosystems
- Replacement and transport of major components

### ***R&I area 4 – Sustainability & Circularity***

Allan K. Poulsen (Vestas) presented the list of R&I priorities:

- Development of material substitution enabling decarbonisation and reducing the use of rare-earth materials
- Development and demonstration of recycling methods for wind turbine materials, manufacturing waste and components
- Biodiversity solutions
- Lifetime extension via re-using, refurbishing and re-purposing

### ***R&I area 5 – Skills & Coexistence***

Mariya Trifonova (Sofia University) presented the list of R&I priorities:

- Ensure a world-class education for wind energy and expand it
- Skilling, re-skilling and upskilling activities
- Increase public engagement of citizens and coexistence with other stakeholders

Comments and remarks from SC members and CTOs were mainly focused on the general narrative and the scope of the R&I priorities. Main comments are summarised below:

- We need stronger arguments in the introduction to explain what the impacts will be if those R&I priorities are not tackled.

- The Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) and types of projects should be mentioned in the SRIA.
- The templates used to define the budgets will be shared with all CTOs and SC members.
- There is a need to better prioritise among the 23 priorities (with categories speed-up, scale-up, expand and enhance). But we also need to highlight the fact that we should start working on all the topics to reach our vision.
- We need to describe more clearly the challenges that the R&I topics will help solving.
- There is a need to clarify that the R&I actions mentioned for each topic are just examples and do not represent an exhaustive list of what needs to be put in place.

The Secretariat took notes from these remarks to refine the description of each topic. The list of 23 R&I topics was agreed and endorsed by the CTOs.

## 5. NEXT STEPS FOR THE ETIPWIND'S STRATEGIC R&I AGENDA

Capucine Vannoorenberghe (*ETIPWind Secretariat*) informed the participants that they will still have time to provide comments on the first SRIA draft. The document will be reviewed by the ETIPWind Steering Committee, the Implementation Working Group on Wind energy (IWG Wind) and other ETIPs (such as ETIP SNET).

She invited them to send their feedback and mentioned that the final draft will need to be finalised by 6 November.

Capucine then provided an overview of the next steps before the publication of the SRIA. The R&I priorities will be disseminated during the SET Plan Conference organised in Barcelona on 13-14 November. The document will be officially launched during an event organised in Lommel at the ZF Wind Power's facilities. She invited the SC members and the CTOs to save the date for this event.

## 6. SESSION ON WIND ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY & CIRCULARITY

A thematic session was then launched to discuss how to enhance sustainability and circularity of the wind supply chain. Three presentations were followed by an interactive discussion with the participants.

John Korsgaard (LM Wind Power) first presented the progress of his company in developing zero waste blades and highlighted their involvement in the EU-funded project Blades2Build.

Miriam Marchante (Ørsted) then presented Ørsted's circularity strategy at different levels including: design phase and supply chain, lifetime extension, and resource recovery.

Allan K. Poulsen (Vestas) finally presented Vestas' strategy to manufacture sustainable wind turbines including innovations such as CO2 reduced steel, electric service fleet, blade recycling, or wood tower.

## 7. CONCLUSION

Adrian Timbus (Chair of the Steering Committee) summarised the next steps including:

- The publication of the SRIA end of November;
- The SRIA launch event beginning of December; and
- The next SC + CTOs meeting that will be organised in Bilbao at the WindEurope's annual event.

He thanked the participants and closed the meeting. A visit of LM Wind Power's test centre followed the meeting.

## PARTICIPANTS LIST

Name	Organisation
Adrian Timbus	Hitachi Energy
Aidan Cronin	Siemens Energy
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