
Welcome to the Autumn 2020 Edition of the eseia Newsletter!

Dear eseia members, colleagues and friends,

*I am pleased to present to you the **Autumn 2020 Edition** of the eseia Newsletter.*



I hope that you have managed to recharge your batteries during summertime and have had nice holidays. For eseia the summer was delightful, but also busy since the eseia Working Groups were preparing a total of four Horizon2020 project proposals, namely BBI4Europe, FullFrac, NextMET, and PEACE. Thank you to everyone involved!

Just at the start of the autumn season a new eseia project RE4Industry was kicked off.

I hope to welcome you at the eseia Conference hosted online by the UTBv Team end of this month. Likewise, I hope to enjoy your presence at the upcoming eseia Business Meetings held 17-18 November held fully online.

I wish you a nice and fruitful autumn 2020 from eseia! Enjoy reading!

Brigitte Hasewend
Director of eseia

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1. News from eseia

[Two new organisations are keen on joining eseia](#)

We are proud to announce that two new organisations are keen on joining eseia: **Tyndall National Institute, IE** and **Karelia University of Applied Sciences, FI**. The eseia General Assembly will be invited to admit them as new members in their meeting 17 November 2020.

Tyndall National Institute in Ireland has a big expertise in the field of sustainable energy systems, energy materials and in energy policy amongst other areas. Its key experts include Prof. Brian Norton and Dr. Jo Southernwood. Tyndall National Institute has been involved in many EU projects also as a coordinator such as [Speedier](#) project, [Ministor](#) and [Pantera](#).

Karelia University of Applied Sciences in Finland is a widely connected, international and innovative organisation offering education leading bachelor and master's degrees. Her experts, students and stakeholders collaborate in projects to create sustainable solutions. Their specific expertise is sustainable energy and bioeconomy, including distributed renewable energy systems, energy efficiency, low carbon and wood construction and forestry. Their team includes various key experts with expertise in various areas such renewable energy production, sustainable development, industrial wood construction and biogas utilization, amongst others.

[New Staff members](#)

Christina Tansek recently joined eseia as Office Manager. She holds a bachelor's degree in environmental science and economics. Her previous work experience is in marketing and accountancy. Christina will be responsible for office management, finance, and marketing on a part time basis while continuing her master's work at Karl-Franzens University Graz.



Marleen Moor joined eseia in October 2020 as Communication Manager. She is enrolled in the European Studies MA programme at the University of Tartu, Estonia. During her studies, she did a traineeship at The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities in Brussels. For her Bachelor's degree, she also holds a BA in French and International Relations from University of Tartu. Marleen has participated in Erasmus+ exchanges in France both at Sorbonne Nouvelle University and Sciences Po Paris.



2. News from eseia Members

This section of the eseia Newsletter is dedicated to presenting news from our members related to the field sustainable energy. If you would like to share an interesting article for the upcoming newsletter, please send an email to the eseia Team: office@eseia.eu

[eseia online International Summer School with Participants from the EU and Tanzania](#)

This year, the eseia Online International Summer School 2020 on 14 – 25 September was organised by the member organisation Savonia University of Applied Sciences in Finland and was fully online. The two-week programme was arranged by Eastern Finland Universities together with Tanzanian partners and eseia network.

Eseia International Online Summer School

Climate Friendly Bioenergy Solutions
14.—25.9.2020

There were 23 registered participants and the most participants were from Tanzania and Finland. There were also active participants from Niger and Ethiopia. During the duration of the summer school, there were a total of 38 lectures given. Most lectures were given by Finnish academics, but the lectures from industrial companies were also provided, offering a different perspective.

In addition to the lectures, participants were also involved in the group work. In total, 5 project works were made in a group. One group of students looked at the use of municipal waste as fuel, recovery of landfill gas in Arusha, while another group was analyzing the improvement of efficiency of charcoal production. Third group concentrated on the establishment of network of Center of Excellencies for promoting circular economy. In addition, some summer school students were involved in the discussion on the optimization of the sources of bioenergy from wastewater by cultivating microalgae, case proposal Tanzania. Finally, the case of how to increase pellet and briquette production by using industrial side streams in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania, was also looked at.

A big thank you to all the lecturers and the participants. Thanks as well to the host Markku Huhtinen.

More information:

Markku Huhtinen Markku.Huhtinen@savonia.fi

[eseia ISS 2020 Programme](#)

[Savonia University of Applied Sciences](#)



[Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Climate Change Initiative Webinar](#)

On 15thOctober, a webinar is organized within the framework of the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Climate Change Initiative (EMME-CCI). The aim is to address the specific needs and challenges countries in the EMME region are facing to address and ameliorate the impact of climate change and advance mitigation actions.

If you would like to have more follow-up information about the workshop, please contact Dr Christiana Katti, Scientific Coordinator of the EMME-Climate Change Initiative, The Cyprus Institute (Email: c.katti@cyi.ac.cy).

[Official website of EMME-CARE](#)

3. eseia Projects

[How Energy Intensive Industries Go Green: New eseia project RE4Industry kicked off](#)

The 14th September 2020 designates the official launch meeting of the newly EU-funded project RE4Industry, under the H2020 framework program. RE4Industry has been conceived under this framework with a twofold objective: to support EU in the identification and integration of renewable energy (RE) solutions together with the definition of Action Plans for decarbonisation, and to transform the EU industrial landscape into a large market niche for the uptake of RE.



The project is coordinated by CIRCE Foundation, which is the Centre of Research for Energy Resources and Consumption based in Zaragoza (Spain). eseia actively involved the following members: Viktor Hacker, TU Graz, Johannes Kohlmaier, Green Tech Styria, Markku Huhtinen, UAS Savonia, Goran Krajacic, UZagreb, Anca Duta, UTBv

Additional information:

eseia Project Manager: office@eseia.eu

[Project information \(CORDIS\)](#)

[Project website](#) (coming soon)

[Four Horizon 2020 proposals were successfully submitted in the beginning of September 2020](#)

BBI4Europe - BBI Education for Europe

To cope with a raising number of issues such as climate change or environmental pressures, Europe has to be more sustainable and responsible in the use of biological resources. The bio-based industry has the potential to address interconnected societal challenges such as food security, natural resource scarcity, fossil resource dependence and climate change, while also achieving sustainable economic growth. However, this cannot be done without support by universities and research institutions as bio-based

industries develop quickly and need constant skills and education matching. The key to maintaining European competitiveness is the effecting collaboration between industry and academia for skills development. Establishing education centres that collaborate with industry in design and delivery of training programs can be a fast and cost-effective way for countries and industries to create much-needed specialists. Establishing such centres can help drive rapid, targeted improvements in the quality of training. In these centres, governments, employers and training providers need to work together to address these critical skills gaps.

Coordinator: eseia

eseia members participating: Tu Graz, EASmk, LNEG, UZagreb, BAV, UAS Savonia, Bio-C, UTBv, Green Tech Styria, TU Vienna, TH Cologne

Contact: office@eseia.eu

FullFrac - FULL CONVERSION OF LIGNOCELLULOSE INTO HIGH-VALUE PRODUCTS BY INNOVATIVE FRACTIONATION

The FullFrac approach is based on an innovative biorefinery concept that uses a sequential biomass pre-treatment strategy– continuous hot water extraction (HWE) followed by a continuous ethanol organosolv extraction (EOE) for wood and a sequence of EOE / HWE / EOE for bark. This sequential extraction strategy enables the selective separation of all biomass components: extractives, hemicellulose, and lignin, keeping the high quality of cellulose for existing production chains. In this 4-year project the partner consortium, constituted by 26 European partners from industry, research and non-profit organisations, will develop the processes and equipment required for continuous operation up to TRL 4-5 as well as validate 6 innovative value chain products and their respective business cases.

Coordinator of 26 partner Consortium: TU Vienna, Prof. Anton Friedl

eseia members participating: TH Cologne, LNEG, TU Graz, UAS Savonia

eseia in a partner role

Contact: Anton.Friedl@tuwien.ac.at

NEXTMET - Next Generation Cleaner Methanol Production from Emitted CO2

NEXTMET proposes a ground breaking photoelectrochemical (PEC) technology to produce methanol from emitted CO₂ and water powered by direct sunlight. It addresses a global market of alcohols in excess of \$75 billion. Proof of concept of NEXTMET technology will be undertaken and validation of this technology will be carried out at lab scale. Two promising process routes will be investigated. Methanol will be produced electrochemically in one step and via electrolytic syngas followed by chemically conversion into methanol through an innovative process. For both routes a membrane purification process with very low energy requirements will be developed. This high level of innovation will be attained by pooling the expertise of partners from six European countries, two academic partners from China and two academic partners from USA. Industry is well represented in the consortium by the two SMEs APRIA Systems, NOVIS and by the Associate partner bse.Methanol GmbH.

Coordinator of 12 partner Consortium: Ana Machado, NOVA ID FCT - ASSOCIACAO PARA A INOVACAO E DESENVOLVIMENTO DA FCT, PT

eseia members participating: LNEG, TU Vienna

eseia in a partner role

Contact: office@eseia.eu

PEACE - Promote Energy transition through public Authorities Capacity building and Energy communities

On the basis of best practices in existing energy communities and on the new legal framework, PEACE proposal will develop an organization model where Public and citizens can invest together in renewable sources and the energy of private plants can be shared. The presence of a PA (Public Authorities) as a member of the energy community can influence decisions on re-investment of benefits generated towards activities foreseen in the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and finally promote the setup of new energy community. To take advantage of this opportunity, PAs need to improve the skills of officers and to have an effective organization model for energy communities. In this frame, PEACE project will implement a capacity building program on these topics specifically tailored for PAs and will produce a practical example of energy community.

Coordinator: AZZERO CO2 SRL, Italy
eseia in a partner role together with Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, IT, Fundacion CIRCE, ES, Centro de Investigacion de Recursos y Consumes Energeticos, ES, White Research SPRL, BE, TU Delft, NL

Contact: Richard.Wheeler@eseia.eu

[The full document is available here](#)

Green Deal proposals 2021

eseia Green Deal proposals are being prepared for January 2021.

eseia is working on is the **CEE4ALL: Enabling citizens to act on climate and environmental protection through education**. Changes in citizen's and consumer's behavior towards more sustainable patterns can happen through education, awareness raising, citizen science, observation and monitoring of their environmental impacts, civic engagement and social innovation. Proposed activities will build on existing initiatives and practices that demonstrate at international, European, national, regional and local level innovation in teaching and learning methods. Emphasis will be also put on wider community engagement for a just transition. Importance is also placed on strengthening environmental awareness of the young generation.



eseia coordinates discussions among members. The aim is to present a geographically well- balanced set of demo sites which will highlight European the European competency framework, and test climate education in action.

[More information on the Green Deal session at R&I Days](#)

Contact: office@eseia.eu

Secondly, eseia works on **Accelerating the green transition and energy access Partnership with Africa**. The EU-AU R&I Partnership on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy aims to support the development of sustainable energy solutions appropriate to the African context that will address these challenges. The eseia approach targets sustainable communities and helps them with energy production and use as well as fosters the water-food-energy nexus. So far, 11 eseia member organizations got involved.

Contact: Richard.Wheeler@eseia.eu

4. European Policy News

[Horizon Europe Work Programme](#)

The draft work programme 2021-2022 on Cluster 5 ('Climate, Energy and Mobility') was issued on 10 September 2020. eseia has made a call selection for 2021 from the draft program.

If you are interested in obtaining the copy of the Horizon Europe draft work programme, you can do so by obtaining a copy from eseia Secretariat.

The document is not yet final, however, each call has indications about the proposed budget for each project.

Contact: office@eseia.eu

[Open Access publishing platform \(ORE\)](#)

An Open Access publishing platform (ORE) has now [a public site](#). This will be a scholarly publishing platform providing a full open access peer reviewed publishing service for Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe beneficiaries at no cost to them, during and after the end of their grants. Open Research Europe will be accepting article submissions from autumn 2020. The author guidelines for submission expected in summer 2020. The benefits of the Open Research Europe platform are not only for publication authors. It will also provide full support of underlying research data that meets the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) principles. Please note that you can send the general enquiries to the following [address](#).

[Ursula von der Leyen's State of the Union speech](#)

On 16 September, President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen gave the State of the Union speech. Von der Leyen stated that for Europe to become the first climate-neutral continent by 2050, processes need to be sped up.

In order to cut the emissions to achieve the goals of the European Green Deal, there is clear need to boost renewable energy and to improve energy efficiency. According to von der Leyen, "37% of NextGenerationEU will be spent directly on our European Green Deal objectives."

NextGenerationEU is seen as a gateway mechanism to invest in lighthouse European projects to modernise and make green hydrogen and electricity consumption.

Her speech put also a lot of emphasis on the unused potential of the industrial data – 80 percent of industrial data is collected, but never used. Common data spaces in the energy sector could encourage innovation between universities, companies and researchers as it would provide a common outlet to access data and collaborate.



Original speech can be found [here](#).

[European Research and Innovation Days 22-24 September 2020](#)

During 22-24 September 2020, European Research and Innovation Days 2020 took place, which brought together policymakers, researchers, entrepreneurs and the public to have their say for the future of research and innovation. This year was special since three days of Research and Innovation Days were completely virtual. The event was divided into Policy Conference, Hubs and a separate exhibition section to provide a broad range of activities to cover the spectrum of research and innovation.



If you did not have time yet to follow the European Research and Innovation Days, you still have the possibility to create your account and access the recordings, which were recorded during the 3 -day event to have a good overview available on the event website.

[Direct link to create your account to access the videos](#)

[European Research and Innovation Days official website](#)

5. eseia Upcoming Events

Due to the rapidly changing coronavirus situation, all eseia meetings will be held virtually in 2020 and 2021.

[eseia Bi-Annual Conference in Brasov, Romania, 22-24 October](#)

The Transilvania University of Brasov (UTBv), the European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance (eseia), and the Romanian Academy of Technical Sciences organize the 6th edition of the Conference for Sustainable Energy CSE from 22 – 24 October 2020 in Brasov, Romania, fully online.

The main topic for this year will be the Solar Energy Conversion in Communities. From 2005 onwards, each edition had a core subject, defined according to the most significant research topics at global level.

As part of the conference, there will be an eseia Panel on Climate Education on 24 October 2020. Director of eseia, Brigitte Hasewend will give an opening speech for the conference. The panel will bring together climate change education experts to share the examples of good practices and prevent evidence why education is crucial to address climate change issues.

In order to join the Zoom meeting, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87133193236?pwd=WUpDWFdQTFQwUIVaOGVpRWtvdFpMZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 3319 3236 Passcode: 905700

For more information, please visit the [conference website](#) and [eseia's website](#). [Programme of the panel](#) is also available.

eseia Newsletter 37th Edition
October 2020

Contact Persons:

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[eseia Business Meetings, Brussels, 17-18 November](#)

The General Assembly will take the following decisions:

- eseia Work Programme and Budget 2021;
- Report from eseia Working Groups;
- Update of the eseia Accounts Q3;
- Admission of new Members;
- Governing Council and General Assembly Members;

In addition, we will have our EU Policy Update with speakers from the European Commission focusing on the European Green Deal and Horizon Europe opportunities.

European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance – eseia

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eseia Homepage

More information about eseia members
And activities can be found on our website
www.eseia.eu

eseia Education and Training Programme

More information about eseia courses and
activities can be found at:
www.etp.eseia.eu

eseia Services:

- **Close contact** to the **European Commission** facilitated by our desk in Brussels, as well as contacts to funding agencies and thorough **know-how of funding programmes**.
- **Knowledge building** and **dissemination** through eseia projects, such as the eseia journal and EC-SET Plan Education and Training Initiative.
- **Long term contact** with **international** and **cross-sector organisations** working in the area of renewable energies.
- Support for **consortium building** and the **coordination and management** of large scale proposal preparation process.
- **Information sharing** through interactive workshops, business meetings and quarterly newsletters including news from the grapevine of EU policy regarding renewable energies.

eseia Newsletter Calendar 2020

Newsletter	Deadline sending input to eseia	Issue
38th Edition	1 December	December 2020
39th Edition	1 March	April 2021

The eseia Team is looking forward to your inputs.

Responsible for content:
eseia Team
© eseia Team, July 2020
Printing and record error reserve

Layout conception and production:
eseia - Team