

# PROJECT FINAL REPORT

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SmartGrids-ETPS**

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## 1 *Executive summary*

The four main activity lines of the secretariat of the European Technology Platform SmartGrids are:

- Support to the main bodies that are part of the internal structure of the SmartGrids ETP: Steering Committee and existing and new Working Groups with the organisation and management of periodic meetings and internal communication exchange.
- Generation of high quality results supporting in the definition, management and development of public results.
- Support in the implementation of a communication strategy based around an information centre (public internet site), international conferences, ETP newsletters, participation in other conferences and direct cooperation with the European Commission.
- Implementing monitoring activities and quality control reviews of platform activities and results. The consortium for this project comprises three complementary partners uniting all necessary skills to achieve the objective

## **2      *Core of the report for the period: Project objectives, work progress and achievements, project management***

### **2.1    Project objectives for the period**

The **overall objective** of this proposal is to set up and run an efficient secretariat structure that will match the technical, technological, economical, policy making, managerial and administrative support needed by the ETP-SmartGrids.

The **specific objectives** of the secretariat are:

- ▶ To support the main bodies of the platform: SmartGrids Forum, and Mirror Group in an effective and efficient manner in order to achieve their planned objectives, currently :
  - To accompany the Smart Grids deployment activities and encourage the engagement of multiple, independent parties;
  - To participate in the new European Commission initiatives as European Industrial Initiatives, Public Private Partnerships, JTIs, etc.
  - To align ongoing RTD projects and new European, national and regional programmes on electricity transmission and distribution systems;
- ▶ To facilitate and coordinate the participation of the community of stakeholders from Member States and Associated Countries at public and private level in the platform activities (SF, WG and MG)
- ▶ To link the SMART GRIDS ETP with other platforms (wind, CO2, Photovoltaic), other European initiatives (European Industrial Initiatives, Green Cars, E2B), etc.
- ▶ To disseminate these results to the energy sector in general and particularly to decision-makers players.

In order to achieve these objectives the **operational targets** of the secretariat are:

- ▶ To provide managerial support to the SmartGrids Forum, and States Mirror Group: following the Platform strategic plan, working plan for the following months, review of executed/pending task and actions, organise meetings, preparation of agendas, maintaining electronic distribution lists, minutes of the meetings, reception, editing and distribution of documents.
- ▶ To provide technical support to prepare and follow-up actions and documents.

- ▶ To review the platform management models and internal structure under the supervision of the SmartGrids Forum. This is needed in order to adapt the structure to the challenges ahead, and good practice after having kept same structure for three years
- ▶ Management of external and internal information
- ▶ Monitoring of platform activities and reporting to Chairmen and European Commission.
- ▶ To organise international dissemination events, as two events in the presidencies in Spain and in Belgium.
- ▶ To provide support to the SmartGrids Forum, Working groups and States Mirror Group: organise meetings, preparation of agendas, maintaining electronic distribution lists, review of executed/pending task and actions, working plan for the following months, minutes of the meetings, reception, editing and distribution of documents.
- ▶ To implement a quality management plan for all the platform deliverables, with specific and defined review phases in which the platform groups and even the European Commission will take part as external experts where necessary.
- ▶ To support in the elaboration and organising the printing, for main deliverables generated by the platform.
- ▶ To make public annual platform reports.
- ▶ To create a continuous on-line assistance and information service for the general public, with internet as a main tool and telephone access to provide information and answer queries about the platform structure, latest developments on SmartGrids at EU level, procedural guidelines, activities, participation models, application procedures, and collection of information.
- ▶ To prepare and distribute electronic newsletters with main news related with platform developments and smartgrids in general.
- ▶ To maintain a public internet site with the capacity for executing the dissemination activities defined in the communication strategy, managing public and private information (intranet for document management between platform actors)
- ▶ To maintain a private internet site to provide the platform an efficient information handling system and thus optimise the efficient working of the platform

## 2.3 Project impact

The work performed in the framework of this project has fundamentally provided the ETP SmartGrids the capacities and resources to perform its expected role and actions during the length of the action. The role and work of the ETP SmartGrids has been very significant during these years.

European electricity networks and energy sector as a whole are experimenting a deep transition towards a more smart, sustainable, and economic systems in terms of policies but also in technological development and deployment. Research is needed to determine how the functions and the actions of an initially low number of new actors should be regulated. Designing a legal framework with regulated and measurable goals for each stakeholder will make it necessary to incorporate an increased level of intelligent functionalities, thus supporting the overall SmartGrids systems goals. Research must be done to analyze how this system intelligence can be made easily accessible to the largest majority of the users, while keeping costs as low as possible. Research will also be needed to determine how this intelligence can be made available to all smart grids parties: bringing intelligence from electricity transmission down to the household plug, from inter-TSO communication for preventing blackouts, down to inter-household communication within small communities to support prevention of local or community disturbances.

Since the beginning of this project, the SmartGrids European Technology Platform for the Electricity Networks of the Future has provided advice and coordination of research initiatives to various member states' stakeholders in order to foster and support the deployment of SmartGrids in Europe in consistency with the EU policy.

In 2011/2012, the SmartGrids ETP has played a key role in updating the so-called Strategic Research Agenda SRA 2035, downloadable from <http://www.smartgrids.eu>. In the process to update this document many experts and stakeholders across Europe have been involved. The cohesive links among stakeholders in the ETP SmartGrids is very relevant and it will continue to be thanks to the work done.