



ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER HAS ORGANIZED THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "MILESTONES TOWARDS 100% RES FOR ALL EUROPEANS" IN BUCHAREST

30th June 2017, Mihai MACARIE

The Romanian Energy Center Association (CRE) organized the International Conference "Milestones towards 100% RES for all Europeans" in collaboration with the Consortium partners of the Horizon 2020 Project "RE-SERVE - Renewables in a Stable Electric Grid" on Friday, June 23rd in Bucharest. This Conference was part of the European Sustainable Energy Week Program - EUSEW 2017 ([Link](#)). The event promoted the two main themes of the Energy Days: the integration of renewable energy sources (RES) and energy efficiency (EE).

Over 70 representatives of Transmission System Operators (TSOs) and Distribution System Operators (DSOs), together with officials of the Ministry of Energy and ANRE, Ministry of Research, decision-makers of national and European institutions, representatives of private and state owned energy companies, other active energy associations such as CNR-CME, ACUE, AFEER, RE-SERVE project partners, the public interested in responsible energy consumption practices and other stakeholders interested in understanding the operation of a 100% RES system for safe and sustainable power supply have contributed to the event's discussions.

The main topics addressed in the event included: (1) network integration scenarios of up to 100% RES, (2) network codes, governance and regulatory issues regarding the transition to up to 100% RES, (3) legal and regulatory models, business models for RES, (4) the development of open, smart, stable, secure and customer centric European smart grid, and (5) innovative practices for efficient energy consumption.

The conference was held in the wake of the third Consortium meeting of the RE-SERVE Project organized on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd June in Bucharest. CRE is direct partner in the "RE-SERVE" project together with its member TRANSELECTRICA and Polytechnica University of Bucharest, as well as other representative organizations from Germany, Ireland and Italy. The project started in November 2016 and is planned to run for 36 months.

The conference was organized in four sections: an introductory session, two discussion panels and a workshop and brought together 20 speakers from the Romanian and European energy sector. Mihai Păun, CRE Vice-President and moderator of the event pointed out the growing interest of the European Commission in research – development - innovation projects in clean energy and digital solutions and reiterated the active role of CRE as a direct partner in European projects together with its members.

*"The CRE Association is partnering with its members in five International Consortia in Projects funded by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 Program: SUCCESS together with ELECRICA, Re-SERVE together with TRANSELECTRICA, WiseGrid, NRG5 together with ROMGAZ and CROSSBOW together with TRANSELECTRICA and other 7 TSOs in Central and Eastern Europe," said CRE Vice President Mihai Paun. "The total funding for the five projects is over 50 million Euros, of which 2.5 million Euros for the CRE Association, leader and / or participant in different work packages," continued Mihai Păun referring to each of the five Projects: **SUCCESS** - Securing Critical Energy Infrastructures ([Link](#)), **RE-SERVE** - Renewables in a Stable Electric Grid ([Link](#)), **WISEGRID** - Wide scale demonstration of Integrated Solutions and Business Models for European Smart GRID ([LINK](#)), **NRG-5** – Enabling Smart Energy as a Service via 5G Mobile Network advances and **CROSSBOW** - CROSS BOrder management of variable renewable energy and storage units enabling a transnational Wholesale Market.*

CRE's General Assembly unanimously approved at the December 2016 meeting the creation of the Research, Development and Innovation Department within the Association, which employs eight experts and project advisors.

During the introductory session, Fiona Williams, the Research Director of German company Ericsson and co-ordinator of the RE-SERVE project, introduced to the audience the two interconnected objectives of the project: the creation of new harmonized European network codes as well as the definition of new innovative ancillary services to meet the integration of up to 100% RES in the power transmission network. In addition, *"the new network codes will support the development of the European Energy Union by focusing on the three levels of the domestic electricity market: operational, connections and markets"*, said Fiona Williams. The introductory session was complemented by the interventions of ANRE's Vice-President Emil Calota and TRANSELECTRICA's CEO Corina Popescu, who referred to the legal and regulatory issues of RES and the challenges towards network integration of up to 100% of RES.

"The energy of the future brings new challenges of a social nature (...) new technologies require new skills and new holistic and systematic approaches", said Mihaela Albu, professor at Polytechnica University of Bucharest, noting the importance that the academic environment allocates to the target of up to 100% RES, together with the relevance of addressing an attitude of *"lifelong learning"*. Gheorghe Vișan, Commercial Director at TRANSELECTRICA, stressed that *"the new energy sector, which contains a high proportion of RES, is based on a solid legal and political environment"*. In his opinion, the new energy sector increasingly based on RES will have to address the variable and relatively programmable nature of generation as well as the distances between large RES generation capacities and consumption sites. Corina Popescu has raised a set of risks implied by the rapid growth of RES-based generation capacities, namely the insufficient evacuation capacity of the current networks in the high-capacity RES-installed areas, and the difficulty of maintaining a permanent balance between production and energy consumption. *"No major development of SRE parks will happen in the next 5-10 years"*, said Emil Calota, referring to the evolution of RES support schemes.

The event continued with discourses of other Romanian and European energy industry specialists: Domenico Villacci - President of ENSIEL, Silvia Vlăsceanu - ACUE Executive Director, Ion Lungu - President AFEER, Mirela Dima - Director of Regulation at CEZ Romania, Claudiu Negrisan – Director at Bioenergy Suceava, Claudia Brânduș - Director of Regulation at ENEL Romania, Laurentia Predescu - representative of the Ministry of Research and Innovation, Manuel Serrano - Director of the Spanish ETRA Group, representatives of the RWTH University in Aachen, Germany: Marco Cupelli, Philipp Weidinger, Kai Kappner as well as CRE Association counselors and researchers: Mihai Sanduleac, Dan Preotescu, Thong Vu Van.

All Presentations, Press Report and Communications are available on CRE website: www.crenerg.org. ([Link](#)).