

**THE ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTED AT THE 6<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDDIE PROJECT**

**20<sup>th</sup> of July 2023, Carina ZIDARU**

**The representatives of the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) Association participated and contributed at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Advisory Board (IAB) of EDDIE Project – „*EDucation for Digitalization of Energy*”, which took place in the Online Environment. This important Meeting was organized by the project coordinator COMILLAS Pontifical University, on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2023. The role of Education in the Digital Era for Digitalization will create the framework for EDDIE Project to take part in the decision-making process of Digitalization of the European Energy Sector (DEES).**

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Advisory Board Meeting highlighted important and significant subjects for the development of the project such as the project status, the ongoing activities, Pact for Skills: The Large-Scale Partnership for the Digitalisation of the Energy Sector and deliverables. Dissemination activities within EDDIE Project which includes social media interactions, exploitation of the results, future events, and several actions on EDDIE's website were addressed in the 6<sup>th</sup> IAB meeting. During the meeting was presented the database of stakeholders, pilot activities, the blueprint strategy, and the future EDDIE-Entity in the European Framework.

The consolidation of the EDDIE entity is in line with the creation of a Large-Scale Partnership and a main outcome of the Blueprint. The Consortium is working to build this entity in the belief that it is their common interest to become members. Some of the members of the project have already confirmed their commitment to the entity such as COMILLAS, RWTH, NTUA, CRE and INNOENERGY.

During the meeting, some recent and very important actions were presented, including some policy briefs, concrete interactions in terms of contributions and prospect cooperations with other European initiatives and frameworks, such as CEDEFOP, ESCO and the Pact for Skills. In addition, the discussion underlined the Pact For Skills: Large-Scale Partnership for the Digitalisation of the Energy Sector. In this regard, EDDIE Project organised [1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Developing the "LARGE SCALE PARTNERSHIP FOR DIGITALISATION OF ENERGY"](#).

The 6<sup>th</sup> IAB meeting also underlined the progress regarding the sector skills strategy with the focus on the evaluation and comparison of the business models. The final version of the Strategy will have the primary objective as the creation of the EDDIE-ENTITY. The framework of this Entity is related to the energy transition to be accelerated in the European Union through the Fit for 55, REPower EU and the associated necessary skills to support EC'S Digitalization of Energy Action Plan, and education through Pact for Skills. The European Commission Action Plan for Energy with focus on digitalization and will support the energy transition. Moreover, the Pact for Skills is underlined in the framework of the Entity as the Education is recognised as a major challenge in both energy and digitalization sectors. The Blueprint Strategy must ensure sustainability after the project ends, becoming a major reference in education of the energy sector in the future. The Strategy will be framed with the Pact for Skills becoming a reference of education for energy transformed by transition and digitalization.

The important mission of the Blueprint strategy is that one of the final results will be the implementation of the “Training Programmes Marketplace” specialised in the digitalisation of the energy sector, which will integrate different project results such as the programmes template, the database, pilots, syllabus, etc. The consortium is working hard to design a prototype version of a platform for training programmes with user-friendly web interfaces.

The International Advisory Board plays a key role as an independent external quality consultant in the project, and it is providing requirements and inputs on goals and issues, monitoring project milestones, and supporting with final feedback on results and future expectations in other sectors and other blueprints. After this meeting an evaluation form was disseminated among the members of the IAB for strategic and important feedback and quality assessments of EDDIE work and research.

The digital transformation plays an important role in European Projects funded by the European Commission. [CRE](#) Association is constantly preoccupied to create synergies between the telecommunications, energy and transport sectors in terms of investments in ICT, Digitalization and Infrastructure.