



RE-SERVE PROJECT PLAYS AN ACTIVE ROLE AT THE BRIDGE INITIATIVE MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS

20 January 2017, Mihai MACARIE

RE-SERVE Project has been pro-actively involved in the two meetings recently organized within the framework of the BRIDGE Cooperation Group for Smart-Grid and Storage projects funded under Horizon 2020 and supported by the European Commission DG ENER and DG Connect. Coordination and exchanges on Business Models, Consumer Engagement, Data Management and Regulation were the key topics discussed by more than 80 participants during the individual Working Group meetings and the Coordination meeting organised between Tuesday 17 and Thursday 19 January 2017 at the European Commission DG ENER and DG GROW in Brussels.

RE-SERVE Project has been included in the agenda and presented during the first day of the BRIDGE Working Group on Regulation meeting, as well as in the Coordination meeting on the second day.

Dr. Mihai Paun, Vice-President of the Romanian Energy Center and leader of the Work Package “Regulatory, legal issues & business models for RES”, represented the RE-SERVE and presented the project focusing on expectations regarding the BRIDGE WG Regulations and on the RE-SERVE approach, technical, policy & regulatory Impact, as well as potential barriers and obstacles to innovation. RE-SERVE will play even a more active role in Bridge Regulatory WG, as Mihai Paun will act as the new “Rapporteur”.

*“Developing new techniques and solutions based on 5G technology to assist energy providers with: balancing the **voltage** and **frequency** of the power grid to maintain a stable power supply to society, while at the same time **increasing the proportion** of power generated by volatile renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind energy are the key objectives of the RE-SERVE Consortia”* highlighted Mihai Paun in the Coordination Working Group meeting. *“Our results will include **network code** and **ancillary services** definitions and will carefully address the **main regulations issues faced within the project**, including: developing new elements of harmonized set of rules expected to better address governance & regulatory issues of cross-border HV electricity flows and transactions in Europe, adequate to the challenging transition towards up to 100% RES integration and close coordination and communication with European TSOs.”* he concluded.

Bridge was established in November 2015 as a cooperation group for all LCE Smart-Grid and Storage projects funded under Horizon 2020. It is composed of four Working Groups: Business Models, Consumer Engagement, Data Management and Regulation. The coordination team consists of the chairs and rapporteurs of these four working groups, and Bridge meetings take place every six months. The aim of Bridge is to share knowledge, experience and best practice, and to allow projects to speak to the European Commission with one voice. Participation in Bridge also increases the profile of projects and provides dissemination opportunities. Since 2016 Bridge has grown from 17 projects, involving 242 individual organisations in 23 countries, to 29 projects involving 332 organisations in 29 countries (five outside of the EU). The total EC contribution to all projects is €237 million.

The Working Group Bridge Regulations aims to identify the main current regulation issues hampering innovative projects’ use cases & suggest future regulations to facilitate their deployment and to elaborate a set of experience-based recommendations for regulation issues for efficient integration of Storage and Smart Grids in Europe.

The European Commission presented at the BRIDGE Coordination event the package of measures published in November last year in order to keep the European Union competitive as the clean energy transition is changing global energy markets.



The Commission wants the EU to lead the clean energy transition, not only adapt to it. For this reason the EU has committed to cut CO2 emissions by at least 40% by 2030 while modernising the EU's economy and delivering on jobs and growth for all European citizens. The EC proposals have three main goals: putting energy efficiency first, achieving global leadership in renewable energies and providing a fair deal for consumers.

Consumers are active and central players on the energy markets of the future. Consumers across the EU will in the future have a better choice of supply, access to reliable energy price comparison tools and the possibility to produce and sell their own electricity. Increased transparency and better regulation give more opportunities for civil society to become more involved in the energy system and respond to price signals. The package also contains a number of measures aimed at protecting the most vulnerable consumers.

