

THE ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATED AT THE PLATONE PROJECT MIDTERM CONFERENCE

20th of September 2021, Carina Ioana ZIDARU

The representatives of the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) Association participated at the PLATone for Operation of distribution NETWORKS (PLATONE) Project Midterm Conference entitled "GROWING THE ENERGY TRANSITION", organized Online, on Tuesday, 14th of September 2021 and Wednesday, 15th of September 2021. The PLATone for Operation of distribution Networks Project is funded by the European Union (EU), through the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation (R&I) Programme.

PLATONE aims at defining new approaches to increase the observability of Renewable Energy Resources and of the less predictable loads while exploiting their flexibility. The Project will develop a two-layer platform for Distribution Network Operation and Market Operation creating a seamless integration of local prosumers in an open market structure. PLATONE Consortium gathers 12 Partners from Belgium, Germany, Greece and Italy which will develop advanced management platforms to unlock grid flexibility and to realize an open and non-discriminatory market, linking users, aggregators and operators. The solutions developed in the project will be tested in three European demonstration examples.

The PLATONE Midterm Conference "[Growing the Energy Transition](#)" on 14th and 15th of September 2021 was a great success. Above 180 participants joined the Virtual Conference and contributed to the important discussions. "Growing the Energy Transition" by PLATONE is an Event that aimed to boost knowledge sharing, know-how and expertise by discussing key topics of the present global transformation of the Energy Sector.

"Growing the Energy Transition" Day 1 highlighted the **Future of Flexibility and Digitalisation**. After a short input from the speakers, PLATONE Conference created an interesting dialogue that enabled an active discussion between the Participants, Speakers and the Project itself. In addition, participants were able to interact with the Italian PLATONE Demonstration.

"Growing the Energy Transition" Day 2 underlined the **Strategies for Consumer and Citizen Engagement in the Energy Transition**. Also, participants were able to interact with the German and Greek PLATONE demonstrations which gained insights into their unique local activities and set-ups.

To manage the Energy Transition, Distribution System Operators (DSO) require innovative tools. Volatile Renewable Energy Sources in combination with less predictable consumption patterns call for higher levels of observability and exploitation of flexibility. While these two challenges are traditionally treated with separate means, PLATONE proposes an innovative approach to a joint data management for both.

Innovation projects are a priority for **CRE** Association, for its Members and for all entities that have related concerns in this field. CRE is in a continuous development and aims to successfully implement the eleven European Projects, funded by the European Commission (EC) through the H2020 and Erasmus+ Programs, in which it is a member, together with its partners. After six years of intensive activity of the [Innovation and Development Department](#), CRE is among the top ten Romanian Organizations from over three thousand entities that managed to win European funding, with a total exceeding four million euros, according to the [statistics](#) of the EC.

CRE already implemented five European H2020 Projects: [SUCCESS](#), [RESERVE](#), [NRG5](#), [WISEGRID](#) and [SOGNO](#) and is currently implementing other five projects: [CROSSBOW](#), [PHOENIX](#), [TRINITY](#), [EDDIE](#), [EDGEFLEX](#) and will start [CYBERSEAS](#) in October this year.

CRE Association is an active and strategic partner together with its members and other potential members of the International Consortium for the implementation of multiple Energy Projects funded by the EC.

