

## THE ROMANIAN ENERGY CENTER ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTED AT THE 5<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDDIE PROJECT

16<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, Carina ZIDARU

The representatives of the Romanian Energy Center (CRE) Association participated and contributed at the 5<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, 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. Members who participated for the first time in an IAB meeting as representatives from EIT InnoEnergy and EERA were gladly welcomed. 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). CRE Association expanded its Research and Innovation portfolio, in 2020, through the European Project [EDDIE](#), funded by the European Commission (EC) under the ERASMUS+ Program.

The 5<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, 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 5<sup>th</sup> IAB meeting. During the meeting was presented the database of stakeholders, pilot activities, the blueprint strategy, the future EDDIE-Entity in the European Framework and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quality Assessment report.

During the meeting, some recent 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, for the trial site demonstrations, five entities have designed some pilot activities, to be developed in Germany (Aachen, Herne, and Cologne), Greece, Italy and Spain, to test diverse aspects of the design of the Strategy. The activities detailed in the presentation cover a range of activities (MOOCs, Summer schools, Vet training, etc.) and EQF levels (1 – 8).

Moreover, the 5<sup>th</sup> IAB Meeting underlined a new European framework within the Digital Action Plan for Energy, which offers a great opportunity in the field of Education and training of skills in the Energy Sector. In this context, EDDIE Project was referenced in the framework of the “Digitalising the Energy System - EU Action Plan” which was released on 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 by the European Commission. The Action Plan is very important and relevant for EDDIE for the development of the long-driven sector skills strategy and the creation of a large-scale partnership on digitalization of the energy value chain strongly linked with the future entity, proposed by the Blueprint Erasmus+ project.

The 5<sup>th</sup> IAB meeting also highlighted 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 important mission of the [EDDIE-ENTITY](#) is to become the reference body for skills education in the Digitalization of the European Energy Sector. Its main activity will be to provide a platform to share training or disseminate skills in the context of the digitalization of the energy system.

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.

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.