

SUMMARY OF THE 32ND IETS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 18-19 MAY 2021 ONLINE (TEAMS)

Also this ExCo meeting had to be performed as an online event due to the Covid-19 situation. The online meeting was set up by the IETS Secretariat from the premises in Gothenburg, Sweden. The meeting lasted from 14.00 – 18.00 on both days (instead of two full days.)

ExCo members (delegates and/or alternate delegates) from nine member countries (Norway not present), three sponsors, representatives from the IEA Secretariat and the EUWP, most Annex Managers and the IETS Secretariat staff participated in the meeting. The theme for the preceding workshop was communication and dissemination in IETS countries.

SUMMARY OF THE EXCO MEETING

The IETS TCP has adopted a new legal text (approved in February) – based on the new IEA Framework for the Technology Collaboration Programme. This will entail a shift in terminology for the Annex/Task work. What has up to now been known as “Annexes” will be called “Tasks”, which will be in line with all other TCPs. A Task can be divided into subtasks – in sequence or parallel – and a subtask into activities. The IETS website and all templates will be updated accordingly.

One major new activity was decided during the meeting, i.e., to organize an open conference (be held late spring or early autumn 2022), covering important areas of the IETS work for decarbonization. Furthermore, new activities in the following areas were proposed and will be further discussed: Process Integration, Industrial Symbiosis, Experiences with Demo Plants for Deep Decarbonization and Databank for Industrial Systems.

Status reports, including proposals for new activities were given from all current Tasks:

Task XI (new name: Industry-based biorefineries towards sustainability) has continued working in the new task - “Decision Support Tools and Ex-Ante Research for Evaluating Bioeconomy Transformation Strategies”. Some take away messages:

- Evolving well and continually under the direction of the Task Steering Committee.
- The subtask on "DSS and ex-ante research" is currently initiating, following a successful 2-part workshop: “Strategic Decision-Making for Deep Decarbonization: Powered by Systems Engineering”.

- Two more subtasks are to be initiated in the coming year on (1) Biorefineries and Net Zero Emissions, and (2) the Circular Bioeconomy
- Collaboration across IETS and other IEA Tasks.

Task XIV (Energy-efficiency in the Iron and Steel Industry) was put on hold but is now planning for a restart, based on the [IETS Survey of technologies](#) and the [IEA Iron and steel technology roadmap](#). A workshop with IEA Secretariat, Annex Manager and country experts, with the following objectives, will be held:

- To present research and development work in participating countries
- To identify areas of common interest
- To identify possible collaboration activities

Annex XV (Industrial Excess Heat Recovery) is working according to plan and the current subtasks will be completed this year. Work planned for 2021:

- Continue the ongoing subtask activities and deepen the recently established matrix of project contributions of the individual subtasks.
- Elaborate and answer detailed research questions in the individual subtasks regarding: Methods combination | Consequences for future changes | Operational aspects | Risk assessment
- Conclusions from different viewpoints of all projects of the participating countries.
- Compilation of a Synthesis Report.

Annex XVI (Energy Efficiency in SMEs) delivered a revised version of the Final Report earlier this year, which was approved and posted at the IETS website. The Annex is now closed.

Task XVII (Membrane processes in biorefineries) is working according to plan with numerous participants from both industry and academia/institutes. So far, this year, two papers have been published in peer-reviewed international

journals and one presentation has been held at an international conference. Upcoming activities are:

- Subtask B (Integration and optimization) meeting and mapping.
- Subtask E (Emerging membrane processes) guideline development.
- Task Meeting, October 2021 (online)
- Task Meeting, November/December 2021 (at the Euromembrane conference)

Task XVIII (Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence and Related Technologies for Energy Efficiency and GHG Emissions Reduction in Industry) had submitted a Final Report from the first subtask. Some minor changes were proposed by the reviewer.

Work planned for 2021 – 2022:

- Continue to follow up with interested participants to the tasks for official involvement with projects.
- Relaunch discussions with other potential participants (target countries such as Germany and the US).
- Organize virtual meetings for the selection of projects within the new subtasks
- Organize meetings for the official launch of each subtask.
- Organize and hold working group meetings for each subtask
- Finalize subtasks 2, 3 and 4 proposals and submit them for review by IETS ExCo.
- Present the annex overview at the IETS ExCo meetings.

Task XIX (Electrification in Industry) has delivered a revised version of the Final Report from Task 1, which was approved by ExCo. The continuation (2021-2023) will follow the legal text and the multi-year plan formulated in phase 1:

- Develop a platform for the exchange of lessons learned: share best practices, methodologies and approaches international meetings. Building and strengthening the international ecosystem on industrial electrification.
- Focus on system integration: impact on the industry and energy system, sector coupling and cost & value of flexibility.

Task XX (Knowledge sharing on Industry Transition Roadmaps) has held bilateral meetings with interested parties and performed an informative workshop session on May 6th. The official kick-off will be in September.

Task XXI (Decarbonizing industrial systems in a circular economy framework) was kicked-off on April 28th. Current subtasks are:

- Definitions & metrics
- Integrative modeling
- Industrial carbon technologies and systems
- Industrial Symbiosis
- Exchange with other IEA TCPs and IETS Annexes

ExCo decided to invite IFM Engage - Institute for Manufacturing, UK and National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), US as sponsors for participation in Task XIX Electrification in industry.

The following Topic Sheets will be published:

- Industrial Electrification
- Strategic evaluation (Ex Ante)
- EUWP Webinar on Deep Decarbonization in Industry

The next IETS ExCo Meeting will take place late November 2021, location TBD. In addition, ExCo decided to have short online meeting in between regular meetings – typically late September and early March.

SUMMARY OF THE WORKSHOP: “COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION”

The IETS Secretariat presented current communication & dissemination activities and some possible new ways of communicating with stakeholders.

All country delegates (not were asked to present three slides:

- Organisation, Role of National Support Groups (NSGs)
- Success stories & failures
- Ideas for improvement

Conclusion: Good ways of working in all countries – although different. Hopefully, the presentations have raised ideas for even more improvements.

Some ideas for better dissemination and for collecting participants when starting a new annex:

- Post more one LinkedIn (page and group)
- Bring different experiences into the NSG, since the technology challenges are difficult.
- Invite to workshops/seminars about new annexes.
- Better descriptions at the website.
- More networking nationally
- Organise a common meeting for the all the (national) NSGs.