



Public Newsletter April 2021 # 1

News, Events and networking activities

The aim of this public newsletter is to broadcast our events and boost our networking, joint actions and cooperation activities. It provides key information about events and news related to our VPP4ISLANDS project.

VPP4ISLANDS was officially launched

We are proud to announce that the #VPP4ISLANDS (virtual) kick-off meeting organized by Aix-Marseille University took place on 22 and 23 October. All partners were represented to make this great project successful. The two-days event has been a great opportunity for partners to get to know each other as well as to discuss the work to be done throughout the project lifetime.



Project information

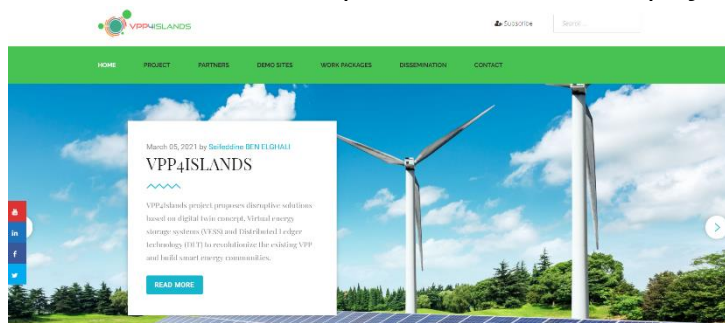
Overall project budget: 7 223 108,75 €
EU contributions: 6 119 378,75 €

Start date: 1 October 2020
End date: 31 March 2024
Duration: 42 months

contact@vpp4islands.eu

Official project website just launched

The project website is available online ! It will be the main source of information about the project available to the target audience and the wider island community, and it will be maintained at least three years after its completion. It contains all relevant information, project results and publications, which are available for download. On the www.vpp4islands.eu website it is also possible to subscribe to the project newsletter in order to receive news and updates relevant for the project.





VPP4ISLANDS has been selected by the European Commission to contribute to the BRIDGE Working Groups, topics and sessions.

BRIDGE General Assembly (GA) took place on 2nd, 3rd and 4th of March, **virtually**, presenting the latest developments of the initiative.

The BRIDGE Initiative helped to connect engaged members and relevant Smart Grid and green Energy, Islands, and Digitalisation Projects to create a structured view of cross-cutting priorities. Also, it allows to better understand the challenges and identify the barriers, that will be encountered in the real-setting demonstrations and may slow down the achievement of our goals.

In 2021, 22 new European projects have joined BRIDGE initiative, participated in the discussions related to the green energy transition and contributed to the elaboration of novel EU directives by innovating the EU's energy system and sharing their best practices.

Dr. Seifeddine BEN ELGHALI (Project Coordinator from Aix Marseille University) has presented the consortium, the objectives, the solutions and the impacts of the project during the "Day 1: Plenary" of the BRIDGE GA. He has also introduced the key synergies and possible contributions linked to the activities of H2020 BRIDGE.

Through [BRIDGE](https://www.h2020-bridge.eu/), VPP4ISLANDS intends to learn from existing project results and establish closer **cooperation** and **joint actions** with European stakeholders.

Source: <https://www.h2020-bridge.eu/>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 957852



VPP4ISLANDS representatives for the Working Groups :

DATA MANAGEMENT:

Dr. Dominic Heutelbeck (FTK)
Dr. Ioannis Dontas (BC2050)

REGULATIONS:

Dr. Mehmet Koç (UEDAS)
Dr. Stefano Bianchi (ALWA)

CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT:

Dr. Oral Kaya (TROYA)
Dr. Habib Nasser (RDIUP)

BUSINESS MODEL:

Dr. Habib Nasser (RDIUP)

The BRIDGE initiative is structured with four permanent Working Groups (WGs):

1. Data Management,
2. Regulation
3. Customer Engagement
4. and, Business Model,

The WGs are charged with preparing reports and formulating recommendations for the European Commission on various themes linked to the future of the energy sector.

RDIUP, ALWA, BC2050, FTK, UEDAS and TROYA have participated in the WGs to facilitate the uptake of technologies and accelerate the exchange of information, experience, lessons learned, knowledge and best practices with other members.



Data management

The Working Group on Data Management is working on:

- Communication Infrastructure, embracing the technical and non-technical aspects of the communication infrastructure needed to exchange data and the related requirements, including issues faced by TSO and DSO
- Cybersecurity and Data Privacy, entailing data integrity, customer privacy and protection
- Data Handling, including the framework for data exchange and related roles and responsibilities, together with the technical issues supporting the exchange of data in a secure and interoperable manner, and the data analytics techniques for data processing



Business models

The Working Group on Business Model aims at:

- Defining common language and frameworks around business model description and valuation
- Identifying and evaluating existing and new or innovative business models from the project demonstrations or use cases
- The development of a simulation tool allowing for the comparison of the profitability of different business models applicable to smart grids and energy storage solutions is being developed and tested by the Working Group members



Regulations

The Working Group on Regulation is working on the following topics:

- As regards energy storage, the regulatory framework needs to provide clear rules and responsibilities concerning ownership, competition, technical modalities and financial conditions, for island and mainland cases
- In terms of smart grids, regulatory challenges arise regarding the incentives for demand-side response, commercial arrangements, cooperation with TSO and DSO, smart meter date, etc.



Customer engagement

The Working Group on Customer Engagement is working on:

- Customer Segmentation, analysis of cultural, geographical and social dimensions
- Value systems – Understanding Customers
- Drivers for Customer Engagement
- Effectiveness of Engagement Activities
- Identification of what triggers behavioral changes (e.g. via incentives)
- The Regulatory Innovation to Empower Consumers

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