



Press Release

Six New Horizon Europe Projects Strengthen HEDNO's Presence in European Research and Innovation

Six new research projects under the European Horizon Europe programme, in which HEDNO is participating, have been approved for funding by the European Commission and are currently at the contracting stage, with their launch expected in the fourth quarter of 2026.

Through these projects, HEDNO will collaborate with Distribution System Operators, universities, research organizations and companies from across Europe to develop and pilot new technologies that address the evolving needs of electricity Distribution Networks. Participation in these projects further strengthens HEDNO's presence in European research programmes and creates additional opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the assessment of innovative solutions under real-world operating conditions.

The energy transition is fundamentally reshaping the role of Distribution System Operators. The continued growth of electricity generation from Renewable Energy Sources, the increasing uptake of e-mobility, the development of energy storage and the more active participation of consumers are creating new requirements for the planning and operation of electricity networks. In this context, research and innovation are key tools for developing and evaluating technologies that can contribute to the digital transformation and modernization of the Distribution Network.

The activities of the new projects focus on three key areas:

Generative Artificial Intelligence (Generative AI)

The **GENESIS-EU** and **GenAISIS** projects are developing tools for data utilization and decision support, with the aim of improving the planning and operation of energy systems.



Digital Substations

The NEXTELAR and GRID-PRO projects focus on the development of the next generation of distribution substations, leveraging technologies such as digital substations, digital twins and artificial intelligence to enhance network observability, resilience and flexibility.

Energy Communities

The EU4ENER and ESTIRPE projects explore new solutions to strengthen Energy Communities, facilitating the active participation of citizens and local stakeholders in energy generation, management and exchange, while also enabling better utilization of the flexibility they can provide to the electricity system.

Through its participation in the new Horizon Europe projects, HEDNO is further strengthening its contribution to European research efforts aimed at developing the Distribution Networks of the future. At the same time, HEDNO is gaining access to new knowledge and advanced technologies, which it will assess under real-world operating conditions, contributing to the digital transformation, enhanced resilience and modernization of Greece's electricity Distribution Network.

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Press Office