

2ND ROUND - JOINT CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST 2020: DIGITAL PLATFORM PROVIDERS FOR ENERDIGIT PROJECTS

2nd round - Joint Call for Expression of Interest 2020 for Digital Platform Providers

Thanks to the great interest, the European [Joint Programming Platform ERA-Net Smart Energy Systems](#) (JPP ERA-Net SES) is pleased to announce the **2nd round for the Call for Expression of Interest 2020 for Digital Platform Providers (DPP)**. The Call for Expression of Interest has been launched 28 September 2020 and closes 30 October 2020.

The overall objective of the Joint Programming Platform ERA-Net Smart Energy Systems (JPP ERA-Net SES) is to support transnational research and innovation activities for building a sustainable energy society. The programme aims at contributing to:

- Advancing the green energy transition in all sectors of the energy system while ensuring security of supply;
- Shaping new transnational business and investment opportunities by sector coupling and development of new value chains in innovative and cost-effective energy solutions;
- Ensuring social sustainability in the development of the green energy transition.

Scope and Ambition

In late 2020, the JPP ERA-Net SES launched its new focus area “EnerDigit” in close cooperation with the Mission Innovation initiative. By doing to, JPP ERA-Net SES is establishing a strong innovation eco-system. It aims at building bridges in the entire innovation chain by involving partners from the ICT domain, business development and governmental institutions, start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as financiers and funders. To that end, a broad activation and matchmaking process has already been launched.

This second round call of Expression of Interest again addresses Digital Platform Providers (DPPs) as partners in the matchmaking activities. It seeks for yet further ICT partners that offer technologies and services or parts of solutions that help build intelligent energy system that potentially link to other digital eco-systems. Such DPPs shall provide hardware and/or software and knowledge for research, development and demonstration (RDD) projects funded in the framework of JPP ERA-Net SES. DPPs often provide solutions on all or specific hardware and software layers, thus defining their individual platform architecture. Often the architecture layers differentiate as follows:

- business applications (“apps”), which are designed for end-users such as for instance energy cost analysis
- high level services supporting software units for specific business cases in the field of smart energies
- domain specific enablers including specific software components for a specific usage-area (e.g. the energy system, for instance a smart meter data manager)
- generic enablers, which are usage-area independent, such as a set of IoT management services
- physical components including control hardware such as smart meters or charging stations on the very bottom or the physical components that host a human-machine interface.

Qualified DPPs are already introduced on the ERA-Net SES webpages (<https://www.eranet-smartenergysystems.eu/>) of the program. So called Information Cards describe the solutions and services provided by each DPP. For a DPP there are multiple ways to get connected to JPP ERA-Net SES and its projects, e.g.

- DPP can enter a consortium of a project to apply for funding. JPP ERA-Net SES operates a matchmaking platform and organizes physical and virtual co-creation events where a DPP meets candidates to form such a consortium.
- DPP can refrain from entering a project consortium and instead enter into bilateral relations with one or multiple projects to use or incorporate their platform services. Again, co-creation events may be the opportunity to show the offerings and join with project consortia.

The Qualification Criteria

As in the first round, qualify as a partner for the Digital Platform Providers Program in the current open call of the JPP ERA-Net SES, an applicant needs to fulfil the following basic criteria:

- offers a solution on the market or with very high technology and market readiness level (TRL>=8, MRL>=8)
- provides well defined interfaces (API) to access the building blocks of the platform
- offers support for the deployment of the solution in multiple JPP ERA-Net SES projects
- will share information about experiences in existing implementation eco-systems, e.g. living lab, medium or large-scale trial site¹
- is open to cooperate with the JPP ERA-Net SES coordination and call management.

Benefits for Partners of the Digital Platform Provider Program

The partners of the DPP Program mainly benefit from:

- high visibility via formal descriptions of the value propositions on the DPP platform
- exclusive matchmaking offerings
- early and exclusive access to projects and their results (even without being a project partner).
- opportunities to help framing key messages and recommendations of the initiative.

Time Schedule

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| Call opening | 28 September, 2020 |
| Advisory period | 28 September – 30 October, 2020 |
| Deadline for registration of Expressions of Interest | 30 October 2020, 16:00 CET |
| Deadline for qualification feedback | 6 November, 2020 |
| Publication of Information Cards on web platform | Mid November, 2020 |

Submission of Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interests must be submitted electronically **no later than 30 October, 2020 16:00 CET** by filling in the form behind the following link: <https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/10FA479E5B54D54E>

Note: There is another Call for Expressions of Interest for Transnational Validation Network open simultaneously with this call. Participation in both calls is allowed and both roles, i.e., partner in the Validation Network and a listed Digital Platform Provider, are possible for a single organisation if the qualification criteria for both are met.

More Information and Advice

For more information and advice for preparing your Expression of Interest, please contact the Support Team of the ERA-Net SES via office@eranet-smartenergysystems.eu.

¹ Note: A DPP can in parallel or instead apply for the Transnational Validation Network targeting Living Labs and Test Beds.