



GreenShift

Securing the European Green transition through
Research, Business and Government Collaboration

Green Shift in the North Sea region

Fostering dialogue, collaboration, and research & innovation in the pursuit of a sustainable energy future

Norway House, Rue Archimède 17, B-1000 Brussels, 30 January 2024, 9:00 – 12:30

The green transition requires an unprecedented transformation of Europe's energy sector. European competitiveness and an extensive deployment of infrastructure will be crucial elements of this transformation, with multilateral and cross-border collaboration as key enablers. Both dimensions have a common denominator: the need for large investments.

The ramp-up of investments in decarbonisation technologies such as renewables, hydrogen, and CCS, provides unique possibilities to a European business sector that has been at the forefront of technology development over the last decades. The focus must now include market rollout in addition to continued innovation efforts. In addition to constituting a major business opportunity, such investments are a key ingredient in deep decarbonisation of the European energy system, and a catalyst for the development of the integrated energy system.

Research and innovation are powerful tools for realising industrial value- and job- creation as well as an integrated, decarbonised energy system. Innovation increases the business sector's competitiveness. Enhanced knowledge in combination with digitalisation will bring down costs and improve efficiency. This can provide a crucial edge to European businesses in an increasingly competitive global market.

The second major transformative dimension is an extensive deployment of infrastructure for decarbonisation, e.g. for electricity, hydrogen, and CO₂. Characterised by up-front costs, a trans-boundary nature, and significant longer-term gains, substantial efforts are needed in the planning and implementation phases and transnational collaboration is essential. Research and innovation could also reduce investment and operational costs and unlock new possibilities such as high capacity, superconducting cables and hydrogen compressors with the capability of compressing large volumes at high pressure ratios.

Collaboration and strategic partnerships are more crucial than ever to enable the two transformative dimensions. To this end, pan-European research and innovation fosters collaboration across borders and between business and research actors. It utilises the collective European innovation capacity strategically built up over the last decades, and aligns national efforts in developing and deploying new technologies and value chains. In this way, synergies across European borders can be reaped to accelerate the transition.

At this GreenShift final event, we invite key stakeholders from business, government, research, and innovation to share perspectives and success stories. The aim of the event is to strengthen a shared vision of how pan-European – and particularly bilateral and multilateral – research and innovation collaboration can be enhanced and stronger underpin the European green transition. The event is by invitation only, and we encourage all participants to engage and participate in the discussions by asking questions to the panel.



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Programme

- 9:00 Registration, networking and refreshments
- 9:30 Welcome and introduction
- 9:45 Session 1: Research and innovation in securing the European green transition and industrial competitiveness
- Stakeholder perspectives - introductions
 - o Building European competitiveness through research and innovation
 - o Targeted research and innovation support to infrastructure developments for a decarbonized European economy
 - Panel dialogue
- Confirmed participants: Håkon Hauglie (Innovation Norway), Grete Tveit (Equinor)
- 10:40 Coffee break
- 11:00 Session 2: Political perspectives for pan-European research and innovation
- Participants:
- Terje Aasland, Norwegian Minister of Energy
 - Joanna Drake, Deputy Director General DG for Research and Innovation
- 11:45 Session 3: Bilateral and multi-lateral research and innovation collaboration
- Research and funder perspectives - introductions
 - Panel dialogue
- 12:25 Summary of event and outlook
- 12:30 End of event