

EU-SOLARIS Spain National Node Meeting

MINUTES

16 OCTOBER, 2024

Online meeting

MEETING CALLED BY	Ricardo Sánchez (CIEMAT-PSA)
MINUTE TAKER	Julián Blanco (CIEMAT-PSA)
ATTENDEES	Antonio Rovira (UNED) M ^a José Montes Pita (UNED) Gabriel Zsembiszki (ULL) Ruben Abbas (UPM) Marcelino Sánchez (CENER) José González (IMDEA) Cristobal Villasante (TEKNIKER) Antonio Acosta Iborra (U3CM) Elena Palomo (CIC-energiGUNE) Ricardo Sánchez (CIEMAT-PSA) Julián Blanco (CIEMAT-PSA) Diego Martínez (EU-SOLARIS ERIC)
ORGANIZATIONS ABSENT	UPC-CTTC

Meeting topics

TOPIC	Welcome
Welcome to the attendees by Diego Martinez (EU-SOLARIS Managing Director). All parties represented with the only exception of UPC.	
TOPIC #1	Introductory summary
Summary of main introductory statements made by Diego Martinez: - Countries participating: Spain, France, Germany, Cyprus + Portugal (observer) - Consortium of members focused on the joint development of their research infrastructures around CST, under an EU-promoted legal form (ERIC). EU-SOLARIS is neither a project, nor a company, nor a network. - Activities to be done by EU-SOLARIS: Calls focusing on RRII (HE's RRII Programme) always trying to involve as many partners as possible as 'Affiliated Entities' of the project - Activities not to be addressed: To participate in conventional R&D funding calls, competing with RTD partners at the ERIC	

- Every Member country contributes an annual fee (20 k€)
- Board of National Nodes: Spain is the most advanced country
- Internal project yearly call (45 k€). Applying consortia must include partners from at least three Member Countries
- Review of EU-SOLARIS running projects (Energytran, Cactus, RISEnergy, Solarize)

Further discussion. Main points:

- Marcelino Sánchez (CENER) asked about the possibility of collaborating on EU-SOLARIS ongoing projects. Diego commented on the lack of capacity of EU-SOLARIS needing the support of the associated organizations to perform the technical work. Therefore, such collaborations are needed but they should be defined at the moment of proposal preparation, including the partner as an affiliated entity. In-kind collaborations later on are also possible.

TOPIC #2

Status of Agreements associated to EU-SOLARIS

- Agreement for the Secondment of Ciemat Staff (Diego Martinez) to EU-SOLARIS ERIC. Agreement signed between CIEMAT and EU-SOLARIS on 15.12.2023.
- Agreement for the hosting of EU-SOLARIS ERIC at CIEMAT-PSA. After several iterations, final positive report has been received from the *Abogacia del Estado* (State Legal Service) early in October 2024. Final signature expected soon.
- National Node Agreement. It is still pending submission by CIEMAT to the State Legal Service, as it was decided (by CIEMAT) to process these agreements one by one (to avoid potential cross-interactions and possible additional difficulties). Potential possibilities to the duration of this agreement were presented and discussed.

No significant discussion here

TOPIC #3

Possible cooperation initiatives around Spanish National Node

- National Doctoral Colloquiums. One-two days replicating the activity organized by SOLLAB and SFERA projects during many years. Associated to specific topics. Possible partial financing of EU-SOLARIS to be checked.
- Mobility Program. Organization of a national mobility program using the umbrella of EU-SOLARIS. Proposal (to be analysed) of using the financing provided by EU-SOLARIS to projects to mobility activities instead. Proposal to be submitted to the General Assembly of EU-SOLARIS.
- National Network. To allocate the two previous activities and using the umbrella of EU-SOLARIS. The possibility to apply to suitable future national calls could be analysed.

Further discussion. Main points:

- Possibilities of using EU-SOLARIS to approach NREL and SANDIA Labs, identifying relevant topics of mutual interest (M. Sánchez CENER). The possibility can be explored and Ricardo Sánchez-CIEMAT commented that a very similar activity is already defined in the Task 1.5 of SOLARIZE project, so this financing can be used to try to approach US institutions, due to synergies higher than with other organizations (Marcelino).
- Use of infrastructures at national level. Possibility of financing short stays. The possibility and necessity to approach our Ministry to check and push for this possibility (suitable

program and call to finance it) was widely supported.

- Proposal (Jose Gonzalez IMDEA) of dissemination activities by including its logo in national congress and symposiums promoting a workshop around CST technologies, with a reduced cost to EU-SOLARIS. DLR has its own doctoral colloquium event, with a high success (Ricardo Sánchez). Any activity to be proposed should have a feasible replication in other EU-SOLARIS countries (Julian Blanco).

TOPIC #4	Action Items
	- 1. To check with our Ministry of Science the recovering of programs and calls supporting the access to national scientific infrastructures involving short stays of researchers (1 to 2 weeks). - 2. To check with the General Assembly of EU-SOLARIS the change of funding to own projects (current situation) to funding short stays at defined facilities instead. - 3. To check the possibility to organize a proposal to funding a national Network to finance networking activities which could include national doctoral colloquiums, and with the umbrella of EU-SOLARIS. - 4. To check the suitability of EU-SOLARIS presence at national congresses and symposiums.