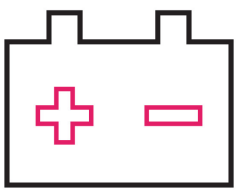
Mandate for Implementation Working Group on Batteries



Adopted by the Steering Group on

27 March 2026

The IWG Batteries[1] is established by the SET Plan Steering Group (SG) to support the implementation of the SET Plan in this technology area. The Scope of the Batteries IWG is to explore research and innovation in electrochemical cells and systems for electrical energy storage across its entire value chain[2], encompassing technological advancements, European manufacturing improvements, system integration, and critical raw materials management. The activities of the IWG adopt a full life-cycle approach — from cradle to grave — encompassing raw materials sourcing and processing, advanced materials and cell development, manufacturing and deployment, and end-of-life aspects including reuse, repurposing and recycling.

The Working Group shall, in principle, cover the full spectrum of applications, notably stationary energy storage and electromobility. Batteries should remain the main focus. Technologies like supercapacitors can be explored by the group where relevant. The Working Group is invited to cooperate with other SET Plan Working Groups as appropriate, particularly to address potential synergies and complementarities with other Energy storage technologies, for instance hybrid storage systems.

It works under the supervision of the SG to whom it reports regularly. To carry out its tasks, the IWG will benefit from the expertise, support and tools provided by the Commission (e.g., Joint Secretariats (CSAs), the SET Plan information system - SETIS, the Clean Energy Technology Observatory project, the Competitiveness Progress Report, workshops, events etc.).

The objective of the IWG on Batteries is to foster R&I cooperation and improve knowledge-sharing among SET plan countries, maximizing synergies, in their transnational, national and regional programmes for battery development. Through collaborative R&I on Batteries, the working group aims at supporting the SET Plan countries' energy and climate objectives, contributing to energy independence and technology sovereignty.

The IWG oversees the development of a 'Common Implementation and Investment Plan' (CIIP). The CIIP consists of a 1) Thematic Vision (TV), a 2) Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA), and 3) Implementation and Investment Commitments (IIC). The old Implementation Plans and SRIAs may act as a source of inspiration and content for this exercise. In this context, the IWG shall:

1. Develop a **Thematic Vision for the technology area** of Batteries, establishing ambitious and achievable short-term (up to 2030), medium-term (up to 2040), and long-term (up to 2050) goals on the development, manufacturing and market uptake of this technology in Europe.

The IWG will develop this Vision in close collaboration with industry and research stakeholders, in this case BEPA[3], Energy Storage EERA Joint Programme and, if possible, with Batteries IPCEI, by 15 May. It shall be based on solid evidence and foresight, and outline short-, medium- and long-term goals. The goals may include corresponding targets where relevant, such as but not limited to: technological

[1] As defined by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU)2025/1178 of 23 May 2025, LINK

[2] 1. Raw materials extraction and processing 2. Advanced materials processing, 3. Battery cell production. 4. Battery pack and module production (including BMS) 6. Integration of battery systems (including hybrid systems) 7. Recycling of batteries. 9. Second Life batteries

[3] BEPA acting as association representing industry & research sectors in the field relevant to the IWG.

performance, maturity and progress to commercialisation; manufacturing capacity in Europe; intellectual property metrics; and emissions reductions.

The resulting Thematic Vision will be submitted to the SG for discussion and endorsement. The SG can identify if additional evidence or analysis is required.

2. Oversee the stakeholder community's development of a European **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)** which aims to achieve the vision.

The IWG will entrust the development or update of a SRIA to industry and research stakeholders, represented by the BEPA[4] and Energy Storage EERA Joint Programme by 15th of October[5]. The SRIA shall identify the specific R&I priorities and activities, corresponding KPIs and the level of funding needed in Europe to achieve the Thematic Vision's goals. Where appropriate, the SRIA should also include recommendations on enabling framework conditions for manufacturing and market uptake (e.g., regulatory, fiscal, standardization) that should accompany and help realize the Thematic Vision's goals. This process may benefit from the input of the CETPartnership, Driving Urban Transitions Partnership, the European Energy Research Alliance, etc.

The resulting SRIA shall be well-aligned with the Thematic Vision and submitted to the SG for discussion and endorsement. The SG can identify if additional evidence or analysis is required.

3. Identify and collect **Implementation and Investment Commitments (IICs)** based on national and EU priorities.

The IWG will organise and steer the discussion among all relevant actors, using existing Structures, (EC, MS, industry, research organizations, academia[6]) on how to best implement the endorsed SRIA by 31st of March 2027. It will aim to build the broadest possible consensus on a common implementation approach (e.g., priorities, timing, resources) and will facilitate agreement on the allocation of efforts between public and private actors and identify their respective investment R&I commitments.

Monitoring and reporting on the progress of the **Common Implementation and Investment Plans (CIIP).**

The CIIP shall include a description of indicators for monitoring progress and identifying bottlenecks. This exercise will be based on the guidance devised by the Commission to ensure a level of comparability across the working groups. The IWG will then annually assess the progress made in the implementation of the CIIP by the different actors via the harmonised annual SETIS exercise. The Steering Group and the European Commission can identify potential gaps, lagging areas, and new/emerging issues in order to suggest a revision of the CIIP.

[4] BEPA acting as association representing industry & research sectors in the field relevant to the IWG.

[5] In some rare cases, IWGs might not have corresponding ETIPs. In these specific situations, the IWG can involve other stakeholder organisations involved in the SET Plan (i.e., partnerships, industrial association, dedicated technical sub-group of the IWG) to act as an ETIP, until a formal ETIP is set up and endorsed by the Steering Group or another structure is formally tasked to act as such by the Steering Group.

[6] For instance, the Batt4EU Partnership or its successor, whenever appropriate.