

## Project partners

The project consortium consists of EUA (project coordinator) and KU Leuven (project partner), representing the universities in EIT KIC InnoEnergy.



**KU LEUVEN**

**Project Partner**

### Third Party Consortium

Grenoble Institute of Technology  
(INP)

Jagiellonian University  
(JU)

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
(KIT)

Royal Institute of Technology  
(KTH)

Polytechnic University of Catalonia  
(UPC)



Some activities, for instance the profile identification workshops during the second phase of the project, will take place at the EIT KIC InnoEnergy co-location centres at universities throughout Europe. Each centre has a specific thematic focus: sustainable nuclear and renewable energy convergence; energy efficient buildings and cities; energy from chemical fuels; renewables, clean coal technologies; and smart grids.



**UNIVERSITIES IN THE SET-PLAN**

## Questions and further information

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**UNIVERSITIES IN THE SET-PLAN**

**Mobilising the research,  
innovation and educational capacities  
of Europe's universities  
in the SET-Plan**



**KU LEUVEN**



## UNI-SET at a glance

How can universities mobilise, facilitate and increase their involvement in the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)? This question, embracing all fields of knowledge, will be tackled by UNI-SET (UNiversities in the SET-Plan), a three-year FP7 project coordinated by the **European University Association** (EUA) and implemented jointly with **KU Leuven** representing the universities in EIT KIC InnoEnergy.

### Background

The European Union has set itself the goal to move towards a **low-carbon economy** within the next decades. In this process, universities play a **crucial role** in creating a secure, clean and efficient energy system: universities are active in **research and development** of knowledge applicable to all energy technologies in the economy and society, and they **educate researchers, engineers and professionals** who will be needed to implement the low-carbon economy.

UNI-SET aims at **identifying opportunities** for universities to engage in new research projects tackling energy-related challenges, and also to foster the creation of new Master programmes for better employability of university graduates. It seeks to **reduce fragmentation** of European universities' research, education and training capacities in addressing the societal challenge of the "energy transition".

In the long term, UNI-SET is intended to act as a **sustainable open platform** that mobilises universities and creates synergies between universities and other stakeholders in the SET-Plan process. The project builds upon the work developed by the European Platform of Universities Engaged in Energy Research (EUA-EPUE) and the expertise of EIT KIC InnoEnergy.

## Objectives

### Mapping Master, doctoral and research programmes

UNI-SET will develop web-based maps displaying the spread and diversity of energy research topics, doctoral and Master programmes in European universities. These maps will **increase the visibility** of the work of Europe's universities and will help interested parties to find research and energy-related education programmes suitable to their needs, and/or identify potential areas and partners to develop research and Master programmes to address gaps and missing areas. The collected information will be **relevant to research and innovation policies** at the European level.

### Facilitating cooperation

At a series of five clustering events during the second phase of the project, institutional and research leaders in universities and other interested stakeholders will have the opportunity to meet and jointly establish new consortia to develop innovative Master, doctoral and research programmes in the energy field. UNI-SET also aims to create opportunities for **fostering multidisciplinary research** programmes and **clusters of excellence**, especially in partnership with eastern European countries.

### Involving the university sector in energy policy

UNI-SET seeks to pool the expertise of the university sector to participate in energy-related policy developments through SET-Plan consultative mechanisms, in which both EUA-EPUE and EIT KIC InnoEnergy are represented. Both organisations are observers in the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) and have established links with the European Industrial Initiatives (EIs).

## Activities

UNI-SET is implemented in two consecutive phases. The activities in the second phase will be designed to build upon the results of two surveys carried out during the first phase.

### First phase (2014-2015)

- A **mapping of university-based research and Master education** led by EUA-EPUE in the energy field, gathering data on Master, doctoral and research programmes at European universities. This unique set of data created by UNI-SET will not only allow identification of the activities in the area and disciplinary patterns, but also their geographical distribution, and thus the potential for future multidisciplinary research and new Master and doctoral programmes.
- A **professional profile identification survey** led by KU Leuven and the EIT KIC InnoEnergy partners, aiming at identifying high-level skills needed in business and other non-academic sectors, which can be addressed at Master and doctoral level. This survey will also give a perspective of job markets in the energy sector.

Outcomes will be merged to achieve in-depth understanding of research, education and training needs in the energy field.

### Second phase (2015-2017)

- A series of **clustering events**, where the results of both surveys will serve as the basis for discussions about new research and postgraduate education programmes in the energy field. These exchanges will also lay a foundation for continued participation of the university sector in European energy policy developments in general, and in the SET-Plan process in particular.