

IREC ^R

Shaping Energy for a Sustainable Future

**Institut de Recerca en Energia de Catalunya
(IREC)**

INTRODUCTION

Mission

Contribute to the **sustainable development** of society and enhance corporate **competitiveness** via:

- Innovation and the development of new technological products
- Mid- and long-term research
- Dissemination of scientific knowledge to citizens

Vision

Become a **centre of excellence** and an **international benchmark** organization in the energy field through **research, development and innovation**, working in coordination with the **administration, the industry** and the **academia**.



LOCATION

The IREC has three headquarters: Sant Adrià de Besòs, Barcelona and Tarragona.



Sant Adrià headquarters

- Advanced materials for energy (M2E)
- Energy SmartLab (ECOS)



Barcelona headquarters

- Energy efficiency. Systems, buildings and communities (ECOS)



Tarragona headquarters

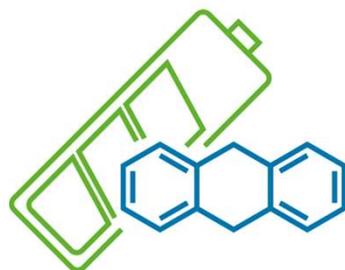
- Thermal energy and integration

AREAS OF EXPERTISE



Energy & Environment

- Renewable energy sources and integration to the grid
- Sustainable mobility
- Fusion energy
- Environmental impact



Energy Storage

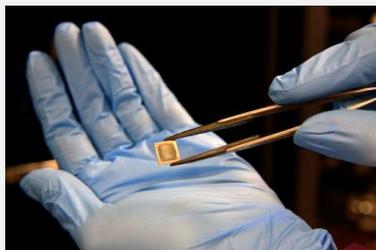
- Batteries
- Chemical storage
- Energy conversion
- Harvesting and other autonomous systems



Smart Energy Management

- Smart cities & districts
- Smart grids
- Distributed energy management and aggregators
- Energy efficiency in buildings

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNITS



ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR ENERGY (M2E)

- Functional nanomaterials
- Catalysis
- Materials for solar systems
- Nanoionics and fuel cells
- Hydrogen technologies
- CO₂ conversion
- Energy storage and harvesting
- Thermochemical conversion

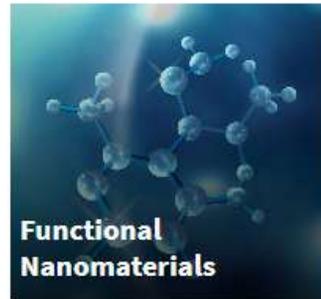


ENERGY EFFICIENCY: SYSTEMS, BUILDINGS & COMMUNITIES (ECOS)

- NZEB (Net Zero Energy Buildings and Communities)
- Integration of renewables
- Smart Grids and microgrids
- Electric mobility
- Economic analysis and regulation
- Energy systems analytics
- Wind energy (control/integration)

RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS

Advanced Materials and Systems for Energy Area



Energy Efficiency in Systems, Buildings and Communities Area



The Department aims to provide technical solutions (software and hardware) for the challenges of future electric grid, bringing innovation in aspects for a secure, resilient and RES-based electric system.



CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS



- LORA-technologies
- CyberSecurity
- PMU Systems
- Energy Cloud-based platforms
- Hardware development



OFFSHORE RENEWABLE ENERGY



- LCOE and LCA estimation
- Modelling of floating Systems
- Digital twin for O&M
- Advanced control (local and coordinated)



POWER ELECTRONICS



- Modelling and optimal design
- Multilevel converters
- Prototyping and test
- Multiport configurations and fault-tolerant



ELECTRICAL NETWORK



- State estimation & fault-location
- Resilience (risk assessment and mitigation)
- Grid operation & microgrids
- Advanced control (local and islanded)



ENERGY STORAGE



- Modelling and characterization
- Advanced BMS
- Advanced models
- Novel Integration schemes
- New battery configurations

GROUP'S CONTRIBUTIONS- COORDINATE



HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-25: Advanced TSO control rooms to enhance grid observability, stability and resilience

Contribution to any of the topics mentioned in the scope (observability, stability and resilience, hosting capacity)

Observability: Data-driven state estimation

Stability: Small-signal and transient stability analysis based on PMU data

Resilience: HILP modelling, infrastructure interdependence evaluation, fault diagnosis

HORIZON-CL5-2027-07-D3-26: Advanced Distribution Management Systems (ADSM) for more efficient and flexible distribution grids

Contribution to any of the topics mentioned in the scope (efficiency, flexibility, AI, congestion management)

Efficiency: Decision making tool for suggesting optimal grid reconfiguration.

Flexibility: Computation and integration of flexibility polytopes from flexibility providers into distribution grid planning and management.

Congestion management: Hosting capacity evaluation for planning purposes and in real-time

GROUP'S CONTRIBUTIONS- PARTNER



HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-18: Grid-forming capabilities for more resilient and RES-based electricity grids

Grid forming converters' modelling;
Studies on synthetic inertia placement in transmission grids;
Possibility to invite local DSOs for pilots;
Data-driven converter models extraction and system identification for inertia estimation.

HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-21: Novel solutions for off-grid storage of renewable energy for critical infrastructures

Off-grid energy hubs modelling considering multiple energy carriers.
Resilience studies of the infrastructure against different HILP events: cyber threats, droughts, typhoons etc

HORIZON-CL5-2026-05-D5-02: Energy-efficient software-defined EVs (2ZERO Partnership)

Development of vehicle-to-grid manager.
Optimal planning of V2G charging infrastructure.
Deep reinforcement learning (AI) for charging scheduling.

GROUP'S CONTRIBUTIONS- PARTNER



HORIZON-CL5-2026-03-D3-22: AI-driven forecasting algorithms for Grid and Consumer friendly Energy Sharing – Societal Readiness pilot

AI-driven generation and load forecasting, including EV availability.

Sharing coefficient calculations in energy communities based on generation and demand forecasting.

HORIZON-CL5-2026-11-D3-23: Data sharing to support the training and development of AI foundation models in the energy sector

Contribution to any of the use cases mentioned in the call: planning and operation of electricity grids (including static power flow modelling and dynamic EMT modelling), forecasting, congestion management, anomaly detection, fault diagnosis, predictive maintenance, flexibility management, demand-side energy efficiency, smart and bidirectional charging of EVs.

Power Hardware in the loop testing for data generation in our lab facilities.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



Flexible energy systems Leveraging the Optimal integration of EVs deployment
Wave - IREC- COORDINATOR

<https://theflowproject.eu/>

2022-2026

ID: 101056730

Main IREC Group: Energy System Analytics, Coordinator

PI: Josh Eischam

All IREC Groups: Power Systems, Energy System Analytics

FLOW tests, validates and enhances **user-centric V2X smart charging solutions** and their orchestrated **integration into energy grids** that deliver flexibility assets to favour additional penetration of renewables and alleviate energy grid challenges.

SCAPE

Switching-Cell-Array-based Power Electronics conversion for future electric vehicles -
IREC- COORDINATOR

2022-2026
<https://www.scapepower.eu/>

Main IREC Group: Power Systems, Àlber Filbà, Coordinator

All IREC Groups: Power Systems, Energy System Analytics

SCAPE's 4-year journey, powered by the European Union, aims to move towards the **standardization, cost reduction,** and increased **performance of power electronics** for next generation electric vehicles.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



<https://respondent-project.eu/>

2022-2025

Renewable Energy Sources Power Forecasting and Synchronisation for Smart Grid Networks Management

ID: 101082355

Main IREC Group: Power Systems, Partner

PI: José Luis Domínguez

At the heart of RESPONDENT's innovation lies the powerful integration of AI-driven forecasting algorithms with European space technologies like Galileo and Copernicus. By harnessing these systems, RESPONDENT delivers **accurate, real-time forecasts for solar and wind energy generation**, helping grid operators balance supply and demand more effectively. These tools not only enhance the reliability of renewable energy but also reduce dependence on fossil fuels, empowering Europe to meet its climate goals while safeguarding its energy independence.



<https://coldspark.eu/>

2022-2025

ColdSpark driven energy and cost-efficient methane cracking for hydrogen production

ID: 101069931

Main IREC Group: Energy System Analytics, Partner

PI: Victor Ferreira

The project will **develop and test a novel plasma reactor for production of hydrogen**, alongside high-value carbon, at low energy cost (< 15 kWh/kg H₂ produced) without the need for catalysts and water.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



NEVERFLAT

2025-2028

iNnovative EV-charging EnviRonment for Future Low-cost mAss deployment

ID: 101192973

Main IREC Group: Power systems (Partner)

NEVERFLAT aims to develop and demonstrate in real-life settings an **innovative, efficient, and user-friendly pervasive low-cost smart bi-directional charging infrastructure for electric vehicles (EVs)**, directly contributing to a specific strategic objective of the 2Zero Partnership - developing affordable, inclusive, user-friendly charging infrastructure concepts and technologies that include vehicle and grid interaction

REBORN

2025-2028

Reusable battery module and management system development for reliable 2nd life

ID: 101138031

Main IREC Group: Power systems (Partner)

<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101138031>

REBORN aims to minimize the post-characterization process on the battery packs received from 1st life, and achieve **faster screening and sorting based on smart strategies that combine the cell data identifiers from the cloud and ML sorting algorithms**. The project will target to mobility and stationary applications, and it will provide an agnostic and technology neutral, regardless of cell chemistry or form factor, modular design methodology. An end-user demonstrator will be built and evaluated in the relevant environment accounting for reconfigurable battery packs.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



<https://cleanhypro.eu/>

2023-2027

Open Innovation Test Bed for Electrolysis Materials for Clean Hydrogen Production

ID: 101091777

Main IREC Group: Nanoionics and Fuel Cells (Partner)

PI: Albert Tarancón

CLEANHYPRO gathers some of the **most recognised experts in Europe on the electrolysis field for clean hydrogen production and acknowledged facilitators of technology transfer, corporate finance, funding and coaching**, making available (i) the most promising and breakthrough manufacturing pilots and (ii) advanced characterization techniques and modelling together with (iii) non-technical services through this Test Bed: while relevant improvement metrics can be defined, the potential network of reachable stakeholders counts thousands of businesses on an international scale.



2024-2027

<https://ibattman.eu/>

Smart, Connected and Secure Battery Management System Enhanced by NextGeneration Edge and CloudComputing, Sensors and Interoperable Architecture

ID: 101138856

Main IREC Group: Power Systems (Partner)

PI: Lluís Trilla

iBattMan project unites leading European entities to revolutionise BMS technology. By **integrating novel sensors and advanced modelling**, iBattMan monitors SOH during operation and charging, enhancing performance and safety. This initiative aims for an innovative, scalable BMS applicable across various vehicles, from passenger cars to electric trucks.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



2023-2028

Research Infrastructure Services for Renewable Energy

ID: 101131793

Main IREC Group: Power Systems (Partner)

PI: José Luis Domínguez

FREE4LiB

2022-2026

Feasible recovery of critical raw materials through a new circular ecosystem for a Li-ion battery cross-value chain in Europe

ID: 101069890

Main IREC Group: Energy Storage, Harvesting and Catalysis (Partner)

PI: Jordi Jacas

All IREDC Groups: Energy Storage, Harvesting and Catalysis, Power Systems, Energy System Analytics

Recovery of lithium is a complicated process that the EU-funded FREE4LiB project aims to simplify. It will develop technologies to achieve six new sustainable and efficient processes to recycle end-of-life LIBs. The project will also deliver three processes aimed at reuse of metals and polymers and electrode synthesis for remanufacturing new LIB battery packs based on the design for recycling. The use of Battery Passports will overcome the current lack of access to open data in the LIB value chain.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



SPINMATE

ID:101069712

<https://www.spinmate.eu/> **Main IREC Group:** Energy Storage, Harvesting and Catalysis, Partner

2022-2026

A scalable and sustainable pilot line based on innovative manufacturing technologies toward the industrialization. SPINMATE aims to demonstrate a scalable, sustainable, safe, and cost-effective digital-driven proof-of-concept pilot line, at a Technology Readiness Level 6, as a first step towards the large-scale manufacturing of generation 4b (Gen 4b) SSB cells and module, to support the electrification of the automotive sector.n of solid-state batteries for the automotive sector

Nautical SUNRISE

Survivability assessment, cost redUction pathways and eNvironmental evaluation of offshoRe
Installed floating Solar energy farms

2023-2027

ID: 101135639

Main IREC Group: Power Systems (Partner)

PI: José Luis Domínguez

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



2022-2025

<https://heuintelligent.eu/>

Innovative and Sustainable High Voltage Li-ion Cells for Next Generation (EV) Batteries

ID: 101069765

Main IREC Group: Energy Storage, Harvesting and Catalysis, Partner

All IREC Groups: Functional Nanomaterials, Energy Storage,

Harvesting and Catalysis, Power Systems, Energy System Analytics

IntelLiGent will develop safe, sustainable, long-lasting generation 3b Li-ion batteries with high-voltage cathodes and high-capacity silicon-graphite anodes. IntelLiGent will design optimized electrode structures to achieve the energy density and fast charging targets

iPLUG

2022-2025

<https://iplug-he.eu/>

Distributed multiport converters for integration of renewables, storage systems and loads while enhancing performance and resiliency of modern distributed networks

ID: 101069770

Main IREC Group: Power Systems, Partner

PI: José Luis Domínguez

the iPLUG project, supported by the European Union, aims to create **innovative power electronics utilizing multiport converters**. These converters will enable the seamless integration of multiple renewable energy sources, energy storage systems, and loads into the distribution grid.

HORIZON EUROPE PROJECTS



<https://www.icaria-project.eu/>

2023-2025

Improving ClimAte Resilience of crltical Assets

ID: 101093806

Main IREC Group: Power Systems, Partner

PI: José Luis Domínguez

The ICARIA project will promote the use of a **comprehensive asset-level modelling framework to achieve a better understanding of climate-related impacts** produced by complex, compound and cascading disasters and the possible risk reduction provided by suitable, sustainable and cost-effective adaptation solutions.

SOMMER

2023-2027

Solar-Based Membrane Reactor For Syngas Production

ID: 101118293

Main IREC Group: Nanoionics and Fuel Cells (Partner)

PI: Marc Torrell

WeGenerate

2023-2027

Co-creating people-centric sustainable neighbourhoods through urban regeneration

ID: 101123546

Main IREC Group: hermal Energy and Building Performance (Partner)

Jaume Salom



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<https://www.irec.cat/>

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