

MINUTES

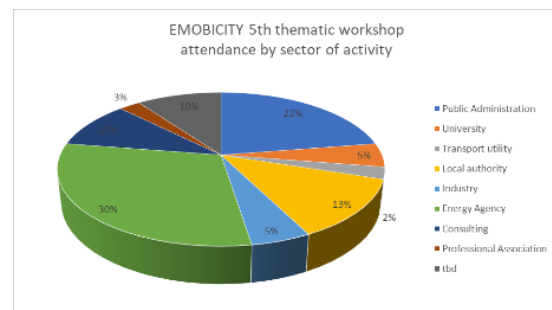
5th Thematic Workshop – “Integration of incentives in policy instruments to stimulate e-mobility by private users”

Introduction

The EMOBICITY project 5th workshop was organised by the Portuguese Energy Agency (ADENE), Project Partner 5, on July 8th 2021, on the topic “Integration of incentives in policy instruments to stimulate e-mobility by private users”. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 5th thematic workshop initially planned to take place in Lisbon (Portugal) took place online through Microsoft Teams.

Participants

All EMOBICITY project partners attended to the workshop, as well as the invited project stakeholders from several sectors of activity, namely public administration, energy agencies, local authorities, industry, professional associations, R&DT institutions, and consulting, which allowed to create a multidisciplinary group of policy and decision makers, adding up a total of 40 participants.



Welcome speech by ADENE and CRES

Mr. Nelson Lage, President of the Board of Directors of the Portuguese Energy Agency (ADENE) opened the event with a welcome speech, starting by referring the discussion topic - the integration of incentives in policy instruments to stimulate e-mobility of private users. Further on, Mr. Nelson Lage pointed out the main initiatives from the European Commission to make Europe carbon neutral, emphasising urban mobility as a vital component to meet EU climate policy targets to reduce GHG emissions. He also referred that e-mobility is an important theme addressed both by the Portuguese National Energy and Climate Plan and the Recovery and Resilience Plan, showing that Portugal is strongly committed to energy transition and sustainable mobility.

Mrs. Maria Zarkadoula, Head of the Environment & Transport Department from the Center for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (CRES) followed up with an introduction, giving an outline of the policies, programmes and initiatives that have been implemented in Greece, such as the Greek National E-mobility Plan, GO ELECTRIC and Astypalea island project. Furthermore, Mrs. Maria Zarkadoula presented a general overview of EMOBICITY goals, key achievements, and interregional capacity building, complemented with an update of the project's main outputs.

The workshop proceeded with the presentations of the project stakeholders on the topic of the workshop.

Presentations

Mr. Ioannis Tselikis, Head of the e-Mobility Office at the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy from Greece, presented the incentives for the promotion of e-mobility in Greece, structured in the 6 points: Go Electric Subsidy Plan, Tax Benefits, E-mobility Industrial Production Incentives, Vehicle Use Incentives, Astypalea - Smart & Sustainable Island, and the Recovery and Resilience Fund. Regarding the Go Electric Subsidy Plan, which is open to individuals, legal entities, and taxi owners until the end of June 2021, it was referred that it had more than 12.500 applications correspondent to 14.130 vehicles (passengers' cars, vans, e-bikes, e-taxi), also including smart domestic charging points, with a budget of 13 MEURO. On the other hand, it was mentioned the impact of incentives on the Greek electric vehicles market, stressing that the combination

of tax incentives and subsidy schemes led to encouraging results: during the first 5 months of 2021 it was 5,3%. As an utmost example of the Greek commitment to the promotion of e-mobility, it was presented an overview of the Astypalea project, an emblematic initiative to transform this island on an energy-autonomous region, producing energy exclusively from RES. This project also includes a subsidy scheme to support inhabitants, taxi owners and local enterprises to replace their conventional cars with electric ones. Finally, it was referred the Recovery and Resilience Fund, that will have subsidies schemes to develop publicly accessible charging points in cities, as well as in airports, motorways, ports and in private parking areas (e.g., supermarkets, malls) and to strengthen the industrial production of e-mobility components.

Mr. Aleksandar Halavanja, Head of the Department for Systematic Energy Management of the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (EPEEF) from Croatia, focused his presentation on the Croatian policy on e-mobility incentives. The presentation started with a brief explanation of the EPEEF role and experience in financing, followed by a comprehensive framework of the existent financial incentives for e-mobility under three main policy instruments: Low-Carbon Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, Energy Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia and Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan. In this context, 2021 was considered as a turning point with new incentives' models, that will have a significant increase in available funds, as well as promote the participation of all stakeholders and open the cooperation of other market agents. A total of 14 MEUROS is available to support citizens, legal persons, and the public sector in the acquisition of EV. As a global remark, it was mentioned that *"Faster transition can be achieved by further market development (availability of more vehicles), normalization of prices and continuous improvement of the incentive allocation mode"*.

Mr. Ion Margineanu, Counsellor of the Romanian Automotive Manufacturers and Importers Association (APIA) from Romania, emphasized the importance and the role of the electric vehicle as a policy tool to mitigate air pollution. In line with this, it was mentioned that the national level objectives for Romania, among others, forecast to have 80.000 electric vehicles and 8.000 recharging stations by 2025, and to double the size of the electric and hybrid public transportation bus fleet, as well as to replace ICE powered vehicles by electric or hybrid ones. To achieve these goals, legislative proposals and mechanisms should include financial incentives for vehicle purchase, deployment of the charging infrastructure, and conceptualization and elaboration of a national regulatory framework for low emission zones. Furthermore, it was also underlined that the transition from ICE to EV involves job increase and the development of the list of competencies and skills, thus creating new jobs (surplus of jobs of about 8%). For that purpose, and to foster interregional cooperation, two e-mobility projects are being developed (DRIVES and Albatts), aiming to identify future skills, competencies, and jobs, and to develop a flexible workforce in the automotive industry.

Ms. Joana Ferreira Rita, Director of the Azorean Directorate for Energy from the Azores Autonomous Region (Portugal), presented the improvements and impacts resulting from the e-mobility incentives that exist in the Azorean region. Starting with an institutional framework, and an overview of the energy sector in Azores, the presentation proceeded with a comprehensive explanation regarding the financial incentives for e-mobility. After this, the main planning instruments concerning e-mobility in Azores were detailed, as well as the strategy and plan for e-mobility implementation. Further on, after presenting the data related to the existing public network of charging stations, the focus was on the tax benefits and financial incentives that range from deduction of VAT, and exemption from single road tax and tax return, to grants from the Portuguese Environmental Fund for the acquisition of electric vehicles. The last ones are cumulative with regional incentives and can go up to 3.000€ for passenger vehicles. It was underlined that the support from regional incentives is for single persons and companies and varies from 500€ for EV charging stations, to 4.500€ for passenger cars. To illustrate the impact of the public policies in Azores, it was highlighted that from 2016 to 2020 the total number of EV purchased was 386, being 150 purchased in 2020 alone. Furthermore, it was mentioned the Graciosa island project, as an intelligent electrical ecosystem, based on the sustainable use of the natural resources and an optimised network integration, which also have all the requisites to promote and implement e-mobility.

Mr. Ulrich Erven, Head of Electromobility Hesse, State Energy Agency Hesse (LEA) from Germany, started by presenting LEA's mission, that is to support energy transition and climate protection, through the promotion



of innovative sustainable technologies, energy efficiency measures for companies and funding of energy efficiency projects and initiatives. Considering this, the support of innovative e-mobility is a key issue, as it is fundamental to boost economy (e.g., leading market for electric cars) and to protect the environment (e.g., promote decarbonization). The Paris climate agreement defined that, by 2035, new cars cannot have local CO₂ emissions, and the solution for this will be (mainly) the use of electric vehicles. Based on this, e-mobility is developing well, with an increasing market share: in the Hesse Region, it is expected to rise from 5% in 2020 to 22% in 2022, which is a remarkable achievement. There are also some e-mobility incentives, that can reach up to 9.000€ for an EV purchase and 900€ for a charging wallbox. Additionally, it was mentioned that a relevant part of EV motors are produced in the Hesse Region, being an important factor for the regional development, as well as to enhance e-mobility. Further on, it was performed an overview of the developed programmes, projects and initiatives managed/coordinated by LEA, namely the projects eLotse (e-mobility training for municipalities) and eCoach (consultancy for bus operators/ municipalities), the regional and federal funding programmes (electric buses, electromobility-innovations/R&D and loading infrastructure) and H₂ projects (buses and trains). Finally, a reference was made to the ELISA project, taking advantage of Hesse being a leading transport hub for Europe, this project aims to charge electrified trucks on motorways through innovative technologies.

Ms. Catarina Selada, from the Centre of Engineering and Product Development (CEiiA) from Portugal, presented the e-mobility model and Action Plan for the future, with emphasis on incentives to stimulate e-mobility by private users. After a short note about CEiiA experience, know-how and proficiencies, it was detailed the integrated mobility solutions already developed by them (mobility devices, platforms, and connectivity devices), as well as the Portuguese e-mobility program. One of the main points reported was that Portugal has the 1st nationwide interoperable charging network, with more than 1.800 charging points, from which more than 300 are fast or ultra-fast. On the other hand, it was the first real-time management and monitoring system for urban mobility, expected to deal with a fleet of almost 30.000 EV. Regarding the incentives for e-mobility, it was pointed out that they are structured in 5 categories: financial incentives, tax breaks, municipal incentives, EV charging infrastructure and innovative incentives. Afterwards, it was featured a CEiiA initiative, the AYR rewarding system, which aims to act as an incentive for the adoption of e-mobility and is based in 3 pillars: *Quantification* (CO₂ emissions), *Valorization* (avoided CO₂ emissions) and *Exchange* (green goods and services to reward citizens). As an example, it was mentioned a pilot project of public bike sharing services carried out in Matosinhos city (North region), which had also a strong decarbonisation strategy. The main impacts of AYR Platform were 17,6 tonnes of CO₂ avoided, 25.000 users involved and 191.310 km covered. To complete this, there is an app that functions as a support to AYR, being a multi-sided platform that provides added value solutions to e-mobility issues.

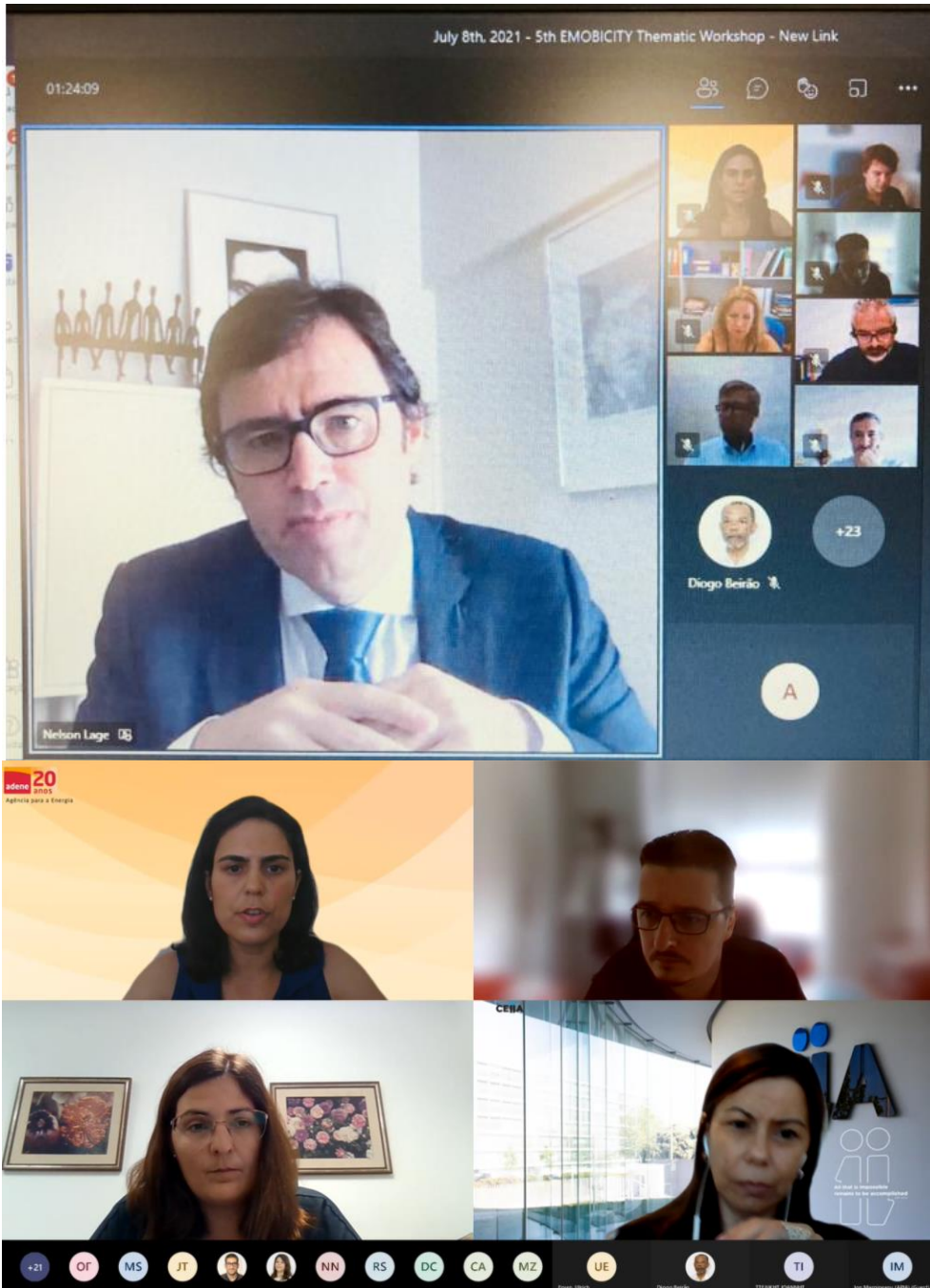
Study Visit 5

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 5th study visit initially planned to take place in Lisbon, organised by ADENE as back-to-back event of the 5th thematic workshop, was postponed to a later date, depending on the progress of the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

Print screens of the 4th EMOBICITY Workshop.

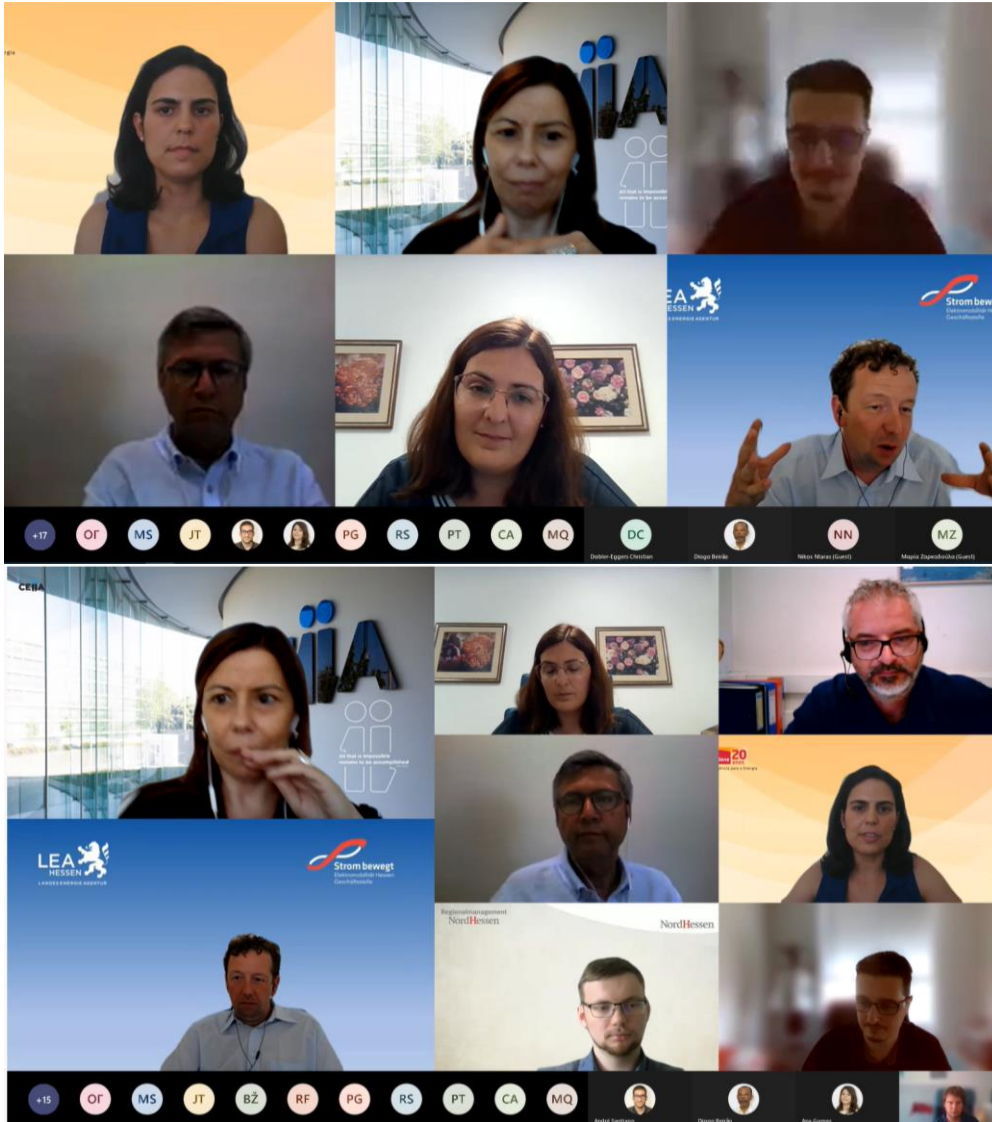


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List of participants			
	Name	Organization	Country
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4	André Santiago	ADENE - Portuguese Energy Agency	Portugal
5	Bruno Židov	EIHP - Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar	Croatia
6	Carla Ferreira	DREn - Azorean Directorate for Energy	Portugal
7	Carlos Abreu	STCP - Sociedade de Transportes Colectivos do Porto	Portugal
8	Carlos FC. Soares	DREn - Azorean Directorate for Energy	Portugal
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