

42. KIC InnoEnergy

MUNICIPALITIES

Barcelona, Sant Cugat del Vallès and Sant Adrià de Besòs

HEADLINE

The UPC, ESADE, IREC and Gas Natural Fenosa, the Catalan partners of KIC InnoEnergy, are setting up Europe's largest research, education and innovation in sustainable energy network in Barcelona, promoted by the European Innovation and Technology Institute (EIT). The initial investment is of 450 million euros for the next four years.

KEY ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL DETAILS

- Envisaged duration term: 7 years
- Budget for the first 4 years: approximately €450 M
- Participants: 36 main partners
- Six activity centres: Barcelona, Stockholm, Karlsruhe, Grenoble, Kraków and Eindhoven
- Expected results for the first 4 years: 65 patents, 15 patents transferred to SMEs, 50 spin-off companies, launch of 90 products and services, participation of 1,500 master's degree and PhD students, ad 300 academic publications

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The European Commission created the European Innovation and Technology Institute (EIT) as part of the review of the Lisbon Strategy, which puts research, education and innovation among its maximum priorities. The EIT unifies these three priorities in the so-called knowledge triangle.

The EIT hopes to address the innovation gap being suffered by the EU, by promoting the integration of these three priorities. To achieve this mission, the EIT has created Knowledge Innovation Communities (KIC), which are long-term strategic alliances based on excellence with the participation of all the key agents that play a fundamental role in the knowledge triangle.

InnoEnergy is the KIC for sustainable energy. Its mission is to revitalise innovation in this field, proposing a sustainable energy concept that improves the impact on climate change and includes the entire "energy mix", considering current and future technological concepts:

- Renewable energies (wind, solar – including photovoltaic and thermal – and marine energy).
- Smart networks and energy storage networks.
- Energy efficiency.
- Biomass and fossil energy.
- Clean coal technologies.
- Sustainable nuclear energy and convergence with renewable energies.

Barcelona is the headquarters of the Iberia node which will coordinate projects in renewable energies, although all projects will have a *cross-node* dimension, which will agglutinate the major experts from Europe in a particular thematic area and will favour the collaboration of organisations from different countries.

KIC InnoEnergy started operating in 2010, and it will be fully operational in the year 2011. During the year, it will launch various research, education, entrepreneurial and business creation projects.

WEBSITE

www.innoenergy-initiative.com

PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT

Manel Rojas, technical director of the KIC Development Unit at Barcelona Tech (UPC).