

# News from Brussels H2020 and other stories

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Petten  
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1

3

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Jean-Claude Juncker, de nieuwe voorzitter van de Europese Commissie. © EPA

### Het investeringsplan van Jean-Claude Juncker bevat riskante nadelen

COMMENTAAR: Of het investeringsplan van Jean-Claude Juncker effect sorteert, moet vooral in de uitvoering blijken.

Door: Xander van Uffelen 27 november 2014, 02:00

MEER COMI


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2

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## Ambitious EU blueprint for energy union to loosen Russian grip on gas


Maroš Šefčovič to announce plan on Wednesday for single energy market - including an alternative pipeline - expected to meet scepticism from members

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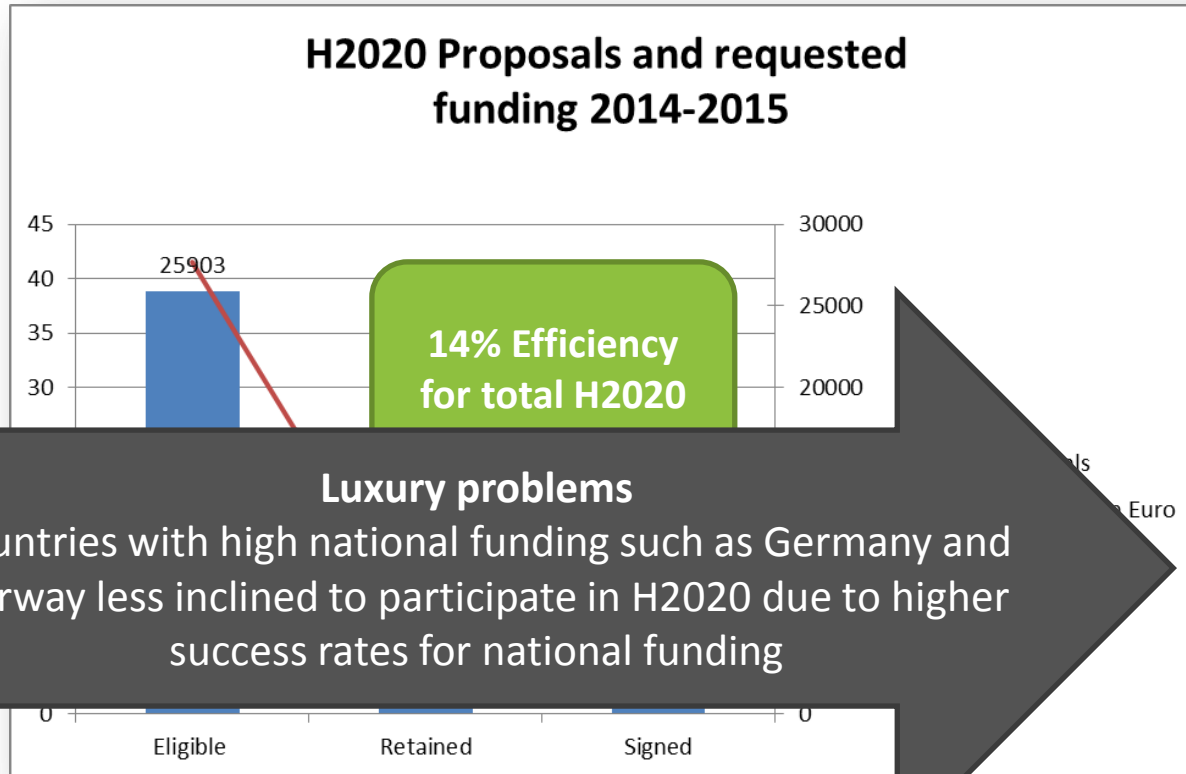
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# Results H2020 up to now

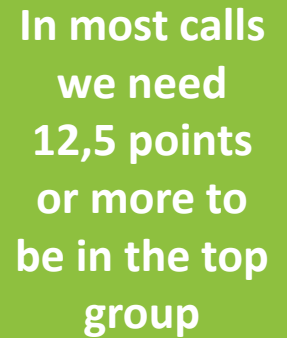


- Is H2020 becoming the victim of it's own success?
- Lower efficiency compared with FP7: 19% (US-NSF has 22-24%)
- Reason for popularity: Shrinking national budgets due to austerity measures in several EU countries

# Analysis 1<sup>st</sup> year H2020

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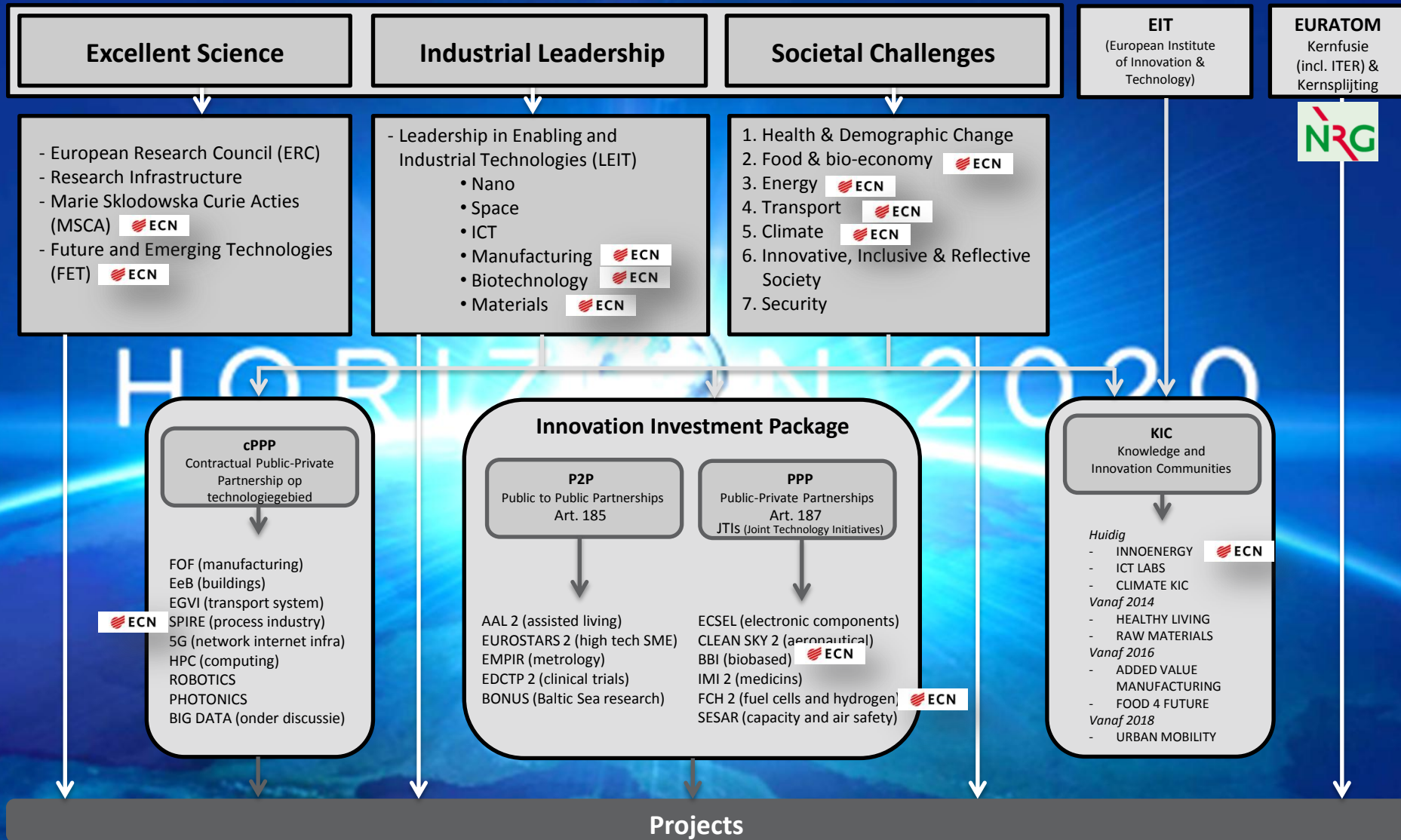
- Our overall success rate is low: total cost of preparation may be comparable to (or even exceed) total EU budget available
  - Acquisition efficiency: 12% (was 35% in FP7, bron: RVO)
  - 4 projects won (1 BEE, 3 PS)
- Majority of other RTOs (e.g. VTT, SINTEF, ENEA) also report low success rates in the range of 10-15%
- ECN had 23 out of total 34 proposals in 2-stage calls
  - Therefore low performance in the end came somewhat unexpected
  - 11 made it to 2nd stage → normal success rate in 2<sup>nd</sup> stage 50%
  - In a 'normal' scenario this would have lead to ~8-9 total won proposals for ECN → would have been comparable to our old success rate in FP7
  - Reasons: evaluators badly instructed, new TRL methodology, high amount of proposals to evaluate in short time



# Where to improve

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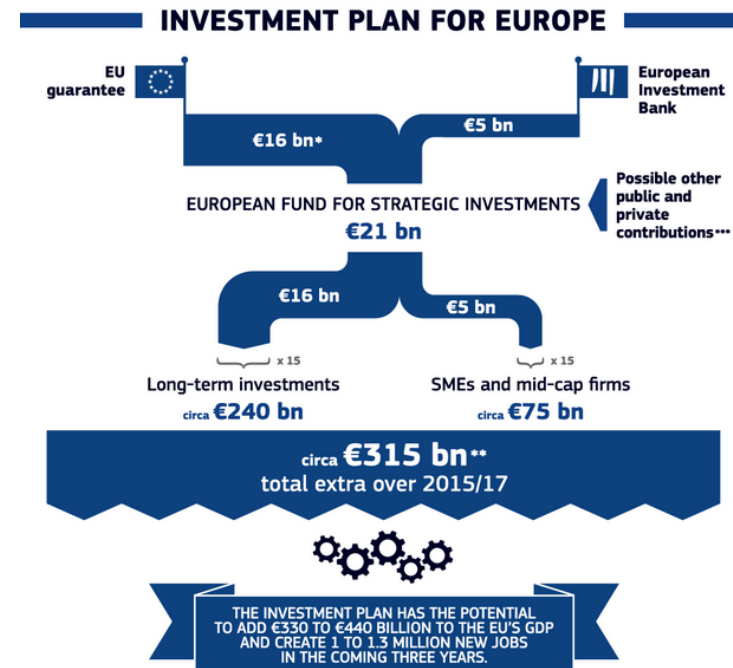
- Increase quality of proposals
  - Less, but better proposals - need to make the step to move into the highest bracket of points
  - Decisions needs to be made on group level, not possible to write x number of high-quality proposals in a given period
- Be picky which consortia to join
  - Warning for proposals with universities as consortia leaders: If not a big one, it's unlikely that they fit well with H2020 proposals – high risk of failure (commission likes to have big organisations who know about large projects or industry in the lead) remember H2020 Focus on demonstration and high TRL!
  - Do not fall in the trap of the 'last minute phone call' – those are mostly less prepared consortia that only want to have ECN on board for the name – not worth the effort
- Don't finish last minute and have your proposal checked against the evaluation criteria
  - Proof-reading by RVO – deliver feedback within 2 days if previously agreed upon





# New Junker commission

- Energy Union – one of 5 priorities of Junker
  - Increasing energy security across EU-28
  - More interconnectors – internal market
  - ‘Gas’ solidarity – joint purchases
  - GHG reduction target of 40% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels
  - Communication published in March 2015 – not legally binding
- ‘Junker Plan’ – European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)
  - €315 billion plan to boost investment
  - No **fresh money** from the member states
  - Cuts in existing budgets, e.g. 5% from H2020 and other programmes
  - Each country makes proposals for priority projects, degree of innovation varies highly

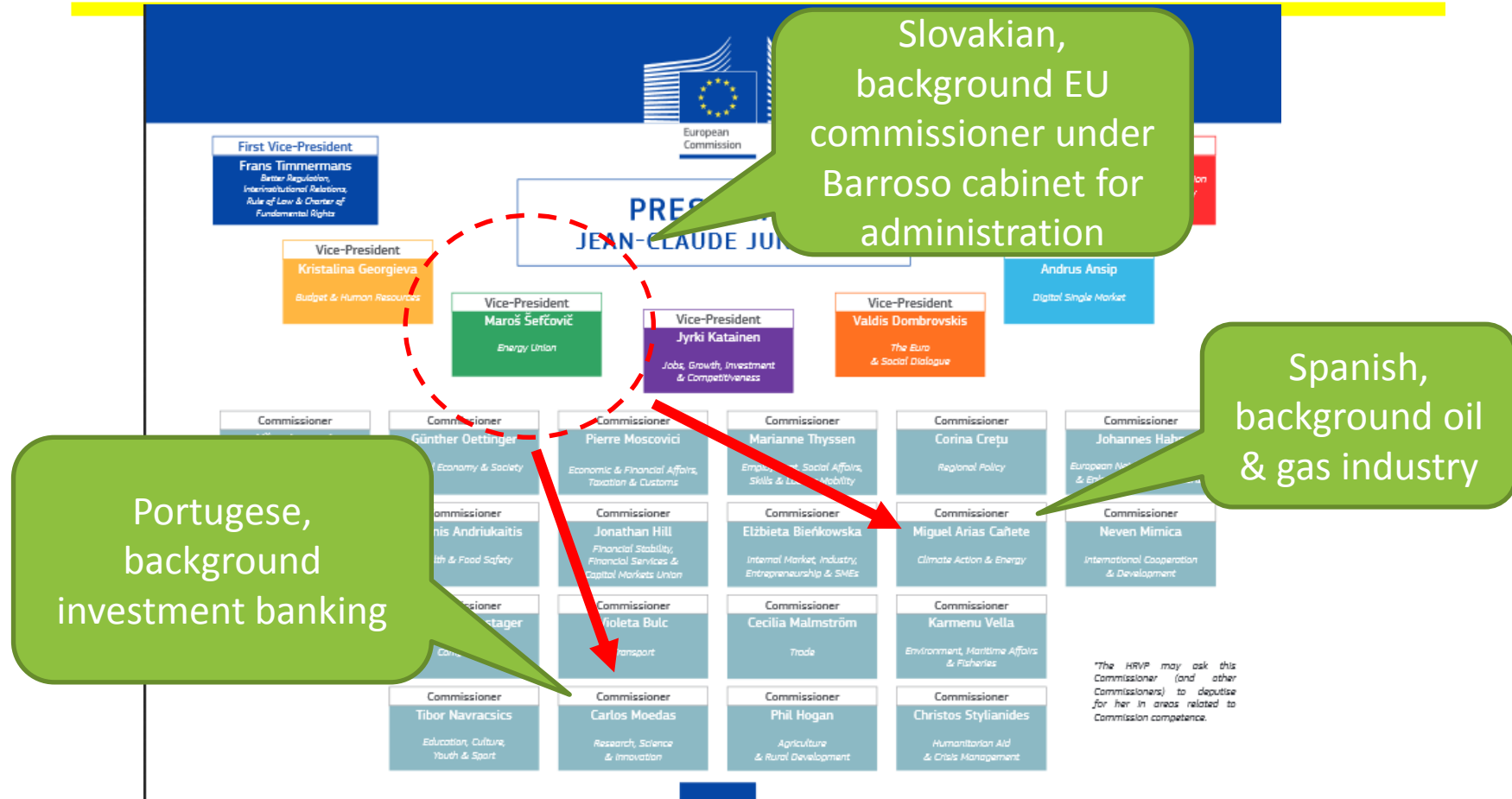


\*50% guarantee = €8 bn from Connecting Europe Facility (3.3), Horizon 2020 (2.7) and budget margins (2).  
\*\*Net of the initial EU contributions used as guarantee: €307 bn.

\*\*\*In the context of the assessment of public finances under the Stability and Growth Pact, the Commission will take a favourable position towards such capital contributions to the Fund.



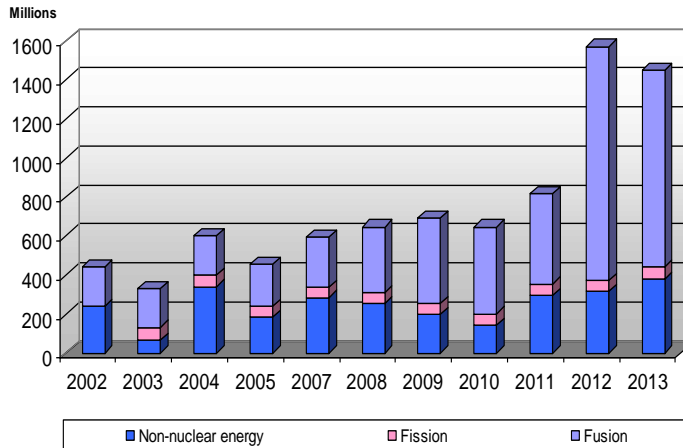
# Team Junker – energy people



# SET-Plan: budget

- Increased EU support to Energy research (FP6, FP7 and Horizon 2020)

**Annual budget for EU energy research 2002-2013**



## Horizon 2020 2014 - 2020:

- **EUR 5.5 bn (current prices) for the challenge 'Secure, Clean, and Efficient Energy' for 2014-2020**
- **EUR 1 bn for fission and fusion activities + EUR 0.7 bn (JRC) for 2014-2018 (ITER financing not part of H2020)**
- **Member states fund 70% of energy R&D, EU only 30%!**

- ...but not enough... need for partnerships to pool resources / capacities

# Update of the EU SET-Plan

- Started in 2007
- Update on current MS priorities for energy policy
- Actions should be grouped around

## Member States Priorities – 1st questionnaire

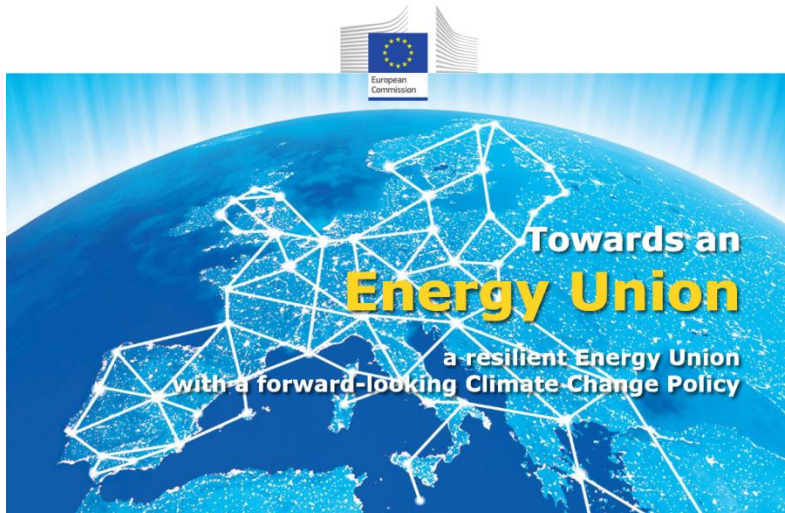


Overview of themes identified as a priority by MS

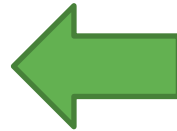


- EU provides ‘top-up’ funding for joint member state projects.
- Without alignment of the national funds Europe will not be able to reach it’s energy and climate goals
- ‘Berlin model’ (ERA-NET light)

# Energy Union – 4 core R&I priorities



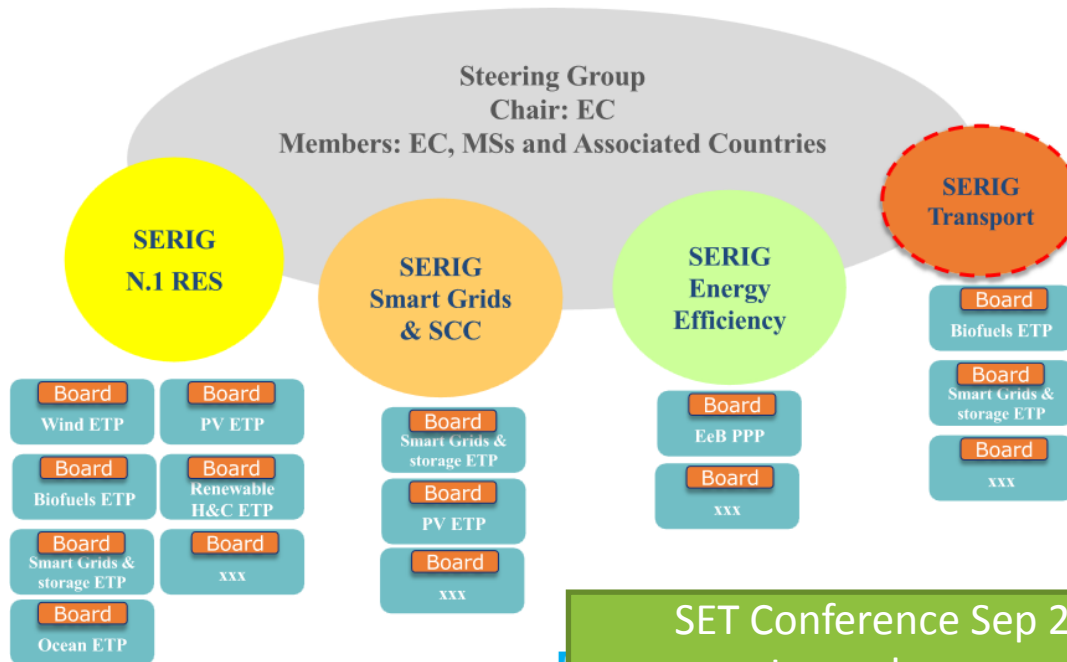
Implementation via R&I  
strategy: SET-Plan



- Being world leader in renewable energy technologies and storage
  - Accelerate innovation chain
  - E.g. Offshore Wind Energy 50% cost reduction in 2030 compared to 2010 levels, double share of grid-integrated PV by 2030
- Energy efficiency
- Participation of the consumer in the energy transition through smart grids, smart cities and smart appliances (everything 'smart')
- More sustainable transport systems
- Plus CCS/CCU and Nuclear

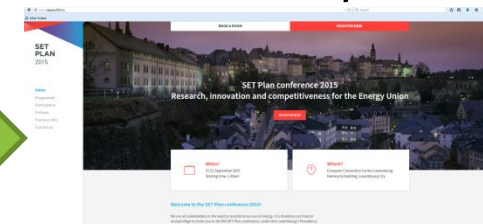
# Proposed new SET governance

## An integrated structure



- New structure according to Energy Union core objectives
- No place for CCS and Shale Gas?
- Push for 'Integrated solutions'
- Funding remains unclear – only CSA

SET Conference Sep 21  
Luxembourg



# Welcome to the club – or not

- Budgets in H2020 become increasingly ‘locked’ by PPP constructions such as
  - SPIRE (energy efficiency in industry)
  - EMIRI (materials for energy applications)
- We are less likely to succeed in calls written by those ‘clubs’ if you are not a member – but also not a guarantee to win
- If you had the idea for the call – you might be in a good position for the proposal
- Internal dynamics in those ‘clubs’ create strong consortia of industry & research

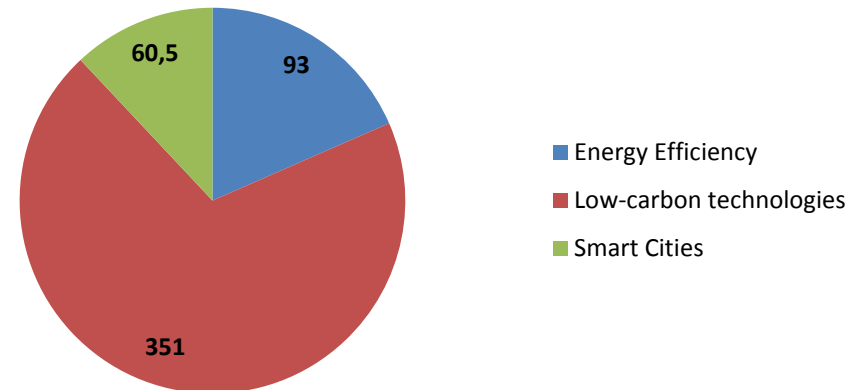


# What's next – H2020

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- The new H2020 workprogrammes will be published on September 30
- All calls will be one-stage only (at least in the ENERGY programme) → high upfront investments
- Commission saw that there are too many 'just try' proposals which the system cannot digest (too much efforts to review too high number of proposals)
- Broad call with different RES technologies: In 2016/2017: LCE-7 with no increased budget

**Energy H2020 2016**  
**Budget distribution in €m**

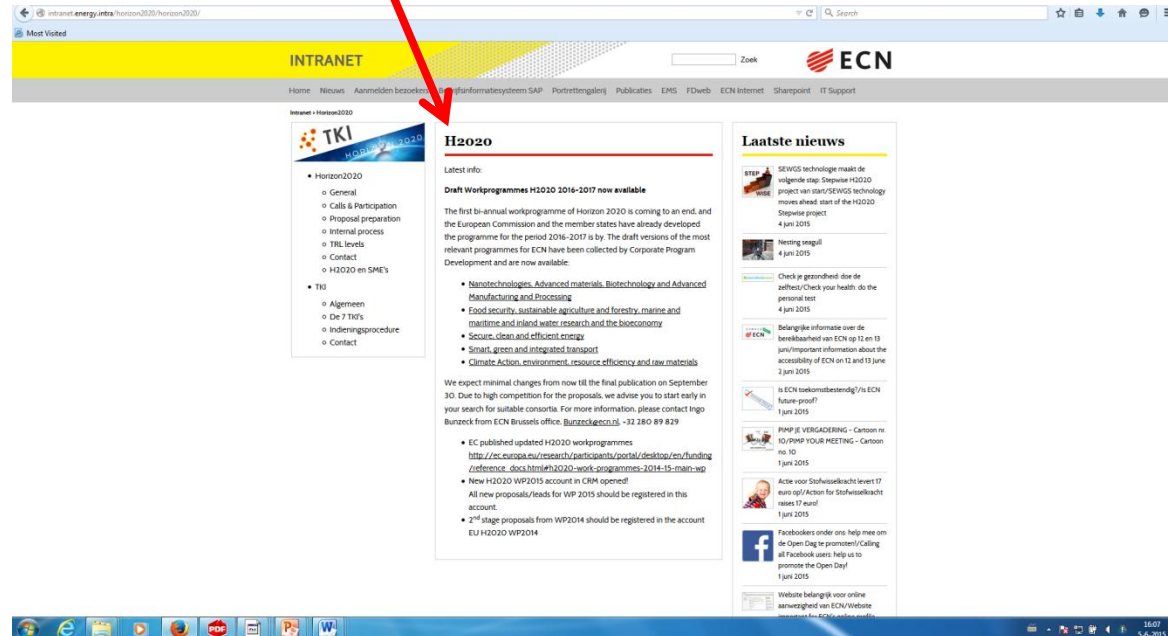


**~ €500 million Euro (same in 2017)**




# H2020 WP2016-17

- ECN intranet - your source for information
- All draft workprogrammes are uploaded
- CPD prepares toolbox for H2020 proposals on intranet
  - Best practices for generic parts of the Proposal
  - Template for budget calculation



# Take home messages

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- H2020 has received high interest and tough competition – but it remains the most important funding source for energy R&D on European level
  - We can improve up to a certain level but evaluations are not (yet) done by robots (would be probably favourable for us)
- New Juncker commission puts energy higher on the agenda – trying to get one of the last national policy areas under their influence
  - National governments have yet to decide whether they  ....or not
- SET-Plan remains main pillar of energy R&I strategy of the EU – currently trying to reorganise but unclear responsibilities and funding
- Don't always shout for money at Brussels – please first use national resources more efficiently (major share of R&D budget)

# A lot of changes, but one thing is to stay....

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