



Kick-off for the new project NETFFICIENT: Implementing the future of smart energy storage and management on the island of Borkum in Germany

The project NETFFICIENT, co-funded by the EU, has started its work in January 2015 for four years of effort towards the integration of smart energy storage technologies and an efficient energy management system on the German island of Borkum in the North Sea. With an overall budget of more than 11 M€, the coordinator AYESA along with its partners will increase the portion of renewable energies to cover the energy demand, thereby increasing the energy self-sufficiency for the island.

The project NETFFICIENT has been officially launched on 26th of January 2015 at AYESA headquarters in Sevilla to implement “Energy and economic efficiency for today’s smart communities through integrated multi storage technologies” on the island of Borkum in the North Sea. NETFFICIENT is a project addressing the Societal Challenge of Low Carbon Energy within the European Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020. The European Commission is co-funding the project with nearly 9 M€.

The consortium is composed of 13 renowned research organisations, large enterprises, SMEs and municipalities out of 7 European countries. During the project’s 48 months it targets the development of a sustainable energy management system, integrating smart electric storage and enhanced distribution technologies, to be implemented in the electric grid of the island. Its main objective is to provide solutions for more efficient use of available sources of renewable energies and help to reduce carbon emissions as well as dependency on fossil fuels.

“NETFFICIENT is tackling one of the most pressing challenges of the energy market, as the availability of renewable energies is not considered the sole problem, but its storage and distribution methods due to the time-shift between availability of renewable resources and demand peaks. We are proud that Borkum will serve as a pilot island to demonstrate the feasibility of an innovative and efficient energy management system, enabling a smart local grid in a real environment” stated Mr. Olaf Look, project partner from Stadtwerke Borkum.

The project will demonstrate and deploy innovative local storage technologies in the island’s grid and furthermore develop a management and decision support tool: from energy generation to consumption by the end-user, the project will address all levels of the energy value chain, involving stakeholder groups, municipalities and also the citizens. Through use cases such as homes, public buildings, and street lighting, NETFFICIENT will follow a strong market orientation that reflects the various energy demand scenarios. This should ensure a successful exploitation and adoption of the project achievements through valid business models to help lowering the market barriers for small scale local storage of energy.



Press Release 09/Mar/2015



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NETfficient is coordinated by Ayesa Advanced Technologies S.A. in cooperation with 12 partners: Williams Advanced Engineering, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE; Win Inertia; Center for Advanced Studies, Research and Development in Sardinia (CRS4); Steinbeis-Europa-Zentrum; Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DIEE) of the University of Cagliari; Ayuntamiento de Santander, City Council's Information and Communications Department; Swerea IVF; PowerTech Systems; Wirtschaftsbetriebe der Stadt NSHB Borkum GmbH; Schneider Electric GmbH and Vandenborre Energy Systems NV and is co-funded by the EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, Project No. 646463.

