Press Release
Vienna, 14 May 2020

EERADATA: FAIR DATA FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION
EU project EERAdata links extensive research databases to an energy data ecosystem and thus supports the energy transition

Vienna - Across Europe, there are many showcase projects with which researchers are advancing the energy transition. This begins with the efficient use of energy in single-family homes and industry and extends to the increased use of renewable energy sources and the creation of model regions in which technical innovations are tested and further developed in practice. Energy research is very broadly based in Europe and produces large amounts of valuable data from which a great deal could be learned about the way forward towards a more sustainable energy system. However, there is limited scope for further use of this experience, as harmonised access to the very differently structured and complex databases is largely lacking. In order to leverage the enormous potential of this data, accessibility, linkability and verifiability must be decisively improved. The AIT Austrian Institute of Technology is a partner in the EU project EERAdata, which is coordinated by the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL). Together with other partners from the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA), the AIT is pursuing the goal of harmonising energy databases and making them "FAIR": Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Re-usable.

Systematic and open access to databases
The growing level of complexity due to the integration of different types of data requires new, comprehensive data concepts and infrastructures. Transparent data management forms the basis for optimising benefits not only in research, but also in industry and society in order to select and implement sustainable development paths: "Stakeholders in the energy system need open and systematic access to databases," says AIT project leader Manfred Paier, Scientist at the Center for Innovation Systems & Policy at AIT. "Our goal is to link existing databases via modern web technologies and to provide access and analysis tools on a common community platform, not least to support research on the transition of the energy system towards higher sustainability." With the involvement of many database operators, EERAdata is developing FAIR and open data standards, exemplarily in the fields of energy efficiency of buildings, electricity grids, energy-related materials, and policy strategies and measures.

About the project
The overall objective of the project is to build a critical mass of expertise on FAIR and open data in the energy sector and to make recommendations to the research community and policy makers. To this end, EERAdata builds on numerous existing initiatives and is supported by the largest European energy research community, the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA) - with 250 universities and public research institutions in 30 countries - as a project partner. as a project partner. The EERAdata project is funded by the EU within the scope of H2020 (project no. 883823) with 1 million euros and runs for a total of 3 years until February 2023. Two AIT centres are involved in EERAdata: The Center for Innovation Systems & Policy as an important research

partner as well as think tank and advisor for Austrian and European political institutions and the Center for Energy, which specialises in the development of sustainable energy systems to promote innovation in the energy sector through targeted research and development.

Further information:
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