



EU ENE.FIELD PROJECT DEMONSTRATES THAT FUEL CELL MICRO-COGENERATION IS READY TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS EUROPE'S ENERGY AND CLIMATE OBJECTIVES

PRESS RELEASE

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Major European field trial, ene.field project, concludes that fuel cell micro-CHP deserves a place in the line-up of key energy solutions for the future energy system, as part of Final Dissemination Event on 11 October 2017 in Brussels, Belgium. The event showcased ene.field findings and outlined next steps for the sector reaching mass commercialisation, based on the successful installation, operation and support of more than 1,000 fuel cells across 10 European countries.

The event, organised in partnership with the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) and the PACE project, presented the key findings of the European Union (EU) flagship ene.field project, the largest European field trial of fuel cell micro-CHP. The event also introduced the PACE (Pathway to a Competitive European Fuel Cell micro-Cogeneration market) project, which will build upon the success of the ene.field project. Both projects bring together major manufacturers from across Europe, representatives from the wider energy industry and the research community, who will have invested together with the EU more than €140 million in Fuel Cell micro-Cogeneration by 2020.

"Fuel cell micro-Cogeneration is reliable, it works and is now available in key European markets." said Hans Korteweg, Managing Director of COGEN Europe, the Co-ordinator of ene.field project. "The ene.field project in particular has successfully installed and monitored more than 1,000 fuel cell micro-Cogeneration units, having registered more than 5.5 million hours of reliable operation. By learning the practicalities of installing and supporting a fleet of fuel cells with real customers, ene.field partners have taken a decisive step before manufacturers can begin commercial roll-out."

"Major European manufacturers, supported by the FCH JU at the EU level and key European national governments are now committed to bringing the technology closer to mass market by increasing scale and achieving further product cost reductions. To this end, EU co-funded project PACE will enable manufacturers establish Fuel Cell micro-Cogeneration as a standard technology by installing more than 2,500 units across Europe."

FCH JU Executive Director Bart Biebuyck said: "The conclusions presented today at the ene.field final event highlight the increasing commitment from the European industry

towards fuel cell micro-generation technology. The excellent results of ene.field are now picked-up in project PACE, aiming to take fuel cell micro-CHP units closer to commercialisation. As the technology is key to contribute to the decarbonisation of the building and residential sectors, the FCH JU is pleased to see it recognised by various national initiatives stimulating further deployment of sustainable solutions. “

The event also highlighted the need to put in place the right policy framework to encourage wide deployment of this technology in Europe. Only with the high-level recognition of its system benefits, Fuel Cell micro-Cogeneration will be able to achieve the necessary scale and cost reductions in order to significantly contribute to a cleaner, more renewable and more reliable energy system for European consumers. Achieving the EU climate and energy transition will depend on enabling a mix of technologies to work together and complement each other. Therefore, the policy framework should create a level playing field where renewables, decarbonisation and efficiency can be delivered across different technologies and energy vectors (e.g. electricity, heat, gas). Key policy recommendations are available in the ene.field Policy Report published today.

Fuel Cell micro-Cogeneration (or FC micro-CHP) is a highly efficient home energy system that uses a single fuel to simultaneously produce electricity and heat for a building. It reaches system efficiencies of up to 95% and electrical efficiencies of up to 60%. The fuel cell works by combining hydrogen produced from the fuel and oxygen from the air to produce dc power, water, and heat.

Over the past five years, the EU co-funded ene.field project has deployed and monitored over 1,000 new installations of residential FC micro-CHP across 10 key European countries. It represents a step change in the volume of fuel cell deployment for this sector in each country. By learning the practical implications of installing, operating and supporting a fleet of fuel cells with real world customers, ene.field has demonstrated the environmental and economic imperative of FC micro-CHP, and laid the foundations for market exploitation.

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About ene.field

The ene.field project is the largest European demonstration of the latest smart energy solution for private homes, micro-CHP. It will see up to 1,000 households across Europe able to experience the benefits of this new energy solution. The five-year project uses modern fuel cell technology to produce heat and electricity in households and empowers them in their electricity and heat choices and brings together 27 partners, including 9 European manufacturers who will make the products available across 11 EU Member States.

The ene.field project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) for the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative ([FCH-JU](#)) under grant agreement n° 303462.

For more information, visit www.enefield.eu or contact Mr. Janos Vajda via info@enefield.eu.

The ene.field partners are:

