Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

International Energy Agency Technology Collaboration Programmes

Task/Annex Participation – Call for Applications

Key Dates	
Call Open:	28 August 2025
Deadline for Application Submission:	30 September 2025

It is the responsibility of each applicant to this call to ensure that they have read and fully understand all documentation associated with this call before making a submission.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Call Introduction

Ireland has committed to a legally binding target of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions no later than 2050, and a reduction of 51% of carbon emissions by 2030. SEAI, has a key role in both driving Ireland's energy transformation and contributing to Ireland's achievement of the targets set out in the 2025 Climate Action Plan (CAP).

SEAI creates direct action through the design and delivery of grant and incentive programmes and capacity-building processes with citizens, communities, private organisations and public sector organisations. In addition, SEAI builds an environment for positive change through our research, innovation, analysis, modelling, and support for policymaking.

SEAI is supporting Irish engagement and participation in International Energy Agency (IEA) activities. SEAI is delighted to announce this 2025 Call for applications to appoint Ireland-based entities to Tasks/Annexes under the IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCPs).

2. IEA and Technology Collaboration Programmes

International Energy Agency
The IEA is at the heart of global dialogue on energy, providing authoritative analysis, data, policy recommendations, and real-world solutions to help countries provide secure and sustainable energy for all. IEA analysis is built upon a foundation of activities and focus areas including data and statistics, training, innovation and international cooperation.

IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCPs)
The Technology Collaboration Programme supports the work of independent, international groups of experts that enable governments and industries from around the world to lead programmes and projects on a wide range of energy technologies and related issues. The experts in these collaborations work to advance the research, development and commercialisation of energy technologies. These collaborations involve thousands of experts worldwide who represent nearly 300 public and private organisations located in more than 55 countries.

Each TCP is self-financed by participant countries, either through financial and/or in-kind contributions. The participants themselves decide whether cost-sharing, task-sharing, or a combination of both is most appropriate.

Ireland's participation in TCPs
SEAI in its role as Ireland's national energy authority acts as Ireland's national signatory for IEA TCP Implementing Agreements. The scope and strategy of TCPs, to which Ireland is a signatory, align with national strategic objectives related to renewable energy, climate change and coordination of energy-related research as defined by SEAI. Through the annual SEAI IEA TCP appointment call, we facilitate Irish energy researchers and experts to participate in and represent Ireland in the IEA TCPs.

Benefits of Participation in TCPs

There are numerous advantages to participating in the ongoing activities of TCPs for the Irish energy/low-carbon technology sector which include:

- Information sharing and networking with leading international R&D performing organisations.
- Participation in the acceleration of the development and deployment of important energy technologies, processes and systems which are of global strategic importance.
- Forming new partnerships and strengthening R&D capability for future transnational collaborative working (e.g. Horizon Europe consortia, etc.).
- Reduced cost and duplication of research activities through coordination of international collaboration.
- Learning from and contributing to best practice.
- Linking research, industry and policy on a global scale.
- Representing Ireland internationally at the forefront of activity in your area.
- Being at the forefront of international technical standards development.
- Involvement in development of technologies and the exposure of Irish companies/ universities/research institutions/public and semi-state bodies to those who develop these technologies, to international expertise and opportunities.
- Ensuring that Irish researchers are conversant with, and contribute to developing, international best practice.

If you are interested in learning more about the benefits of participating in the IEA TCPs, please follow this link https://www.seai.ie/data-and-insights/international-energy-agency/technology-collaboration/.

3. IEA TCP Governance and Structure

TCP Governance: The activities of each TCP are overseen by an Executive Committee (ExCo) comprised of representatives from TCP members including SEAI (representing Ireland). The ExCo takes decisions on the management, participation and implementation aspects of the TCP. Some TCPs entrust the management functions of the TCP, or of a particular activity, to an Operating Agent (OA).

IEA Standing Groups and TCP Executive Committees: SEAI and the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment represent Ireland on IEA Standing Groups and Committees (see here for more details) and Working Parties which, oversee the IEA's strategy, work programme and priorities.

IEA TCP Tasks/Annexes: TCPs normally execute their research initiatives through collaborations known as Tasks or Annexes, each of which involves leading international researchers from industry, academia, research institutions and public bodies in member countries. The purpose of IEA research Tasks/Annexes is to provide a forum for world leading researchers and businesses to coordinate R&D activities in their area of interest on a global scale and to collaborate in the development and pursuit of projects.

4. Who Can Apply to this Call

This call is open to applicants from public and private sector organisations based in the Republic of Ireland (including Irish subsidiaries of overseas companies). Applicants must themselves be based in the Republic of Ireland for the duration of their participation in the IEA TCPs. Applications will be accepted from Private Enterprises, Universities, Institutes of Technology and State Funded Research Organisations, Public Sector Bodies and Semi-State Bodies who are based in the Republic of Ireland. Proposals from individuals applying in their own right will not be accepted.

Each applicant must fill out an application form. Details of the participant's organisation as well as contact information are required in the application form.

Where multiple applications are received for a particular Task/Annex, SEAI will evaluate all applications and then the most highly evaluated applicant will be appointed to the Task/Annex (to a maximum of two participants, unless otherwise justified by the SEAI National Contact Point[1]).

Where there are applicants from within SEAI, the application process is the same as for external applicants, except there is an additional step in the process. All applications from within SEAI must be evaluated by the NCP and reviewed by the Head of Department for Research, Innovation and Electricity or an appropriate nominee.

The list of participants appointed following previous SEAI IEA TCP Appointment Calls is available via the following webpage (please refer to the TCP links in the Section titled 'Ireland's involvement in the IEA TCPs).

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[1] If a situation occurs where applications are received for a Task/Annex is which two participants are already appointed, the SEAI National Contact Point will determine if having more than two participants is justifiable based on a number of considerations.

This call provides the opportunity for applicants to submit proposals to be appointed to the Tasks/Annexes of TCPs of which Ireland is a current member. This list of TCPs is available in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Technology Collaboration Programmes of which Ireland is a member

Technology Collaboration Programme (TCP)
Bioenergy
District Heating and Cooling including Combined Heat and Power (DHC)
Electric Vehicle Technology (EV)
Energy in Buildings and Communities (EBC)
Energy Technology Systems Analysis Program (ETSAP)
Heat Pumping Technologies (HPT)
Hydrogen
International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN)
Ocean Energy Systems (OES)
User-Centered Energy Systems (USERS)
Wind

5. Funding Available

Each TCP is self-financed by member countries, either through financial and/or in-kind contributions.

SEAI may cover the following costs (where applicable) to enable Irish participants to take part in IEA TCP Task/Annex meetings:

(i)   annual country membership TCP fees

(ii) annual Task/Annex membership fees

(iii) if required, approved travel expenses associated with enabling appointed or nominated participant(s) to participate in Task/Annex activities (e.g. economy class air, rail and bus travel, accommodation/subsistence costs, etc. as per SEAI's policy).

It is important to note that SEAI does not pay salary costs/daily rates to Task/Annex participants. Ideally, applicants for Task/Annex participation should have prior ongoing research activity, related to the subject area of the Task/Annex. It is expected that applicants should be sufficiently committed to participate in the relevant Task/Annex in the context of their strategic interests to cover the salary/time costs associated with participation in Tasks/Annexes. Details of how to claim travel expenses will be provided by SEAI to successfully appointed participants. Expenses will be paid directly to the participants' organisations and not to the nominated participants.

If the Task participant is in receipt of other sources of national, international or EU funding that already covers the travel costs related to attending the TCP Task meetings, SEAI would ask that they do not request reimbursement of travel costs from SEAI to avoid double funding for this activity.

6. Tasks/Annexes included in this Call

Applicants are invited to apply to participate in Tasks/Annexes identified as priority areas (**Table 2**) as they align with national strategic objectives related to renewable energy, climate change and coordination of energy-related research.

Applicants can also apply to participate in research Tasks/Annexes not listed in the table below; SEAI will then consider the merits of individual applications. Applications received for TCPs that SEAI is not a member of yet will be treated as expressions of interest. There is a process that SEAI must go through when considering whether to join a new TCP or not such as (i) the TCP's relevance to national priorities, (ii) SEAI's capacity to dedicate resources to attend the TCP Executive Committee and (iii) whether there is available budget to join the TCP.

The number of Tasks/Annexes that can be supported (and the number of participants appointed), is budget-dependent, thus not all of the below Tasks/Annexes may receive funding through the present call. The maximum number of participants appointed to represent Ireland in a Task is at the discretion of SEAI and is dependent upon a number of factors, including budget availability, Task/Annex needs, and quality of applications received.

Successful participants will be appointed to participate in the associated Task/Annex for up to three years or until the end of its current Task/Annex term, whichever is the earliest.

Table 2. Priority Tasks/Annexes Seeking Applications

IEA TCP	Task(s)/Annex(es)
EBC	Annex 96 - Grid Integrated Control of Buildings
EBC and USERS TCPs	Annex 95 - Human-Centric Buildings for A Changing Climate[2]
ETSAP	Annex XVII[2]
EV	Task 53 - Interoperability of Bidirectional Charging
Hydrogen	Task 42 - Underground Hydrogen Storage[3]
	Task 48 - Future Demand of Hydrogen in Industry
ISGAN	Annex 6 - Power Transmission and Distribution Systems
OES	Task 4 - Assessment of Environmental Effects and Monitoring Efforts for Ocean Wave, Tidal, and Current Energy Systems
	Task 8 - Consenting Processes for Ocean Energy
	Task 10 - Wave Energy Converters Modelling Verification and Validation
	Task 12 - Performance Metrics International Framework for Ocean Energy
USERS	Social License to Automate 2.0[3]
WIND	Task 39 - Quiet Wind Turbine Technology[3]
	Task 41 - Enabling Wind to Contribute to a Distributed Energy Future
	Task 42 - Wind Turbine Lifetime Extension
	Task 45 - Wind Turbine Blade Recycling
	Task 48 - Airborne Wind Energy[4]
	Task 50 - Hybrid Power Plants[4]
	Task 51 - Forecasting for the weather-driven Energy System[3]
	Task 52 - Large-Scale Deployment of Wind Lidar
	Task 53 - Wind Energy Economics[4]
	Task 60 - Harmonised Life Cycle Assessment for Wind Power

[2] The proposed new tasks/annexes are still being finalised and appointment to these tasks/annexes is dependent on the tasks/annexes being formally approved by the executive committees of the relevant TCPs.

[3] This task is concluding but a follow-on task is anticipated and anyone that applies for this task and is successfully selected will be appointed to the new task once it has been formally adopted. Successful appointment is under the condition that the Task is approved by the executive committees of the relevant TCPs.

[4] Successful appointment is under the condition that the Task is extended for another cycle and appointment to these tasks/annexes is dependent on the tasks/annexes being formally approved by the executive committees of the relevant TCPs.

7. Responsibilities and Deliverables

Participants who are appointed and supported by SEAI to participate in IEA TCP research Tasks/Annexes, will be required to commit to the following responsibilities and deliverables:

- To agree activities contributing to the achievement of the Task/Annex objectives with the Task/Annex Leader (also known as the Operating Agent).
- To deliver the agreed work programme providing agreed deliverables to the Task/Annex Leader and additionally compile national information in the subject matter area of the Task/Annex, as and when required.
- To attend and participate in Task/Annex meetings, either online or in person, organised by the Task/Annex Leader. There are typically two main meetings per year, but more meetings may be organised by the Task/Annex Leader.
- When unable to attend Task/Annex meetings, to nominate an equivalent alternate for approval by SEAI.
- Following each meeting, to provide high-level summary information to SEAI on progress within the Task/Annex (a reporting template will be provided by SEAI).
- On a yearly basis, provide a report summarising the achievements of the Task/Annex, provide associated recommendations which are relevant to the Irish energy system and an outlook for the upcoming year (a reporting template will be provided by SEAI).
- To assist in disseminating Task/Annex information to interested groups in Ireland.
- If required, to provide to the Task/Annex Leader estimates of the direct and related research work (person-months) of the national research effort contributing to the Task/Annex programme.
- To help co-ordinate Task/Annex meetings which are hosted in Ireland, where relevant.

8. Submitting your Application

In order to submit an application to this call, applicants should submit the following documentation to SEAI:

(i) **Completed Application Form** (using template provided by SEAI). The application form template requests the following details:
  a. Which TCP and Task/Annex is being applied for.
  b. Details of the proposed participant's organisation.
  c. Names and contact details of the proposed participant.
  d. A description of alignment of the Task/Annex with Ireland's national energy and climate priorities and goals. Where relevant you may also refer to broader national priorities.
  e. A description of the relevance of the Task/Annex to the strategy of the proposed participant's organisation and alignment of the Task/Annex with the proposed participant's research areas.
  f. A description of the experience of relevant national/international collaboration/representation brought by the proposed participant.

g. A description of how the proposed participant will, as Ireland's representative, a) contribute to the work of this Task/Annex and b) disseminate information gained to the relevant national audience in Ireland (Who will the information be disseminated to? How? What information?).

h. Details of which costs the proposed participant's organisation are requesting that SEAI covers.

(ii) **Proposed participant's CV** (max. 2 pages per CV). The CV should demonstrate that the nominated participant has a track record commensurate with that which would be expected for representing Ireland in international fora. SEAI will accept both academic and narrative CV formats.

Applicants are required to submit one application form each per Task/Annex. Application forms including multiple Tasks/Annexes will be deemed ineligible.

9. Evaluation Criteria

Only fully complete applications will be considered for evaluation. The evaluation criteria under which applications will be assessed, and the proportion of marks awarded to each criterion is provided below:

- Alignment of the Task/Annex with Ireland's national energy and climate priorities and goals (30%)
- Relevance to the participant organisations' strategy and to the area of research of the proposed participants (15%)
- Relevant experience of the proposed participants (30%)
- Quality and adequacy of contribution and dissemination plans (25%)

10. Timeline

Any queries relating to this call should be submitted by email to iea@seai.ie.

The deadline for receipt of queries is 23rd September 2025. Queries received after this date may not receive a response.

Applications should be submitted by email to iea@seai.ie on 30th September 2025 by 5pm at the latest. We cannot guarantee that any application submitted after the deadline will be considered. Please use the following subject line when emailing your application: '*2025 SEAI IEA TCP Appointment Call – TCP Name – Task/Annex Number*', making sure that you include the relevant TCP name and Task/Annex number.

Please note that it is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that all necessary documentation associated with an application has been submitted to SEAI.

SEAI seeks to promote substantial participation by Ireland in IEA TCPs and, as such, may launch subsequent calls for participation in IEA TCP Tasks/Annexes.

Please note that by submitting this application and the supporting documentation, you give permission to SEAI to use your information for the purposes detailed in the call document and the privacy notice.