



Boosting the
defence energy
transition

Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in the Defence and Security Sector (CF SEDSS)

Phase III – A New Impetus

In June 2019, the Council of the European Union (EU) acknowledged the progress achieved in phases I and II (2015-2019) by the Consultation Forum for Sustainable Energy in the Defence and Security Sector (CF SEDSS) and endorsed the launch of a third phase. The Council also called for strengthening of **"cooperation in tackling energy security challenges, including via energy efficiency, renewable energy solutions and the protection of critical energy infrastructure."**

Building on this call, the European Commission and the European Defence Agency (EDA) launched in October 2019 the third phase of the CF SEDSS, which will run until September 2023.

The initiation of the third phase reflects the EU's firm determination to support the EU Ministries of Defence (MoDs) to **boost the defence energy transition towards resilient and sustainable energy models**. The third phase will also provide the opportunity for the defence sector to contribute in the implementation of the relevant objectives of the European Green Deal and focus on the generation of multinational collaborative projects in the domain.

Scope & Objectives

The CF SEDSS, which is the **largest European defence energy-related community**, will continue supporting the MoDs to maximise energy resilience and reduce energy costs, without compromising operational effectiveness. In this context, Phase III will confirm the Consultation Forum as the appropriate vehicle to share information and best practices on:

Improving	energy efficiency and buildings performance;
Utilising	renewable energy sources in the defence sector;
Increasing	the resilience of defence-related critical energy infrastructure.

In addition, research will be pursued on energy management and policy, innovative technologies and applicable funding or financing instruments for defence energy-related topics. By doing so, the CF SEDSS aims at stimulating MoDs' research and investments to increase energy efficiency and developing concrete solutions within the defence sector for safe and sustainable energy models.

Thus, the project will place emphasis on exploring, through the engagement of defence energy experts, the benefits that could be achieved in the defence and security sector from the implementation of the European Commission's related energy policy framework, particularly with regard to the following directives and regulations:

DIRECTIVES	ENERGY EFFICIENCY DIRECTIVE (EED)
	RENEWABLE ENERGY DIRECTIVE (RED)
	ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS DIRECTIVE (EPBD)
	DIRECTIVE ON EUROPEAN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURES (ECI)
REGULATIONS	REGULATION ON SECURITY OF GAS SUPPLY
	REGULATION OF RISK PREPAREDNESS IN THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR
	REGULATION ON THE GOVERNANCE OF THE ENERGY UNION AND CLIMATE ACTION

Structure

To address the higher level of ambition of the project, the CF SEDSS III is organised in the following **four working groups**:

WORKING GROUP 1 <i>Energy Efficiency & Buildings Performance</i>	WORKING GROUP 2 <i>Renewable Energy Sources</i>	WORKING GROUP 3 <i>Protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure</i>
		
Improve the energy efficiency of military building stock and fixed infrastructure	Use renewable energy sources and technologies in the defence sector (generation, conversion, storage and use in transportation)	Increase the protection and resilience of defence-related critical energy infrastructure (tools, guidelines, methodologies)

TRANSVERSAL WORKING GROUP		
		
Policy & Management Observatory (Action plans, human factors, awareness, best practices, skills, etc.)	Technology, Research & Innovation Hub (Energy management, networks, cyber, AI, digitalisation, sensors, micro-grids, etc.)	Financing & Funding Gateway Cell (IdentiFunding methodology for defence energy projects, ad-hoc, SRSS, ECP, etc.)

Events & Deliverables

Learning from past experiences, Phase III will also introduce new formats of **activities**, as showed in the following diagram:



Ultimately with the support of EDA, the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy (DG ENER), the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), and experts coming from academia, industry and research and technology organisations, the Forum will work to produce the following **deliverables**:

PROJECT IDEAS up to 30 defence energy-related project ideas	RESEARCH STUDIES up to 12 defence energy-related research studies	GUIDANCE DOCUMENT on the implementation of EU energy legislation in the defence sector
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Impact

The CF SEDSS provides a platform that facilitates cooperation and exchange of knowledge among MoDs and stakeholders involved in defence energy-related topics. By delivering leading-edge and applied research on energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, and protection of critical energy infrastructure, the Forum supports the MoDs to progressively move towards sustainable energy models.

These measures will support MoDs to reduce their energy and ecological footprint while increasing operational efficiency. The action towards sustainability will eventually result in the EU's transition to a resilient Energy Union and will contribute to the implementation of the EU's long-term vision of climate neutrality by 2050.

Background

CF SEDSS is a European Commission funded initiative managed by EDA. This project was established in 2015 with the primary scope to create a defence energy-related community to share relevant information and best practices to reach sustainable energy objectives. Building on the successful outcome of the previous two phases (CF I: 2015-2017, CF II: 2017-2019), the European Commission and EDA launched the third phase (CF III: 2019-2023), which is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 882171.