EU HORIZON EUROPE TO INVEST €220 MILLION IN SUSTAINABLE BATTERIES

Horizon Europe, the European Union's research programme, is set to provide up to €220 million funding for projects under Horizon Europe topics for the BATT4EU Partnership an initiative for developing advanced green battery technology. Several of these projects will receive further support by the Battery 2030+ project coordinated by Uppsala University, Sweden, with the goal to make Europe the world leader in the development and production of green batteries.

With global battery demand forecasted to exceed 1700 GWh in 2025 (McKinsey), the BATT4EU Partnership aims to foster sustainable solutions in battery science and technology. The initiative focuses on designing green, efficient, durable, and safe batteries.

119 M€ of funding have been made available in the Horizon Europe 2023 Work programme, and an additional 101 in the 2024 work programme for topics under the BATT4EU partnership. After assessment by expert evaluators approximately 31 successful proposals from these topics are expected to be funded.

Of these, around 17 projects with an expected funding of up to €116 million are set to receive support from the Battery 2030+CSA (Coordination and Support Action) which is led by Professor Kristina Edström at Uppsala University and which will help enhance the results of these projects. Some of them will include more applied research areas like production and recycling, some will be more data science driven.

Currently six projects from the Horizon Europe 2022 work programme calls are already supported by the Battery 2030+ CSA

The 6 projects will focus on sensors, and mechanisms for self-healing and electrochemical interfaces

- The ultimate goal is to better understand the dynamic processes within the battery to further advance technological growth in this vital field. EU's commitment to sustainable energy solutions is evident in Horizon Europe's continued support of these trailblazing projects, says Professor Edström

The three projects that focus on sensing and self-healing mechanisms for improved battery reliability and performance are, **Phoenix** led by Maitane Berecibar, Vrije universitet i Bryssel (VUB), **Salamander** led by Yuxiu Lai at the Institute for Energy Technology in Norway (IFE) and **Healingbat** led by Stefan Palzer at Dortmunds Technical University.
The other three will investigate the complex interfaces between the electrolyte and the electrodes (anode and cathode) in the battery. They are, **Opera** led by Celia Polop at the University Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), **Opincharge** led by Santhana Eswara at LIST (Luxemburg Institute for Science and Technology) and **Ultrabat** led by Martin Meedeom Nielsen at DTU (Technical University of Denmark).

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Battery 2030+ is a pioneering European research initiative making strides to develop the batteries of the future. Their focus is on green, high-performing, and long-lasting batteries instrumental in the transition to a carbon-neutral society.

Image: Professor Edström at Uppsala University, Sweden coordinates the research projects within Battery 2030+.

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