



Newsletter 02

January 2024



Dear Reader,

Welcome to ECARE's second newsletter!

The ECARE project (European Clean Aviation Regional Ecosystems) commenced on the 1st of January 2023 and aims at creating synergies between the different funding authorities at Regional, National and European scale to decarbonize aeronautics. Entering the second and final year of the project's full operations, several goals have been reached highlighting ECARE's progress and achievements.

The last six months of ECARE have been an incredible journey, with significant developments and progress in our research, networking and innovation efforts.

In this issue, you will find our latest progress in Mapping of aeronautics innovation and funding ecosystems, the substantial progress achieved in the analysis of the global aeronautical value chain needs for innovation funding, in addition to the latest progress in the development and design of our ECARE digital platform.

Another exciting milestone within ECARE was the successful organization of the significant Transnational Workshop on November 28th at the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking headquarters in Brussels. The workshop successfully brought together stakeholders from across Europe, fostering discussions on funding synergies.

Discover about all these news and much more, in this newsletter and let's Fly green together!

The project is supported by the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking and its members.

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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LATEST PROGRESS

Mapping of aeronautics innovation and funding ecosystems

Mapping of aeronautics innovation and funding ecosystems has been completed in due time with the issuing of the Deliverable report D2.1 Taxonomy and Mapping. Being the first technical deliverable of the project, a lot of attention was given by both the project team and the project officer of Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking with the main goal to guarantee the simplest possible understanding of the content by other actors in other European regions that will be invited to follow the same approach and analysis.

In line with the ECARE project objective to develop and disseminate methodologies to create synergy mechanisms applicable to all EU aeronautical regions, the aim was to realize an exhaustive mapping of the calls, funded projects, and competences in four major regions of the European aeronautical industry, namely Occitanie and Nouvelle Aquitaine in France, Hamburg in Germany and Campania in Italy.

The **first** result is represented by the ECARE taxonomy which was created from the 20-year-old ACARE taxonomy and EDA taxonomy, technical skills of each cluster, cross-correlation with regional RIS3 & Clean Aviation SRIA. The purpose of this taxonomy is to:

- **have a common basis for analyzing the different funding programs**
- **trace the correlations with the RIS3 of the 4 regions and the CA SRIA,**
- **link projects and calls to technological building blocks**
- **identify and map the technological skills of supply chain players.**

The ECARE taxonomy is characterized by 24 first level topics and 210 subtopics, duly described.

A **second** result is the mapping of funded projects. The methodology developed was based on the use of the internal databases of each cluster partner of the project, transmission of funded project lists by funding bodies (regions and national), collection of information during interviews with the members companies. A total of 246 funded projects have been identified: 107 for Italy, 79 for Germany and 60 for France. Mapping of projects allows to:

- **know who finances which project and which technological topic**
- **know the volume of funding**
- **know the TRL**
- **know the percentage of funding**
- **identify gaps or replicating calls**
- **know the funded projects to ensure continuity**
- **further analyse the data**

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LATEST PROGRESS

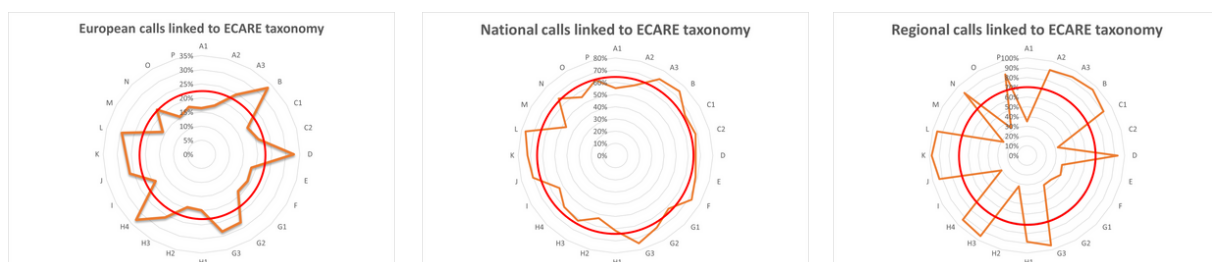
The **third** result is the mapping of calls, with the aim to list recent and current regional, national and European calls in the four ECARE pilot regions. The used methodology was based on databases of each cluster combined with information provided by funding bodies. A total of 291 calls was identified, 21 regional and national calls identified in France, 23 regional and national calls identified in Germany, 46 regional and national calls identified in Italy, and 201 European calls. Mapping of these calls allows to:

- **know how funding is directed at regional, national and European level**
- **have easy access to financing**
- **identify funding gaps**
- **have statistics regarding the type of financing (RDI, CAPEX, etc.) available in connection with the technological bricks**
- **what type of financing exists? (Partnership/ Mono-partner)**

The **last** result is the mapping of stakeholders' competences where each partner identified the characterization and positioning of the aeronautics stakeholders in its region in connection with the ECARE taxonomy. A total of 348 stakeholders' competences have been identified, 175 in France, 94 in Germany and 79 in Italy. This information allows to:

- **Map stakeholders' competences and technological bricks in a clear and visible format**
- **Find new partners for collaborative projects**
- **Identify the technological competences**

This information also serves to fill the content of the ECARE digital platform.



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LATEST PROGRESS

Analysis of global aeronautical value chains needs for innovation funding

During the last six months, ECARE has made substantial progress in the analysis of the global aeronautical value chain needs for innovation funding, mainly through the delivery of two key deliverable reports.

Firstly, the list of needs, provides a comprehensive understanding derived from 58 interviews with the aeronautic supply chain conducted across the four pilot regions: Nouvelle-Aquitaine and Occitanie in France, Campania in Italy, and Hamburg in Germany. The analysis underscores common needs across these regions, summarizing **five funding needs** and **eight synergy needs**.



Moving forward, to the Gap Analysis, it delves into a nuanced examination of funding gaps in the European aeronautical sector. Drawing from extensive data sources, including the mapping of calls, funded projects, and stakeholder competences which were completed during the early stages of the project, as well as insights from interviews the gap analysis provides a meticulous analysis of regional, national, and European funding characteristics across the four pilot regions. The document identifies **17 funding gaps that could be addressed with the 18 mechanisms for synergies** identified among the pilot regions and the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking (CAJU) program.

The comprehensive analysis of funding characteristics, stakeholder needs, and potential mechanisms for synergies contribute significantly to the global analysis of aeronautical value chain needs. It provided valuable inputs for the ECARE Transnational Workshop and contributed to the project's broader goal of enhancing collaboration, streamlining funding processes, and establishing synergies in the European aeronautical industry.

As ECARE advances, the focus will now be on developing concrete synergy mechanism proposals, accompanied by recommendations and methodologies documented in a handbook for wider application in European aeronautics countries and regions.

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LATEST PROGRESS

Recommendations for synergy mechanisms

The initiation of the work towards building recommendations for synergy mechanisms took place in September 2024, marking the beginning of preparations for the ECARE Transnational Workshop. This significant event occurred on November 28th at the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking headquarters in Brussels. Serving as a pivotal milestone within the project, the workshop successfully brought together stakeholders from across Europe, fostering discussions on funding synergies.

A total of over 30 representatives from 9 countries actively participated, representing diverse entities such as public funding authorities, aeronautic clusters, European business networks, the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking, and the European Commission. The agenda encompassed not only a comprehensive presentation on project progress and completed deliverables but also featured three parallel discussion groups, each dedicated to addressing key questions related to financing synergy mechanisms:

- Strategic alignment of policies and harmonization of processes to facilitate synergies.
- Implementation of communication and transparency actions to promote synergies.
- Development of operational pathways for the concrete achievement of synergies.



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LATEST PROGRESS

During these sessions, participants shared their collective expertise, intriguing ideas, and valuable experiences. The collaborative efforts resulted in the identification of key elements, which the ECARE consortium intends to delve deeper into over the upcoming months to prepare for the second round. The consortium extends its sincere appreciation to all attendees for their keen interest in the project and active participation.

For more details on this significant event, the ECARE consortium invites you to explore the official press release, the opening project presentation presented at the workshop, and the working panel presentations, sharing insights into the project's mission and the success achieved during the workshop [here](#).

You may also access the press release translated into French, German and Italian languages.



ECARE Project Successfully Orchestrates Transnational Workshop to foster European aeronautics funding synergies

Press Release

Press Release  **TNWS Press Release (French)** [Download](#)

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LATEST PROGRESS

The ECARE Stakeholder Group continues to Grow!

The ECARE Stakeholder Group (ESG) remains a key pillar of support for the project, currently comprising 25 members from ten diverse countries. Over the past six months, the ESG has actively engaged in two meetings, where they were briefed on project outcomes and engaged in collaborative discussions. In November, ESG members actively participated in the Transnational Workshop, enriching the day with valuable insights and experiences from their respective regions. Looking ahead to 2024, the ECARE Stakeholder Group can anticipate a range of activities, including the opportunity to serve as BETA-testers for the upcoming ECARE digital platform.



The consortium extends its sincere appreciation to all ESG members for their efforts in supporting the project thus far.

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LATEST PROGRESS

The ECARE digital platform – almost ready!

One of the key outputs of the ECARE project is a dedicated digital platform that supports the main objectives and actions of the project and provides important tools for the continuation of the project beyond its duration.

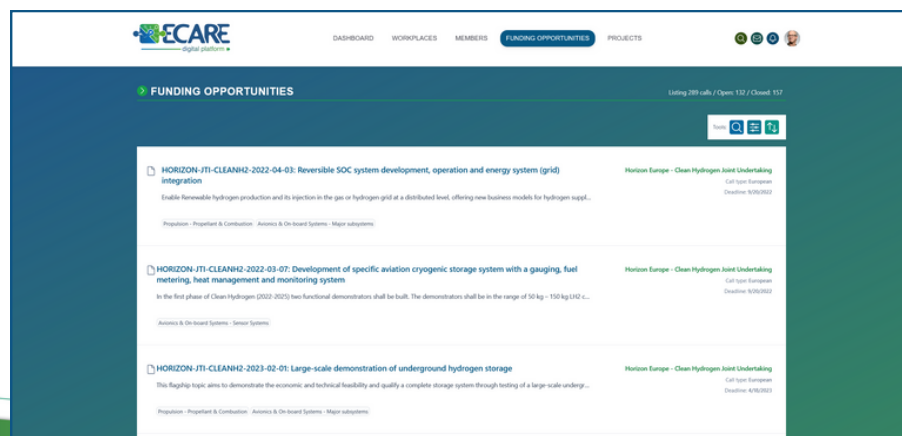
The development of the platform started in March 2023 and is implemented in three phases. In the first phase, the platform was designed in parallel with the results of the mapping of aeronautics innovation and funding ecosystems.

Based on the functions and content to be included, the development team designed the overall architecture of the system in terms of security, user-friendliness and performance.

In the second phase, the actual development took place, both in the front and back end. The databases were populated with data (projects, funding opportunities) collected by the ECARE partners and "smart engines" were created that automatically retrieve data from third-party sources such as CORDIS and the EU portal for funding and tenders. In addition, a range of tools will be implemented on the platform to enable users to collaborate, discuss, share files, vote and much more in workspaces that are truly secure and private. In addition, an intelligent digital assistant will personalize content according to users' preferences.

In the third and final phase of the platform's implementation, which we are currently in, an extended testing process is taking place. This will allow us to provide a solid and stable digital tool that contains all the information needed to build successful synergies.

The digital platform will soon be publicly accessible, and users will be able to access its content and functions. In the meantime, the development team will gather feedback from both the system and the users to continuously improve it. Furthermore, based on users' requirements and suggestions, additional features will be developed and integrated into the digital platform to make it a useful and always up-to-date tool.



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NEWS & EVENTS

✓ The ECARE project was proudly presented at the **13th EASN International Conference on "Innovation in Aviation & Space for Opening New Horizons"**. The Event took place last week in Salerno, Italy, at the Fisciano Campus of the University of Salerno, from September 5th until 8th, 2023. As expected, the EASN Conference was a major European Dissemination and Exploitation event of Aviation & Space related research projects, also gave the floor to several policy development projects to present the strategic priorities of the European aviation sector. ECARE joined the session on "European Policy Actions in the field of Aviation", which took place on September 7th, 2023, at 10:40-12:20. The session was chaired by Dr. Dietrich Knoerzer (former Senior Officer, Aviation Unit, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission). The ECARE presentation, delivered by ECARE partner Dr. Russo Gennaro (DAC), provided an overview of the project's main objectives, overall workplan and major up-to-date outcomes, activities and achievements.



✓ ECARE has been featured in the **3rd EASN periodic newsletter for 2023**. This newsletter edition included updates from the European aerospace community, topmost news, upcoming events, and featured projects. ECARE is highlighted under the section of CSA projects of the newsletter and the article highlights the latest activities and achievements of our project. You can find this latest issue of the EASN periodic newsletter [here](#).

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NEWS & EVENTS

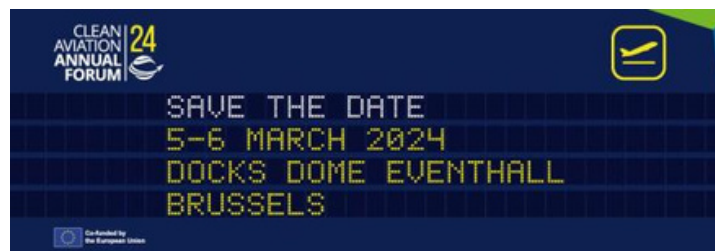
- ✓ From the 7th till 8th of November, the **General Assembly of the European Aerospace Cluster Partnership (EACP)** was held in Limerick, Ireland. The EACP brings together 45 clusters from 18 European countries and is managed by Hamburg Aviation. The consortium eagerly embraced the opportunity to participate. Maybrit Brooksnieder, project manager of ECARE at Hamburg Aviation, presented the project to the attendees. Subsequently, an engaging session unfolded, fostering discussions on synergies and funding development, thereby inspiring fresh ideas and perspectives. Moreover, the event served as an ideal platform for networking and expanding the ECARE Stakeholder Group.



- ✓ ECARE is pleased to announce its participation at the **High-Level Workshop on Synergies between European and national/regional research & innovation programmes in the aviation sector**, which will take place on March 4 in Brussels. We look forward to having the opportunity to meet our stakeholders once again, exchange and network together. You may find further details about this event [here](#).



- ✓ This year's **Clean Aviation Annual Forum** topic is: Charting the skies of Tomorrow: The Sustainable Aviation Revolution. This major yearly event will be taking place in Brussel on March 5 and 6, 2024. Save the date, as ECARE team members have already secured their spots at this significant event and will be pleased to network and exchange ideas with you and all relevant stakeholders.



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THE TEAM



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