

# Widening Impacts Spring 2025 Webinar Series



## SolarHub's Story

### From Idea Conception to Post-Project Ambitions and Vision

**Date:** 31 Jan. 2025 Friday

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:00 CET

**Registration:** <https://forms.gle/iSKZANtsK7EuNB9SA>

**Registration closes at 13:00 CET Jan. 30, 2025:** Only registered participants will receive a meeting link.

**Abstract:** *SolarHub: A Greek-Turkish Solar Energy Excellence Hub to Advance the European Green Deal* is a European Union project funded under the Horizon Europe Excellence Hubs (EH) call. The objectives for this webinar are to

- Support the formation of an EH Community;
- Increase awareness of and support for SolarHub specifically, and EH projects and the Widening Programme more generally;
- Catalyze new collaborations;
- Disseminate best-practices and lessons-learned from elaborating the SolarHub proposal and executing the SolarHub project.

The primary target audiences are

- Other EH projects and their external stakeholders;
- Stakeholders with interests in the solar energy sector in Greece and Turkiye, and the Energy-Food-Water Nexus and the Green Transition more generally;
- Stakeholders for the EU Widening Program, including those with interests / activities in writing EU proposals and executing EU projects.

The webinar will begin with the proposal background that led to the SolarHub concept and consortium, cover the development of the proposal and execution of the project to date, and conclude with the post-project ambitions and vision. The webinar will include key characteristics of the proposal and project including lessons-learned. The webinar is intended to consist of a ~35 min. presentation and ~15 min. of Q&A and open discussion.

## About SolarHub

**Keywords:** Solar energy; Energy-Food-Water Nexus; Decarbonization; Innovation; Entrepreneurship; Green Deal; Interconnected R&I Ecosystems; R&I Hub; R&I Policy; Greece; Türkiye.

**Summary** [Adapted from [CORDIS](#)]: Solar Energy Innovation Ecosystems (SEIE) are important for combating climate change. In this context, the EU-funded SolarHub project will strengthen connections between two Greek and three Turkish SEIEs to form a Solar Energy Excellence Hub. Specifically, SolarHub co-develops a Hub Strategy and a Joint Strategic R&I Agenda. By implementing a diverse set of complementary interventions, it will engage industry, government, research institutes and the public to support research and accelerate commercialization. The project will also implement joint research activities and develop four pre-designs of diverse solar energy solutions targeting the agrofood sector. To maximize its impact, SolarHub supports networking and training opportunities, and promotes synergies between research infrastructures.

**Objectives** [Adapted from [CORDIS](#)]: SolarHub's overall aim is to strengthen connections between and scale-up 2 Greek and 3 Turkish SEIEs as a single, hybrid, cross-border, and interconnected Solar Energy Excellence Hub with an emphasis on agriculture applications.

SolarHub's 4 Specific Objectives (SOs) are explicitly framed by the call's 5 Core Components and target the call's Expected Outcomes and the destination's Expected Impacts. These SOs are to:

1. Co-develop a Hub Strategy and a Joint Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda;
2. Execute a diverse set of complementary interventions, engaging all players of the quadruple helix to support R&I and accelerate commercialization;
3. Implement joint R&I activities to co-develop 4 pre-designs of diverse solar energy solutions;
4. Maximize the project's impacts through Dissemination, Exploitation, and Communication activities carefully tuned to actively engage all players of the quadruple helix.

To achieve these objectives, a diverse and complementary set of measures are proposed that include

1. Creation of relevant R&I strategies and policies;
2. Networking between SolarHub & ecosystem stakeholders;
3. Multi-level engagement & training internal and external to the project consortium;
4. Combination of R&I infrastructures for synergies;
5. Creation of targeted joint programs and linkages between Greece and Türkiye based on sound technological solutions;
6. Understanding market dynamics and policy measures to enforce and sustain implementation;
7. Engaging a comprehensive and diverse set of key stakeholders covering the quadruple helix;
8. Exploiting the positive results from all the above to setup a sustainable collaborative initiative after the end of the project.

SolarHub's consortium contains 21 partners (7 Academic, 9 Business, 3 Public Authorities, and 2 Societal Actors) that are well-balanced between Academia and Business, and fully completes the quadruple helix. SolarHub is a 4-year project with 5 carefully designed Work Packages that efficiently exploit the consortium's diverse knowledge and expertise to develop Green solutions to today's Societal Challenges.

### Follow, More Information, and Contact:

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/solarhubeu/>

**Project Website:** <https://horizonsolarhub.eu/en/>

**EU Cordis Website:** <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101086110>

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## About the Widening Impacts Spring 2025 Webinar Series

The Widening Impacts Spring 2025 Webinar Series was seeded by the SolarHub project with an overall aim to increase the impacts of EU Widening Projects by creating a platform for Widening Projects to showcase their capacities, activities, and impacts to a large and diverse set of key stakeholders for the EU's Widening Program. The webinar series' specific objectives are to

- Catalyze inter-project collaborations;
- Create new opportunities by reaching new audiences;
- Increase ecosystem and hub knowledgeability;
- Gain competitive advantage by sharing knowledge & best-practices;
- Better exploit project results and improve project impacts;
- Achieve critical mass when engaging with key funding and policy decision makers at institutional, regional, and national levels.

The vision is to make recordings of these webinars Open Access, such as through YouTube or by creating a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), where this SolarHub webinar as the 1<sup>st</sup> webinar will be used to determine the best platform and feasibility of this vision.

**Secured Webinars:** In addition to SolarHub, the following projects have indicated their interest in organizing a webinar, where the dates and times for these webinars are To Be Determined.

**ADDIT-CE** Alzheimer's Disease Diagnostics Innovation and Translation to Clinical Practice in Central Europe

**BCThubs** Blue Culture Technology Excellence Hubs in EU Widening Member States

**CARONICA** Carbon Initiative for Climate-resilient Agriculture

**CHAngeing** Connected Hubs in Ageing: Healthy Living to Protect Cerebrovascular Function

**CHESS** Cyber-security Excellence Hub in Estonia and South Moravia

**COALition** Promoting Innovation Excellence in Transformation of Coal Regions to Climate-Neutral, Thriving Economies

**DxHub** Connecting Greek and Portuguese Innovation Ecosystems to Develop a Hub for Infectious Disease Diagnostic Solutions at the Point-of-Care-Tackling Cross-Border Threats

**ECHO** Energy Communities excellence Hubs: catalyzing energy innOvation ecosystems

**Excel4Pro** Strengthening the Capacity of Excellence Hubs of Türkiye, Greece, and Ukraine to Support Innovation Ecosystem of Novel Foods Based on Plant Proteins

**FINEST TWINS** Establishment of Smart City Center of Excellence

**GeneH** Excellence Hub for Innovation in Gene Therapy

**GlaCerHub** Glass ceramic innovation ecosystem for implementation of new research directions in applications

**HERIFORGE** Cultural heritage and immersive technologies for innovation forge

**INNO2MARE** Strengthening the capacity for excellence of Slovenian and Croatia innovation ecosystems to support the digital and green transitions of maritime regions

**LASER-PRO** Excellent laser technologies for the Sustainable Prosperity of Europe

**MarTe** Marine Technology Excellence Hub for sustainable blue economy in Baltics

**METACITIES** MetaCities Excellence Hub in South-Eastern Europe

**VELES** Strengthening the South-East Europe Smart Health Regional Excellence and Boosting the Innovation Potential

**WaterWise** The WaterWise Hub: An Excellence Hub on Water in the Circular Economy

**Additional Webinars:** If this webinar series proves successful, it will be opened to other Widening and Widening-Relevant Projects with an ambition to *Leave No Widening Project Behind*.



**Supporting Projects:** The Widening Impacts Spring 2025 Webinar series is supported by the following cluster of Excellence Hubs (EH) projects working to create an EH Community, with all projects being funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation program with GA number in parentheses: ADDIT-CE (101087124); BCThubs (101087146); CARBONICA (101087233); CHAngeing (101087071); CHESS (101087529); COALition (101087022); DxHub (101186531); ECHO (101185725); Excel4Pro (101186662); GeneH (101186939); GlaCerHub (101087154); HERIFORGE (101186573); INNO2MARE (101087348); LASER-PRO (101186838); MarTe (101186498); METACITIES (101087257); SolarHub (101086110); VELES (101087483); WaterWise (101184151).

**Follow, More Information, and Connect:**

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**Website:** Coming Soon to <http://wideningimpacts.eu>

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**Privacy Statement:** All activities that are part of SolarHub and the Widening Impacts Spring 2025 Webinar series are committed to compliance with GDPR Regulations.

**Informed Consent:** The workshop will be recorded with the intent to both share the recording with all registered participants and to make this recording Open Access through an appropriate channel such as YouTube or as a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).

**Personal Data:** Personal Data will be recorded to manage registration and participation. Participants who Opt-In may receive follow-up communications. The collected data will be used for project reporting purposes to the European Commission (EC). Any data shared outside the webinar organizers (specifically, SolarHub and supporting EH projects) and the EC, such as for project Communication, Dissemination, or Exploitation activities, will first be anonymized by removing information that can be used to identify unique individuals (e.g., email addresses and names). The data collected will not be used for any other purposes outside those stated above.

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