**ERA Action 12**

**Scoping paper on possible areas of interest**

**(2025-2027)**

**Introduction**

ERA Action 12 ‘Accelerate the green/digital transition of Europe’s key industrial ecosystems’ addresses the priority of the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe linked to strengthening synergies between R&I policy and sectoral and industrial policies.

The purpose of this paper is to stimulate a discussion on the possible follow-up of this action in the ERA Policy Agenda 2025-27, and on further actions to accelerate the green and digital transitions of Europe’s key industrial ecosystems.

The potential activities proposed for discussion in this paper build on the activities developed under Action 12 as well as propose new lines of action. This is a non-exhaustive list.   
Further ideas are welcome from the ERA Action 12 contact points. .

All proposed activities should be considered from the perspective of the added value to the ERA and the priorities of the Pact, the lack of possibility to implement through other means (e.g. Horizon Europe) and their collaborative potential stimulating actions at EU, national and stakeholders’ levels.

**Narrative for the future action**

The proposed overall objective of the action is to develop a systematic way for bringing R&I results to uptake and deployment for the green transition. This includes promoting a systemic toolbox for:

* assessing R&I results and state of play in relevant technologies,
* bringing these to industry, developing investment agendas and supporting technology maturity
* and facilitating the way towards deployment.

**Indicators & data**

Assessing the R&I results and state of play

Transfer to the industry (emerging/new technologies)

Facilitate deployment

Showcase use of toolbox in identified areas

In selected areas the action will map the existing tools, showcasing good practices and facilitating exchange of experience and bringing new knowledge. It will also identify existing gaps and explore effective ways to address them. The expected outcome of the action is better mobilisation of R&I investments (both, public and private) for the green transition as well as strengthened synergies in funding of R&I, notably by industry and for technology transfer, demonstrators and scale-up.

This action will be underpinned by development of indicators and data supporting the overall R&D&I monitoring.

**Potential activities under ERA Policy Agenda 2025-27**

1. *Accelerating decarbonisation of energy-intensive industries*

* Development and implementation of national industrial technology roadmaps: identifying best practices of support mechanisms at the EU and national levels; support for roadmap implementation linked to e.g. the mix of policy instruments, impact of regulatory and non-regulatory framework conditions, stakeholder consultations, etc.
* Bringing industrial demonstrators to the market: update of demonstrators’ mapping, including both EU and nationally funded projects; developing best practices in funding instruments; establishing a monitoring platform on decarbonisation demonstrators across Europe.
* Facilitating the transfer of decarbonization technologies: identification of effective technology transfer channels, in particular to less performing regions/countries; building bridges to initiatives facilitating the uptake of low carbon technologies at regional level (e.g. Regional Innovation Partnerships/Regional Innovation Valleys, Just Transition Mechanism).

1. *Advancing circular economy*

* Mutual Learning Exercise (MLE) on circular technologies and business models (scope and activities to be co-created): accelerating R&I investments in circular technologies and business models in Europe, facilitating development of new or update of existing circular economy strategies, mapping of circular economy initiatives.
* Launching pilots supporting circular economy: development and implementation of three pilots in specific areas, e.g. exploring the potential of advanced materials for circularity, or in areas addressed in the ERA industrial roadmap on circular industrial technologies and business models or inspired by it.
* Strengthening Hubs4Circularity: better connection of the Hubs and exchange of experience.

1. *Implementation of a European approach to Technology Infrastructures*

* Setting up a potential governance structure for Technology Infrastructures at EU level: implementation of the outcomes of the Expert Group on TIs, consultations with Member States, Associated Countries and Stakeholders.
* Implementation of the Technology Infrastructures pilots based on the results of the Experts Group: specific mapping of Technology Infrastructures and their services in strategic pilot areas selected by the Expert Group, mapping of specific industrial needs and gaps in these pilot areas, developing investment plans, facilitating access to TIs in pilot areas.

1. *Scaling up of Industry 5.0*

* Follow-up of the ERA Technology Roadmap on Human-centric approaches to technologies for industry, including exploring demand-side policies for companies to adopt human-centric research & innovation practices, and creating learning ecosystems adapting to the twin transition.
* Establishing Community of Practice and the Industry 5.0 Assessment Tool: exchange of good practices, better understanding of new models of governance processes   
  (i.e. participatory change process, stakeholder engagement), developing the assessment tool prototype and testing/validation with stakeholders.

**Guiding questions for discussion:**

* Do you agree with the narrative for ERA Action 12 in 2025-2027? What do you expect as an outcome / deliverable?
* Do you agree on the relevance of the proposed activities as components of a   
  follow-up of ERA Action 12 in the future?
* In which of the proposed activities would you be interested to engage?
* Are there other important issues that you find missing in these activities?
* What other major lines of activities would you propose?