



Good practice

EBA: The European Battery Alliance Academy

Working Group: Research & Innovation (R&I)

Member States: 27 EU countries

Thematic area: Jobs and Skills



Basic project details

Lead organisation:

InnoEnergy Skills Institute - Netherlands

Partner organisations:

The European Battery Alliance (EBA) is a collaborative network of more than 800 participants, covering the entire battery value chain.

Project duration: February 2022 – January 2025

Overview and objectives

The EBA Academy was a 36-month project on reskilling/upskilling employees within and across the full battery value chain, which is one core industry for a green and sustainable future. Launched by the InnoEnergy Skills Institute, following a mandate from the European Commission, the Academy coordinated the re-skilling and upskilling efforts at European level and provided high-quality training across Member States. It served as a re-/upskilling instrument in the shape of a “training services platform” for governments, associated training providers and industry, having trained more than 100 000 learners directly, and benefited 700 000 indirectly. The InnoEnergy Skills Institute is actively involved in a variety of initiatives to address the skills gap in the European battery sector. The Institute is a part of European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) InnoEnergy, whose broader mission is to support Europe’s transition to a sustainable energy future.

Context

The rapid development and investment in e-mobility are creating skill gaps across the European battery value chain. This project tackled this skill mismatch problem through reskilling/upskilling of the employees within and across the value chain.

Target groups

Employees within the battery value chain, training providers, and industry professionals.

Actions

Inspired by the dynamic sustainable energy ecosystem of EIT InnoEnergy, the EBA Academy empowered professionals and businesses worldwide with the knowledge and skills vital for building a net zero economy. It specialised in skills intelligence, modular training, and industry-recognised qualifications and certifications. The Academy delivered tailored solutions, empowering individuals and businesses with the essential skills for success in the ever-evolving sustainable energy landscape.

Financial allocation

Total budget: EUR 10 000 000

EU co-funding: Yes

Sources of funding: Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT-EU)



Working Group Insights

“In agreement with the other members of the R&I WG, I selected this good practice because this project combines a strong European foundation with a deep local impact. By leveraging knowledge and expertise from across the continent, it has developed an academy that collaborates closely with regional actors to tailor its approach to specific local needs and conditions. To date, 13 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) have been signed with Member States to ensure effective local deployment, engaging top-tier training providers in each region. This action is tightly aligned with the European strategy, supporting the EU’s Green Transition policy and already integrated into the EU Skills Agenda and the Pact for Skills. Its design and execution reflect a commitment to addressing both regional and pan-European priorities, ensuring relevance, impact, and sustainability.

By providing training to reskill and upskill employees within and across the full battery value chain, the project improved the skills of 100 000 learners who have been reached directly through this program and a goal has been set to train 800 000 workers by 2025. Hence, on one hand, a new cohort of talent has been trained and on the other hand, upskilling and retention of skilled workforce has been ensured. The strategic public-private partnership and MoU signing with member states has laid ground for longer term national collaboration. An extensive curriculum has also been developed to ensure that graduates remain industry relevant”.

PAOLA FANTINI

Education and Innovation expert at University of Naples Federico II

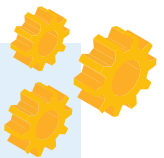
Results

The project produced several significant outcomes. First, it laid ground for long-term international collaboration through strategic engagement with the Member States. Second, an extensive curriculum for over 60 courses has been developed. Additionally, over 100 000 learners have been trained.



Success factors

Success factors for the project include strong collaboration with industry partners, contributing to a strong support base for the programme and the establishment of close ties between the local academia and the businesses. Comprehensive training programs enable the students to gain a large set of highly relevant skills for innovation, while alignment with EU policies and priorities on green energy and industrial innovation ensures long-term funding and cross-border cooperation, contributing to the success of the established partnerships and resulting innovation projects.



Implementation challenges

Coordinating activities across a wide range of Member States and aligning them with both EU-wide priorities and specific regional needs proved complex, requiring intensive stakeholder engagement and thorough consultations. Ensuring consistency and high quality across a decentralised network of training providers was another major challenge, especially given the varying levels of existing expertise and infrastructure across regions. Scaling up rapidly to meet the ambitious targets (training 800 000 workers) placed significant demands on the development and delivery of training modules. Furthermore, keeping the curriculum constantly updated to match the fast-evolving needs of the battery value chain and securing continuous industry involvement were critical but demanding aspects throughout the project's implementation.

The conclusion of Paola Fantini, Education and Innovation expert at the University of Naples Federico II

"This good practice showcases the power of joining forces at both the EU and local levels to address skills gaps, by creating tailored, impactful training programs that align with both regional needs and pan-European goals".

Useful sources

Official website: <https://www.innoenergy.com/skillsinstitute/services/battery/>

<https://www.eba250.com/eba-academy/?cn-reloaded=1>

<https://www.eba250.com/about-eba250/network/>

https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/news/european-battery-alliance-moves-ahead-new-european-battery-academy-launched-boost-skills-fast-2022-02-23_en

<https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/launching-european-battery-academy-reskill-thousands-industry-workers>

<https://innoenergy.com/news-resources/innoenergy-skills-institute-trains-100000-workers-for-europes-battery-sector/>

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