

THINK SMARTGRIDS

VISION AND ROADMAP
2023-2025



FRENCH SOLUTIONS FOR SMARTGRIDS

OUR VISION

The Think Smartgrids association federates and develops the French smart grids ecosystem for the benefit of consumers, the energy transition and the attractiveness of the regions.

It promotes solutions that contribute to reducing energy consumption, ensuring the security of supply and reinforcing the competitiveness of the electricity system.

FEDERATING FRENCH SMART GRID STAKEHOLDERS

The entire smart grids value chain is represented within the association, which has around 100 members: startups and SMEs in IT and electrical engineering, equipment manufacturers, digital service companies, grid operators, as well as research centers, universities, associations, and competitiveness

clusters. Think Smartgrids brings together these very diverse stakeholders to work within the Commissions and working groups that punctuate the daily life of the association.

REPRESENTING THE SMART GRID INDUSTRY

Think Smartgrids represents the industry to the institutional bodies who guide and finance the energy transition (the French Agency for ecological transition, the Energy Regulatory Commission, EU institutions, the French ministry of Ecology...). It promotes the know-how of its members internationally and contributes to the scaling up of solutions developed by its members, while enlightening the industry on the technologies to be developed and tested for tomorrow.

THE ASSOCIATION'S MANAGEMENT

The association is chaired by Xavier Piechaczyk, CEO of RTE (French TSO), and vice-chaired by Hervé Champenois, CTO and member of Enedis' Executive Committee (main French DSO). Its general delegate, Régis Le Drézen, was previously Head of Development and Innovation for the Electric Mobility department of Enedis, after leading the Smart Grid Vendée project and holding the position of Director of Enedis Vendée.



BRINGING TOGETHER THE DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS

The Commissions are the association's permanent working bodies, chaired by well-known figures in the sector. They are true poles of reflection and action for a wide range of stakeholders. Members of the association can take part in them according to their activities and interests.

The Commissions, and the scope of their activities, are listed below:

- **The Scientific Council** defines the priorities for the R&D of the French smart grids sector, sheds light on its technological choices, references PhD theses on smart grids and awards an annual thesis prize. It is chaired by Nouredine Hadjsaid, Professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Grenoble Alpes University, and vice-chaired by Pierre Mallet, Director of R&D and Innovation at Enedis.
- **The Territories Commission** identifies smart grid offers that promote the development and energy transition of territories based on efficient business models. Its catalog of smart grids offers is intended for territories wishing to develop projects around issues such as multi-energy networks, electric mobility, smart buildings, the environment, etc. This commission is chaired by Matthieu Terenti, Head of Partnerships and Co-construction at Enedis' Electric Mobility division.
- **The International Commission** coordinates interactions with foreign delegations interested in French smart grid know-how. It organizes the representation of the French sector at international events and monitors the implementation of agreements signed with foreign countries. It is chaired by Thomas Bazin, Strategic Account Executive at Schneider Electric, and vice-chaired by Jean-Luc Roy, Protection & Control Innovation Director at GE Renewable Energy.
- **The Institutional Relations Committee** monitors legislation and regulations and conveys the voice of the association's members to French and European decision-makers. It responds to key public consultations for the industry, publishes position papers on behalf of the industry, meets with elected officials and decision-makers, and informs member companies about regulatory changes that could impact them, and about the various existing public funding mechanisms. This commission is chaired by Marcela Mantilla, Chief of Cabinet for European Industrial Affairs at RTE.

- **The Digitization Commission** studies the major issues associated with the digital transformation of utilities (industrialization of data projects, cybersecurity, new AI technologies, etc.). In addition to organizing webinars and information meetings, it publishes studies and white papers: The digital transformation of utilities (Nov. 2018); Data analytics in utilities (Nov. 2019); Using data to fight energy poverty (January 2021); Managing electricity consumption with data: energy service offers for residential customers in France (June 2022). This commission is co-chaired by Thomas Lacroix, CTO of Cosmo Tech and François Bouteyre, Director of Energy & Utilities Consulting at Sopra Steria Next.

Although each Commission has its own theme, they work together to best guide the association's actions. Working Groups can intervene in support of the Commissions to deal with a specific issue and carry out a task over a limited period of time.



SHARING INFORMATION

Think Smartgrids organizes information events and webinars on key issues in the sector (flexibility, self-consumption, grid resilience, electric mobility, edge computing, decarbonization of industrial processes, etc.), which can have several objectives: to disseminate information to the sector, to encourage networking and collaboration, and finally to present the know-how and solutions of its members.

The association also sends its members a weekly press summary with news of its members and of the sector, and a monthly newsletter that relays the news of the association, but also all the calls for proposals, tenders and competitions that may be of interest to its members, as well as regulatory changes and European news that may impact the sector.

Finally, the association regularly publishes guides, studies and position papers for the industry, the international community and/or public authorities. These publications can be used to inform decision-makers in order to orientate funding policies towards the smart grid technologies that are at the heart of the decarbonization of the energy system by enabling massive electrification of uses (transport, buildings and industries). On this subject, see the Think Smartgrids manifesto "[For a new electricity revolution to decarbonize the energy system](#)" (January 2023).



BUILDING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS TO FOSTER THE REALIZATION OF SMART GRID PROJECTS

With numerous partnerships signed with international entities, Think Smartgrids develops collaborations between smart grid ecosystems and promotes the realization of projects.

In May 2021, Think Smartgrids signed an agreement with the Association of Power Utilities of Africa (APUA) to accelerate the development of access to electricity, facilitate the integration of renewable energy and deploy smart meters on a large scale in Africa.

Various agreements signed with India, Indonesia and Singapore have led to the implementation of very concrete projects and demonstrators, such as a study of the networks on the islands of Lombok and Sulawesi, with a view to developing

their potential for integrating renewable energies, or the deployment of 5 million smart meters in the state of Bihar and the implementation of a microgrid demonstrator on the island of Semakau.

Think Smartgrids also represents the industry at international events and exhibitions. It organizes B2B meetings for its members with foreign delegations and introductions to international smart grid ecosystems.

Finally, the association informs its members about European and international calls for projects and other export development opportunities.

NEW THINK SMARTGRIDS ROADMAP 2023 – 2025

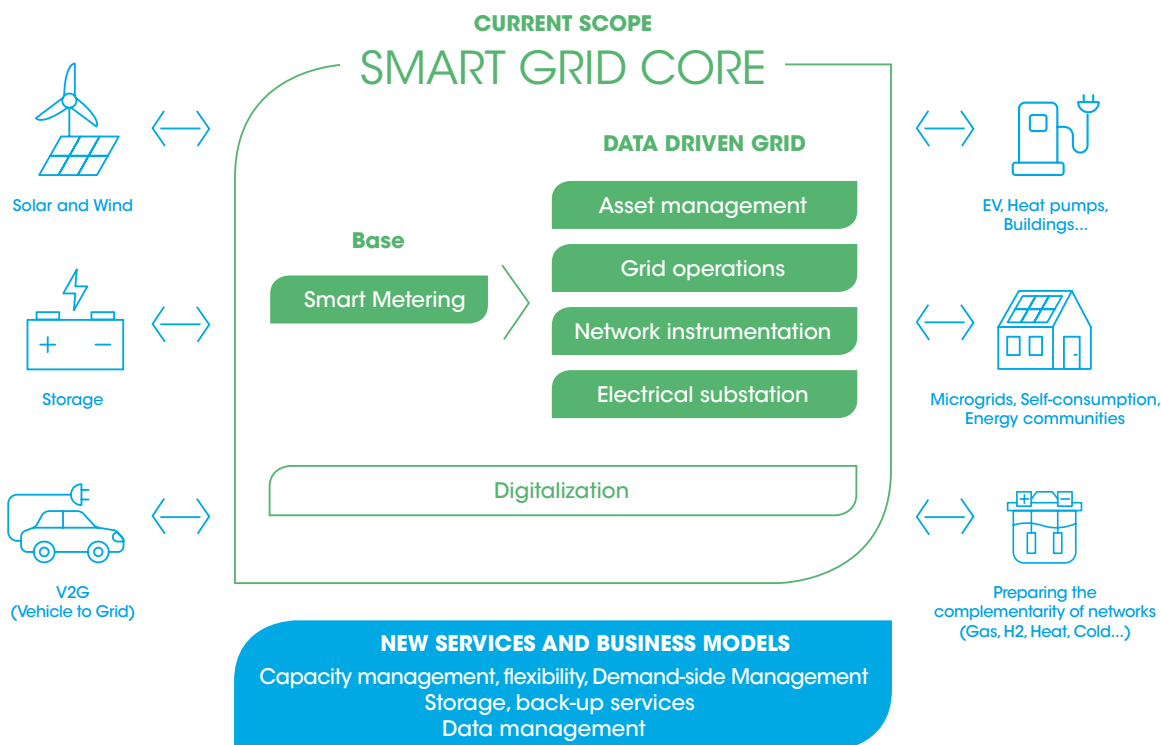


THE SCOPE OF SMART GRIDS, AND THEREFORE OF THE ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES, IS EXTENDED TO ASSETS CONNECTED TO THE GRID BOTH UPSTREAM AND DOWNSTREAM

Think Smartgrids is reviewing the scope of its work to take into account recent technological advances that accompany the energy transition: an increasing number of devices interact with the power grid, especially downstream of the meter.

New scope of the Smart Grid linked to the energy transition

Extension to the Grid edge through interfaces with the network





A NEW "RAISON D'ÊTRE" FOCUSED ON THE CONSUMER, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND THE ENERGY TRANSITION

- Think Smartgrids aims to represent and develop the French Smart Grids ecosystem in and with French and international territories, for the benefit of consumers, the attractiveness of the regions and the ecological transition.
- The association conveys the voice of the industry to stakeholders, contributes to the scaling up and implementation of the solutions of the industry and its members. It promotes solutions that contribute to energy reduction, security of supply and the competitiveness of the electricity system.
- Think Smartgrids also provides guidance to the industry on the solutions to be developed and tested in the future.



DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THE SMART GRIDS SECTOR

While maintaining the initial objectives of the association (to federate and develop the industry in France, to develop international collaborations and to bring the voice of members to key players), Think Smartgrids aims to:

- Develop contacts leading to business opportunities
- Act in complementarity with other associations in the sector
- Invest more in regional ecosystems (local authorities, Energy Syndicates, competitiveness clusters, etc.)



THE ASSOCIATION'S PRIORITIES FOR 2023-2025

In addition to communication, information, event organization and the development of international collaborations, the work of the Commissions will focus on the following themes:

- **Flexibilities**

- Relevance, economic valuation and profitability analysis of the different flexibility levers (diffuse flexibility, storage, hydrogen...)
- Promotion of French know-how, as France is a leader in flexibility
- Involvement of consumers (individuals, industrialists, local authorities...) in flexibility

- **Network resilience**

- Controlling, optimizing network operation and storage to meet the needs of the energy transition
- Digitalization and adaptation to climate change
- Dependency on minerals and critical materials
- Cybersecurity
- Security of supply and the role of interconnections...

- **Integration of renewable energies**

- Accelerating innovation
- Developing the "contractual" rules of the game that accompany these innovations (clipping, smart connections, use of reactive power, etc.)

- **Infrastructure and electric vehicles (EV)**

- EV supporting the future management of electrical networks
- Reflection on V2G and the standards to be adapted

- **New network architectures**

- Micro-grids: existing REX and solutions to implement
- Energy communities and collective self-consumption: European benchmark, REX of implemented projects, perspective on the devices to be deployed and the necessary regulatory changes
- DC networks: Research and projects worldwide; deployment of a demonstrator in France

- **Decarbonization of industrial processes (electrification)**

- Electrification of industrial processes, heat pumps
- Planning and smart connection issues

- **Data and digital**

- The subject is transverse to all the themes listed above

- **Skills / Training**

- Dedicated task force to promote jobs in the sector
- Recommendations for the sector

THINK SMARTGRIDS ASSOCIATION

The Think Smartgrids association federates the French smart grids industry, from electricity network managers to major French industrialists and equipment manufacturers in the energy sector, including startups and SMEs in the digital and electrical engineering sectors, as well as the world of academia and research.

The association supports the scaling up of solutions that contribute to the decarbonization of the energy mix and to the development of territories, but also to energy efficiency, security of supply and the efficiency of the electrical system, for the benefit of consumers.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



OBSERVER MEMBERS



PARTNER MEMBERS



Universities, research centers and laboratories



Think Smartgrids – Tel: +33 1 42 06 52 50 – contact@thinksmartgrids.fr
www.thinksmartgrids.fr - @ThinkSmartgrids