

## Boosting the Slovak Battery Ecosystem into the Next Decade

*Discussion on how Slovakia can support Research and Development of batteries as an essential part of the battery ecosystem in the field of energy storage and e-mobility*

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 11th, 15:00-17:45

Location: hybrid event

Language: Slovak

The focus of this event – co-organized by the Slovak Battery Alliance (SBaA), Slovak Electric Vehicle Association (SEVA) and GLOBSEC – is the R&D segment as the core of the emerging Slovak Battery Ecosystem. There is no longer any doubt that the future of the automotive industry lies in electric vehicles in which batteries is by far the most valuable component. For a country like Slovakia producing more cars per capita than anywhere in the world, the fundamental shift from traditional internal combustion vehicles to the electric is a challenge that needs to be met with a sound strategy covering clear, anticipatory policies keeping Slovakia at the forefront of the industry within the battery value chain.

Moreover, there is strong momentum to catch the electrification wave and act fast. Regarding energy storage, the total annual energy storage market in Europe is expected to reach 3.000 MWh in 2021 – almost double the annual storage deployments seen in 2020.

In order to improve the current status of batteries, it is vital to speed up collaborative R&D activities in Slovakia. However, R&D projects cannot depend on the private sector alone, as it requires an interdependent public-private cooperation. EU funds is deemed necessary. At the moment, for Slovakia:

1. the previous round of EU funding is ending;
2. the European Recovery and Resilience Plans offer new opportunities;
3. preparation for „Partnerskej dohody k eurofondom 2021 – 2027“ is underway;
4. several other funding schemes are available.

Finally, Slovakia needs to accelerate implementation of EU Winter Package legislation, to strengthen the position of e-mobility, to remain world class in the automotive industry, to implement legislation on batteries, to support energy storage development and to realize the transition towards a sustainable, green and decarbonised economy.

### **The main goals of the conference/webinar:**

1. To inform all relevant organisations, ministries and private sector about the requirements of the EU towards ministries and to inform about current projects in R&D of batteries covering electromobility and energy storage;
2. To cooperate between all subjects related to R&D activities and related to fulfill obligations towards the EU;
3. To present the current and future needs of the public and private sector in the area of electromobility and energy storage, with potential mutual support.

## **Sessions of the event (May 11 | 15:00-17:45)**

### **15:00 – 16:15 Session 1: Current R&D Battery Projects and Plans reaching EU goals**

- Moderator: Vazil Hudák, Vice Chair, GLOBSEC
- Kick-off speaker: Karol Galek, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy, Slovak Republic
- First response (current projects): Jozef Urban, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors, InoBat Auto; Marián Smik, Chairman of the Slovak Battery Alliance & CEO, AEN; Stanislav Králik, CEO, ZTS Výskum a Vývoj; Jozef Matušov, Head IPCEI Project, Energoaqua & Project Manager, University of Zilina;
- Second response (academia): Karol Frohlich, Director, Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV); Peter Drgoňa, Associate Professor, University of Zilina.

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee break

### **16:30 – 17:45 Session 2: Support and cooperation to boost the Slovak Battery Ecosystem**

- Moderator: Vazil Hudák, Vice Chair, GLOBSEC
- Kick-off speaker: Lívia Vašáková, Advisor to the Prime Minister & Director-General Recovery Plan Section, Ministry of Finance, Slovak Republic
- First response: Peter Balík, Director-General, Ministry of Investments, Regional Development and Informatization, Slovak Republic
- Private sector response: Patrik Križanský, Director, Slovak Electric Vehicle Association (SEVA);
- Second public sector response: Peter Blaškovits, General Director, Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency (SIEA)
- Academia response: Juraj Sinay, Professor, Technical University of Kosice