

A.SPIRE INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION DAYS 2026

ALIGNING THE PROCESS INDUSTRIES RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND DEPLOYMENT AGENDA FOR COMPETITIVENESS

Day 1, 21 October 2026

Albert Hall Brussels
(Chaussée de Wavre 649, 1040 Brussels, Belgium)

Register [here](#)

09:00 Welcome coffee

09:30 Connection check: Industrial and policy perspectives

Panel discussion: exploring alignments of policy and industry perspectives

- Carsten Schierenbeck, EC, DG RTD
- Willem Van Ierland, EC, DG CLIMA
- Markus Dugal, Senior Vice President Process Technology, Covestro

10:30 Context check: Connecting cross-cutting insights for the SRIDA

The perspectives and learnings from our transversal teams (Foresight, Portfolio and Digital), and our Next Generation Partnership Task Force

- Ludo Diels, A.SPIRE Portfolio Leader (VITO) and Raquel Torruella, CELSA
- Tom Gränstrom, A.SPIRE Digital Leader (VTT)
- Arendt De Groot, A.SPIRE Foresight Leader (TNO)
- Ignacio Martin, Chair of Next Generation Partnership Task Force (CIRCE)

11:10 Coffee break

11:40 Priority check: Taking stock of the SRIDA progress for action

Taking stock of the SRIDA work carried out from May to September to signal key insights, progress and points for the work ahead during the afternoon SRIDA workshops and until November 2026.

- Patrick Pammer, A.SPIRE APG Chair (CHASE GmbH)
- Àngels Orduña Cao, A.SPIRE Executive Director
- Bernard Mathieu & Claude Lórea, HOP3

12:40 Lunch

13:40 SRIDA co-creation sessions: Shaping R&I Investment Journeys for Competitiveness and Strategic Autonomy

Each SRIDA discussion parallel session will focus on the Investment Journeys (IJs) analysed through the lenses of six SRIDA priority areas. Altogether, this will shape the strategic research, innovation and deployment agenda of our industries.

Participants will address identified gaps and overlaps, and shape concrete proposals to help define the IJs, further serving the purposes of renewing the Competitiveness of the Process Industries, and underpinning the Strategic autonomy of their value chains in Europe. The Investment Journeys of the SRIDA 2040 should therefore focus support on scalable technologies in Europe, accelerating their progress from technology readiness to business readiness, value chains readiness and, ultimately, investment readiness.

SRIDA Priorities 1:	SRIDA Priorities 2:	SRIDA Priorities 3:
COMPETITIVENESS through digitalisation & AI	STRATEGIC AUTONOMY through cross-sectoral circular and cascading use of material streams (feedstocks)	STRATEGIC AUTONOMY through efficient & flexible energy mix and CO2 valorisation
INNOVATION-INVESTMENT JOURNEYS - I-IJ1-Commercially viable electrification of industrial processes (direct & indirect) - I-IJ4-Digital and AI for process excellence and industrial leadership - I-IJ8-Advanced production for high value materials & products	INNOVATION-INVESTMENT JOURNEYS - I-IJ2-Commercially viable CCS and CCU integrated chains - I-IJ3-Enhanced supply of secondary critical and strategic raw materials (CSRM) - I-IJ5-Next-generation mining and mineral processing in Europe	INNOVATION INVESTMENT JOURNEYS - I-IJ1-Commercially viable electrification of industrial processes (direct and indirect) - I-IJ2-Commercially viable CCS and CCU integrated chains - I-IJ6-Renewable carbon feedstocks for Process Industries
Digital Team. Transversal to all WGs	WG3, WG4 & WG7	WG1 & WG3

15:10 **Coffee break**

SRIDA Priorities 4:	SRIDA Priorities 5:	SRIDA Priorities 6:
STRATEGIC AUTONOMY through rebuilding competitive and strategic value chains in Europe (feedstock)	STRATEGIC AUTONOMY in advanced production for high-value materials and products (materials as outputs)	COMPETITIVENESS through financial viability of the innovations and value chains (investments, funding, financing, procurement...)
INVESTMENT JOURNEYS - I-IJ3-Enhanced supply of secondary critical and strategic raw materials (CSRM) - I-IJ6-Renewable carbon feedstocks for Process Industries - I-IJ7-Reformulating Materials and Products for Safe and Sustainable Functionalities	INVESTMENT JOURNEYS - I-IJ5-Next-generation mining and mineral processing - I-IJ7-Reformulating Materials and Products for Safe and Sustainable Functionalities (title to be confirmed) - I-IJ8-Advanced production for high value materials & products	INVESTMENT ACCELERATORS For ALL the Investment Journeys, a business model and upscaling thinking applies, which should allow the investment journeys to deliver bankable processes and products. It implies a shift from dissemination of results to exploitation of results.
WG1, WG2, WG4	WG2, WG5 & WG7	Transversal to all WGs

17:10 **Wrap up session**

17:45 **End of Day 1**