

# Poland Joins SHC Programme

*The members of the SHC Programme look forward to forging a productive partnership with Poland in the years ahead.*

The road to membership was a bit long and winding. However, with the perseverance of the new SHC Polish Executive Committee member, Justyna Martyniuk-Peczek of the Gdansk University of Technology will now represent Poland. As noted by Professor Martyniuk-Peczek, the Polish government's interest grew through grassroots initiatives, with people expressing their desire to participate in IEA programmes. For her, it all began in 2019 with her initial contacts with the Ministry of Energy. Over the years, the ministries were restructured and reorganized with international cooperation activities eventually finding their home in the Ministry of Climate and Environment.

The momentum to integrate Poland into IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCPs), of which SHC is one, intensified in 2023. On March 23, 2023, a Polish TCP Coordination Day was organized, and six TCPs participated: Hydrogen TCP, Bioenergy TCP, Greenhouse Gas R&D (GHG TCP), Photovoltaic Power Systems (PVPS TCP), Wind Energy (Wind TCP), and Clean and Efficient Combustion (Combustion TCP). The day focused mainly on sectors identified as priorities in the national policy "Energy Policy of Poland until 2040."

At the same time, people interested in participating in other TCPs, such as Solar Heating and Cooling SHC TCP and Energy in Buildings and Communities (EBC TCP), were invited. The meeting aimed to promote TCP participation and gauge interest from experts, businesses, and academia. Following this event, agreements between the government and delegated institutions were discussed and prepared. And the government continued to promote collaboration with the TCPs, for example, through the website <https://www.gov.pl/web/klimat/programy-wspolpracy-technologicznej-tcp>.

Those interested in the SHC TCP were directed to cooperate with the Department of Heat Transformation and Energy Efficiency of the Ministry of Climate and Environment. With an official home established, discussions about membership in the SHC TCP became possible. Although parliamentary elections in autumn 2023 temporarily halted the decision-making process, by January 2024, efforts resumed to establish cooperation between the Ministry and the Gdansk University of Technology as a delegate of the Polish government in the SHC TCP.

### Poland & SHC Collaboration

According to the report [EU Tracker – Local heating and cooling plans in Poland](#), Poland is not yet prepared for the smooth implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED). This poses significant challenges at the national,

## MEET

### Justyna

Prof. Martyniuk-Peczek is an architect by education and professionally works in urban planning. At Gdansk University of Technology, she leads the "Light and Energy" research group, and since 2023 has headed the international research group, "Research group - SUP&ER - Solar Urban Performance and Energy Efficiency." Her work involves both buildings and neighborhoods, as well as strategic urban development programs.

As a member of the SHC TCP, Prof Martyniuk-Peczek looks forward to finding solutions to foster energy efficiency at the architectural and urban scale. Her connection with the SHC Programme began as an observer of SHC Task 61: Solutions for Daylighting & Electric Lighting. She is currently participating in SHC Task 70: Low Carbon, High Comfort Integrated Lighting, where she looks forward to analyzing urban-scale solutions that simultaneously reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and ensure the well-being of residents.



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regional, and municipal levels. To address these challenges, information, knowledge, and expertise are needed, which are not limited to a single area of action.

Poland's membership in the SHC TCP will bring numerous benefits for both academia and business, comments Prof. Martyniuk-Peczek. To begin, it will enable interested groups to participate in international projects, facilitating the exchange of experiences and knowledge regarding local conditions and best practices in solar energy and energy efficiency. In Poland, there are individuals with extensive business experience and international work backgrounds who are eager to collaborate. Through this international collaboration

with experts and institutions from other countries, Polish participants can leverage their expertise, potentially leading to faster and more efficient implementation of innovative solutions.

For Prof. Martyniuk-Peczek, she sees this participation as significantly strengthening Poland's capacity to achieve the objectives outlined in the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) and helping secure funding and technical support for the development of solar energy and heating projects, which ultimately will benefit both the economy and the environment in Poland.