



Horizon 2020  
Programme

Ref. Ares(2025)9989797 - 18/11/2025

**LEAP-RE**

*Research and Innovation Action (RIA)*

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 963530

Start date : 2020-10-01 Duration : 72 Months  
<http://www.leap-re.eu/>



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**Online Platform (including Knowledge Repository, Funding Watch, Events)**

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LEAP-RE - Contract Number: 963530

Project officer: Maria-Laura TRIFILETTI"

Document title	Online Platform (including Knowledge Repository, Funding Watch, Events)
Author(s)	Nicola MANISI, Léonard Lévêque (LGI)
Number of pages	25
Document type	Deliverable
Work Package	WP4
Document number	D4.4
Issued by	LGI
Date of completion	2025-11-13 14:55:40
Dissemination level	Public

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Summary

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the LEAP-RE Platform's main features, excluding the matchmaking module. It details functionalities such as the social newsfeed, user and organisation directories, group management, events, messaging, bookmarking, and the Knowledge Repository, including its integration with Zenodo. Emphasis is placed on usability, community engagement, and knowledge sharing. The platform offers a collaborative digital environment that supports renewable energy stakeholders in managing projects, exchanging expertise, and accessing relevant resources.

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# LEAP-RE

Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research  
and Innovation Partnership on Renewable Energy

Research & Innovation Action

May 2025

## **D4.4 - LEAP-RE Online Platform**

Version N°1

Authors:  
Nicola MANISI (LGI)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program under Grant Agreement 963530.

## **Disclaimer**

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## Document information

<b>Grant Agreement</b>	963530
<b>Project Title</b>	Long-Term Joint EU-AU Research and Innovation Partnership on Renewable Energy
<b>Project Acronym</b>	LEAP-RE
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	Vincent Chauvet – LGI
<b>Project Duration</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2020 – 30 <sup>st</sup> September 2026 (72 Months)
<b>Related Work Package</b>	WP4
<b>Related Task(s)</b>	T4.1
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	LGI
<b>Contributing Partner(s)</b>	
<b>Due Date</b>	March 2026
<b>Submission Date</b>	October 2025
<b>Dissemination level</b>	Public

## History

Date	Version	Submitted by	Reviewed by	Comments
28.05.2025	01	Nicola MANISI (LGI)	Mathilde Videlo (LGI)	

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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
WP	Work Package
KR	Knowledge Repository
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation

## Summary

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the LEAP-RE Platform's main features, excluding the matchmaking module. It details functionalities such as the social newsfeed, user and organisation directories, group management, events, messaging, bookmarking, and the Knowledge Repository, including its integration with Zenodo. Emphasis is placed on usability, community engagement, and knowledge sharing. The platform offers a collaborative digital environment that supports renewable energy stakeholders in managing projects, exchanging expertise, and accessing relevant resources.

## Keywords

Collaboration, User experience, Digital tools, Knowledge sharing, User engagement



# 1. Introduction

The LEAP-RE Platform was developed as a collaborative digital environment to support stakeholders involved in renewable energy research, particularly those participating in or connected to the LEAP-RE programme. As a H2020-funded initiative, it is designed to foster communication, resource sharing, and project coordination between European and African partners.

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the Platform's key features that support users in their daily interactions and project development efforts. It highlights the Platform's community-oriented approach and its emphasis on user experience (UX) and usability.

This deliverable also places particular focus on the Knowledge Repository and the Zenodo integration, which together form a cornerstone of LEAP-RE's knowledge-sharing objectives.

## 2. Platform Design and User Experience

The LEAP-RE Platform has been developed with a strong focus on user experience, offering a digital space where collaboration, communication, and knowledge sharing are made accessible to a wide range of stakeholders. Its interface combines clarity with functionality, minimizing barriers to use while supporting both individual and institutional engagement.

Navigation is intuitive, with clearly labelled menus and logically structured modules. The user interface is designed to be responsive and streamlined, making it easy for users to move between the platform's many tools—whether browsing content, participating in discussions, or managing events. Personalization plays a central role: each user's dashboard displays only content relevant to their profile, group memberships, interests, and activities. This adaptive logic ensures that users are not overwhelmed by irrelevant information and can focus on what matters most to them.

The overall design supports a balance between simplicity and professional collaboration. Whether users are contributing knowledge, coordinating projects, or engaging in conversation, the platform ensures that each task is as smooth and intuitive as possible. Support resources such as the publicly accessible Help Center, embedded tutorials, and feedback tools further enhance usability, encouraging active participation, and continuous learning, while making the platform adaptable to users' evolving needs.

### 2.1 Creating a user profile on the LEAP-RE Platform

To create a profile on the LEAP-RE platform, user must reach the registration page (<https://leap-re.app/signup>) and enter their email address in the dedicated field.

In the following section '*About You*', users are guided through a step-by-step form that collects essential information such as their first and last name, professional position, and phone number, as well as selecting their organization from a predefined list or manually enter its name, if it is not listed.

The next section '*Set up your preferences*' are also given the opportunity to opt in to receiving news and updates from the Platform, which can be changed at any time in their account settings.

To finalize the account creation, users must confirm that they have read and accepted the Platform's [Terms and Conditions](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). These agreements are essential to ensure that users understand and commit to the Platform's rules, including the Code of Conduct, and are informed of how their data is processed in accordance to the General Data Protection Regulation ('GDPR').

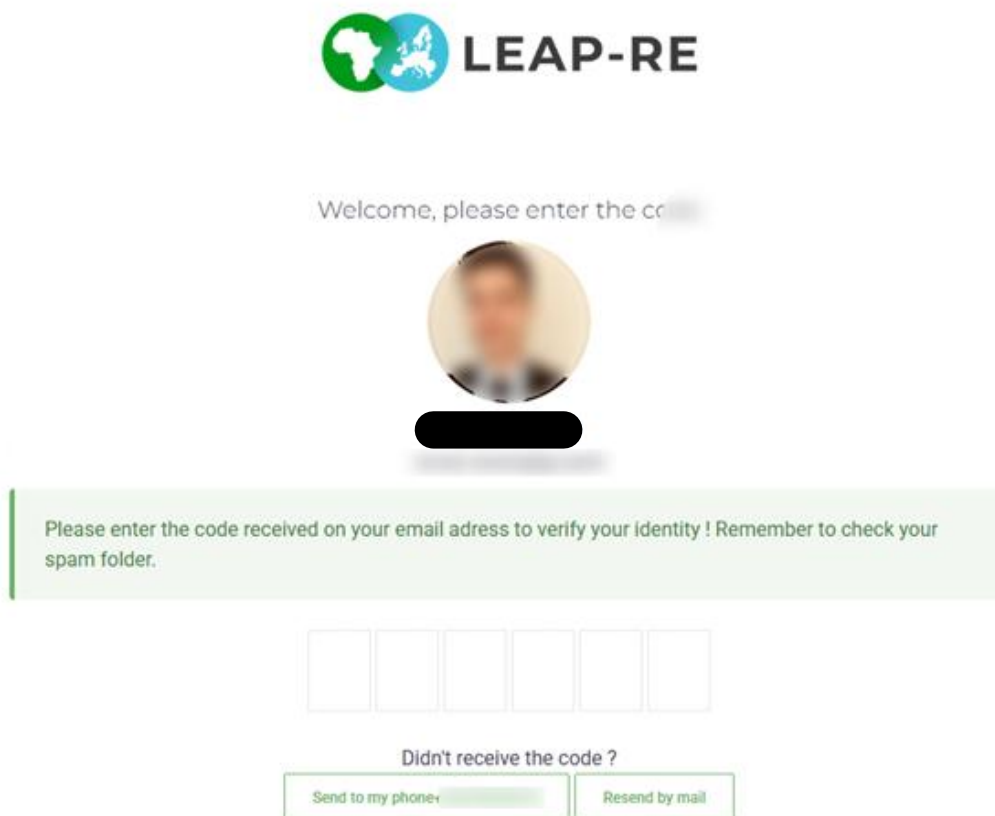
Once the form is complete, users can create their accounts and request a six-digit verification code is then sent by email, which must be entered on the login page to complete account activation. Users have the opportunity to request the code to be sent by text after a short waiting period, if the email was not received. Users' phone numbers are used exclusively for authentication purposes on the users' requests and are not used for any communication or marketing purposes.

## **2.2 Logging in on the LEAP-RE Platform**

To log in on the LEAP-RE Platform, a password-less system using temporary six-digit PINs has been implemented. It eliminates the need for users to remember complex passwords while reducing the risk of account lockouts and minimizing vulnerability to security-threats.

Upon logging onto the LEAP-RE Platform, a connection token is stored on the device used to enter the Platform. A connection token is a temporary authentication credential that allows the user to stay signed in without re-entering login information. Users are only required to enter the six-digit PIN when they log out of the Platform, when their connection token expires or when they log in on a new device. To authenticate again, users will need to use a new six-digit PIN. This ensures that access remains secure without requiring users to manage passwords manually.

Users can monitor and manage all devices connected to their accounts from the 'Security' tab of their settings.



**Figure 1: Logging in on the LEAP-RE Platform**

## 2.3 Setting up a user profile on the LEAP-RE Platform

Users have access to their account settings at any moment on the LEAP-RE Platform. They can access it through the dedicated buttons in the main menu of the Platform or their avatar. Inside the settings, tabs to navigate the different sections can be found.

In their settings, users have the possibility to update their general information, all provided during registration such as names, position and phone number and change their avatar or profile picture. Additionally, they can indicate location, spoken languages and write an introductory paragraph to present themselves to the community, displayed on their profile.

In the '*General*' section, users can also access the legal documents of the LEAP-RE Platform, decide if they want to publicly display their profile and email address on the Platform, and indicate whether they are open to collaboration or not.

In the '*Fields of Interest*' section, users have the possibility to select the tags they are interest in. Tags are thoroughly explained in section 4 of this document.

These tags are present on the entire Platform, from posts to Groups and including resources of the Knowledge Repository. They are important as they allow the Platform to provide users with relevant and customized content.

In the 'Notifications' tab, users can define their preferences in terms of notifications. They can decide what activity they want to be notified about on the portal and whether they want to receive email notifications. If they opt for email notifications, users can define the frequency of these email notifications: daily, weekly, or monthly. Finally, they can also activate Event invitation if they want to directly receive an email when they are invited to an event.

Finally tabs are available in the Settings for users to request assistance directly through the Platform using the embedded ticketing system 'Help' or 'Feedback' to share their thoughts on the platform's usability, suggest improvements, or propose new functionalities.

## 3. LEAP-RE Platform Features

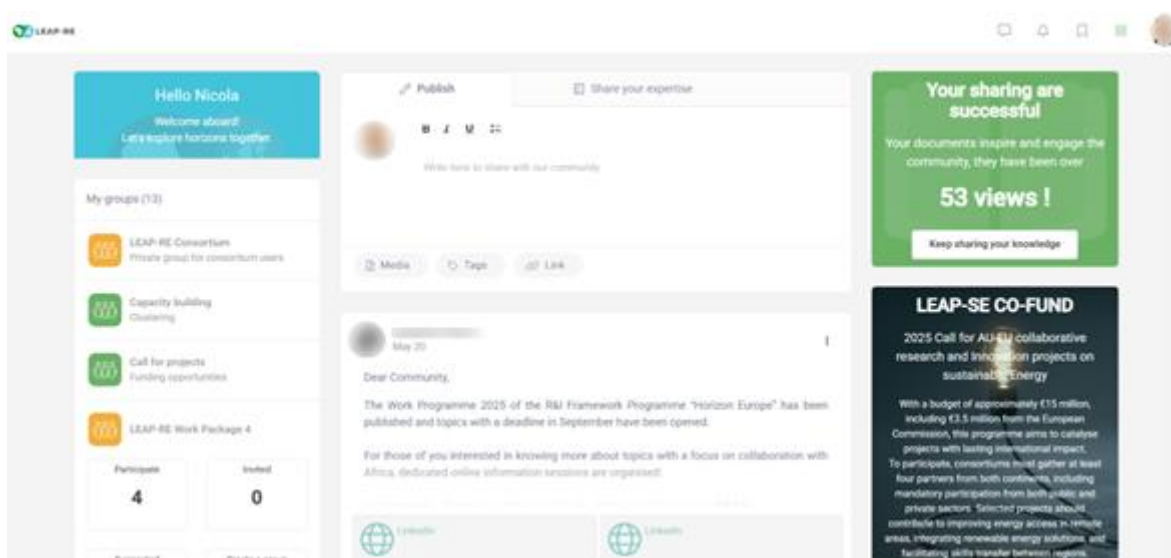
### 3.1 Landing Page and Social Newsfeed

At the core of the Platform's interactive experience lies the social newsfeed - a dynamic, personalized stream of activity that connects users with updates from across the platform. The newsfeed consolidates content from various sources, including public posts, group activities, event notifications, and recently published knowledge resources. Unlike a traditional bulletin board, the feed is uniquely tailored to each user, reflecting their group affiliations, event participation, followed projects, and personal interests.

This personalized structure ensures that users stay informed about developments that are most relevant to them. It also enhances visibility for user-generated content and facilitates timely engagement with new opportunities and ideas.

Of particular note is the integration between the social newsfeed and the Knowledge Repository. When a resource is published in the repository, it may be featured in the newsfeed of users whose declared interests or fields of expertise match the tags associated with that resource. This creates a smart, interest-driven content flow that fosters organic discovery and knowledge exchange.

The newsfeed reinforces the platform's role not only as a collaboration tool, but also as a living and evolving digital community.



**Figure 2: The Social newsfeed, landing page of the LEAP-RE Platform**



### **3.1.1 Navigating the Landing Page and the LEAP-RE Platform**

The landing page of the LEAP-RE Platform is divided into 3 main panels. The left and right panels are dedicated to widgets such as groups, calendar and shortcuts. At the center lies the newsfeed, detailed in the previous section.

At the top of the left panel sits the Group widget, informing users on the latest activities within the groups they are members of. The widget also provides indicators such as the number of groups you are participating in, the number of group you were invited to and how many public groups are suggested to you according to your fields of interest and the topics of the groups. Buttons also enable users to create a group from this widget or reach the Groups directory.

Under the Group widget, users can find the Zenodo widget, redirecting to the Zenodo space of LEAP-RE. The widget is further explained in section 4 of this document.

A widget of suggested profiles to connect with completes the left panel of the LEAP-RE Platform.

On the right panel of the LEAP-RE Platform, you successively find the following widgets: the Knowledge Repository (further explained in section 4 of this document), the Funding Watch, a Calendar, the Africa Knowledge Platform and EURAXESS Africa.

The Funding Watch widget highlights funding calls and opportunities available to fund research and innovation activities in the field of renewable energies. A dedicated button redirects to the Funding Watch module. The Funding Watch module is further explained in section 3.7 of this document.

The Calendar allows users to have an overview of the upcoming events and activities of the LEAP-RE Community, whether they are online or in-person events. A shortcut to the Events section of the Platform (detailed in section 3.5 of this document) as well as a button to quickly create events are available on the widget.

The Africa Knowledge Platform and EURAXESS Africa widgets briefly presents both platforms, while providing buttons to visit the respective platforms. These widgets were developed in order to create synergies and promote collaboration between these initiatives and the LEAP-RE online community.

At the top sits the navigation bar. The bar is present and available in every module and section of the LEAP-RE Platform. On the far left, the LEAP-RE logo is an active button directing to the landing page/newsfeed of the Platform. On the opposite side, from left to right are placed chat, notifications and bookmark icons, followed by the main menu button and the user's avatar.

The chat and bookmark icons act as shortcut to the respective spaces of the Platforms, detailed in sections 3.8 and 3.9 of this document. The notification icon works as an aggregator of all activities users need to be notified about according to the preferences they indicated in their settings (see dedicated section). The main menu button enables users to navigate the different sections, modules and features of the LEAP-RE Platform.

Finally, the Avatar button allows users to quickly reach their settings, request help or log out of their account. If a user is also an organization administrator, they will have the option to switch from their personal account to their organization account via this button.

For more information on the options available to organization administrators, please refer to the dedicated section below.

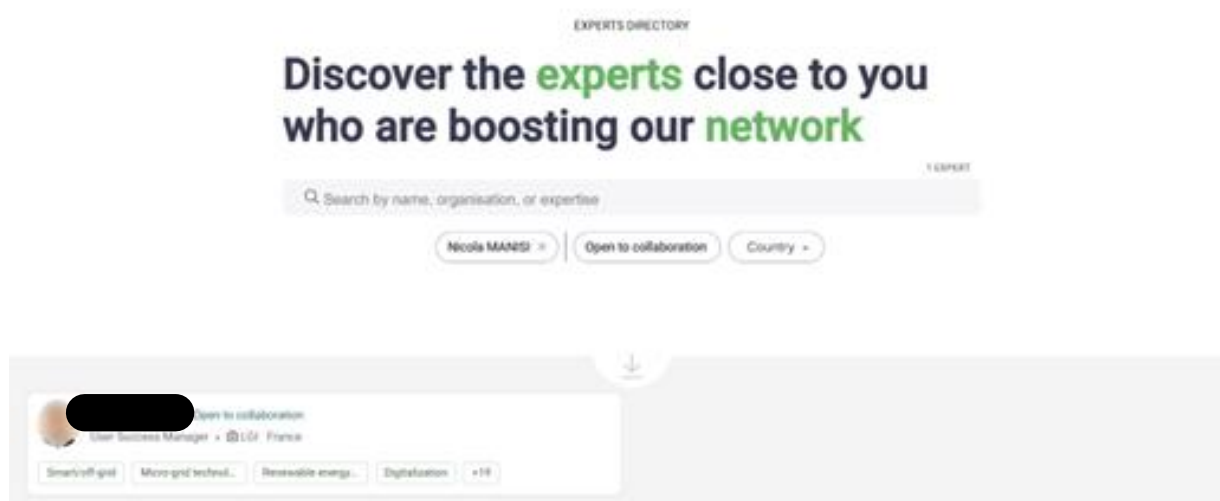
## 3.2 User Directory

The user directory is a searchable, filterable database of registered members of the Platform, designed to support networking and partner discovery.

It allows users to search for individuals by name, organisation, country, field of expertise, language, or collaboration status. Each user profile displays professional information filled by the Users in their settings, including job title, organisation affiliation, location, and LinkedIn profile.

Users can also indicate their openness to collaboration, which appears as a visible badge on their profile and in the directory, helping others quickly identify potential partners or contributors. This functionality reinforces the platform's collaborative culture by making intentions transparent and encouraging proactive outreach.

The user directory serves as a foundational layer for all forms of engagement on the platform - from forming consortia to managing groups - by making the community of users both visible and accessible.



**Figure 3: Example of a user card on the User Directory**

## 3.3 Organisation Directory

The organisation directory showcases the institutional landscape of the LEAP-RE community. It includes all organisations affiliated with the project, whether as core consortium members, Pillar 1 project partners, or external collaborators. Each organisation page presents an overview of the institution, a list of its affiliated users on the platform, and any associated content or events.

Unlike user-generated content, the organisation directory is managed from the backend by platform administrators to ensure accuracy and consistency. However, designated users - referred to as organisation page admins - can manage their institution's presence on the platform. These admins can switch between their personal and organisational profiles to publish updates, create events, and maintain their organisation's profile page. Admin roles can be assigned by existing organisation admins or by platform Super Admins.

This dual-access structure allows organisations to participate not only through individual members but also through an institutional voice, strengthening their visibility and engagement within the LEAP-RE ecosystem.

## **3.4 Working groups**

Working groups serve as thematic or project-based collaboration spaces within the platform. Each group provides a semi-autonomous environment where users can share content, engage in discussion, and manage tasks in alignment with a specific objective or area of interest.

Groups can be either public or private, depending on their purpose. Public groups are visible and joinable by any user, while private groups are restricted to selected participants. Group managers have full control over content moderation, member management, and privacy settings. Each group includes a discussion feed, file-sharing area, calendar, and member directory—allowing for a complete collaborative workflow in one place.

This modular and flexible group system enables the creation of both long-term collaborations and short-term project clusters, adapting easily to the rhythm and structure of diverse working environments.

### **3.4.1 Group and channel creation**

#### **3.4.1.1 Creating a group**

All registered users of the LEAP-RE Platform have the necessary permissions to create groups.

The process for group creation can be initiated either from the landing page, via the group widget, or the dedicated button in the [Group directory](#). Each step of the process is clearly detailed, as users go through them.

The first parameter to consider when creating a group is privacy. Groups can be either Public or Private.

In a Public group, content is visible to anyone and all users are free to join the group. Public groups can be identified by the Globe icon at the top right of a group card in the Group directory.

Contents of a Private Group are only visible to group members. All users can request membership of the group, but will only see the content once membership is granted by group admins. Private groups are marked with a Lock icon on their group cards in the Group directory. The privacy of a group CANNOT be changed.

Users then have to enter a name, subtitle and description for the group. All of them can be changed later in the group settings.

As third step, users are invited to consider the group settings by answering the following questions independently:

- Can all members of the group invite new members into the group? If not, only group administrators will be able to invite new members into the group. This parameter is only available when creating private groups, as public group are open by default.





- Can all members of the group publish information inside the group? If not, only group administrators will be able to publish content inside the group. This parameter is available when creating all types of groups.
- Will the group be visible in the Group directory? This parameter is only available when creating private groups and content remains private, whether the option is activated or not. If yes, the group can be found in the group directory and users can apply for membership. If not, joining the group can only be done upon invitation by another member of the group.

Finally, users have to select the tags of the group. Tags are important as they allow users to know which topics are discussed inside the group and facilitate filtering groups by tags in the Group directory.

### 3.4.1.2 Creating a channel inside a group

Within a group, several '*subgroups*' can be created. These sub-groups, or channels, can be dedicated to a specific topic, to specific users or a combination of both.

The main advantage of these channels resides in the fact that they allow compartmentalized exchanges between users within the same group, providing clarity and ease of organisation without diluting the general message or purpose of the group. For example, a group dedicated to a specific technology on the LEAP-RE Platform could have several channels, each dedicated to different steps of implementation such as research, testing, implementation, etc.

Channels have their own parameters, independent of those of the group in which they are hosted. Consequently, private channels can exist within a public group and also appear or not in the channels' directory. Channels privacy settings follow the same principles as groups. The process of creating a channel is the same as creating a group.

### 3.4.2 Administering groups and channels

Any user who creates a group or is automatically assigned the role of group administrator. After a group is created, any user being a member of the group can be promoted to group administrator, and a group can have as many administrators as necessary.

Group administrators can supervise its regular functioning. Inside a group, provided that group settings allow them to, participants can publish updates, start discussion threads, upload and organize documents, and share links or media relevant to their collaboration.

Group administrators are responsible for leading the group's interactions and engagement. moderate content by approving, editing, or removing posts that are off-topic or inappropriate, and are encouraged to ensure that discussions remain focused, respectful, and relevant to the group's purpose.

Administrators may also adjust the group's settings after its creation. preferences—selecting if the group is findable by the public or kept confidential, accessible solely to invited participants.

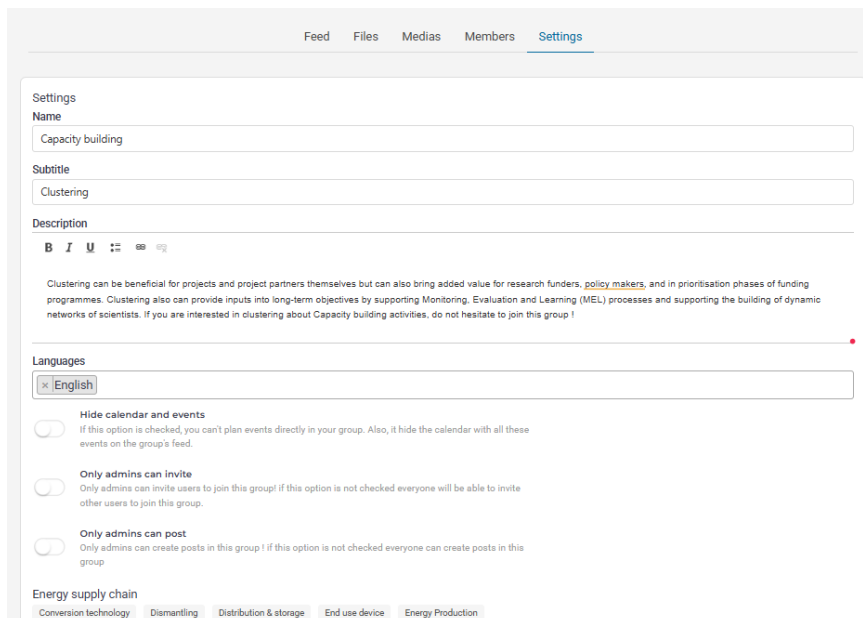
Another key element available to group managers and members – provided that the group settings allow them to, is the ability to create and promote events. These can include online workshops, in-person meetings, webinars, or collaborative work sessions. When an event is created, it is automatically added to the group's calendar.

Events include space for descriptions, dates, times, locations (physical, virtual or a combination of both), and optional files. Once published, events can be promoted within



the group or shared via the platform's messaging features and newsfeed. The possibilities offered by the event module are detailed in section 3.5 of this document.

Group and channel spaces also serve as collaborative repositories, where members can store and access shared files, hypertext links and medias. These files remain organized within the group and can be edited, commented on, or downloaded by participants. This functionality is especially useful for teams working together on proposals, reports, or joint deliverables.



**Figure 4: A group administration tab**

## 3.5 Events

The platform offers robust event management capabilities to facilitate both online, in-person or hybrid activities. Users and organisations can create events tied to specific groups, publish public events accessible to all members of the LEAP-RE online community and even external users.

A key feature of the event system is the integrated videoconferencing tool powered by Jitsi, an open-source solution embedded directly into the platform. This system enables real-time online events - such as webinars, workshops, and conferences - without requiring participants to download software or create external accounts. It supports both internal collaboration and broader community outreach. Notably, public events can be accessed by non-registered users, making the platform a valuable tool for dissemination and engagement beyond its immediate community.

The platform also supports automated recording of Jitsi events, with recordings uploaded directly to the event page once the session ends. This allows users to revisit past sessions and ensures that knowledge shared during live sessions remains accessible.

The event module supports rich descriptions, attachments, RSVP tracking, and integration with group calendars, making it an essential component of the platform's collaborative infrastructure.

### 3.5.1 Event creation and participation

#### 3.5.1.1 Event creation

Events can be created from the dedicated widget of the landing page/newsfeed, the designated button in the [Event directory](#), or the calendar widget within groups. As for group creation, users are taken through steps all the way.

The first step consists of indicating the type of event you are organizing; working group meetings, webinars or in-person events. Working group meetings have a maximum capacity of 80 participants, while webinars hold no capacity limit. Selecting the 'in-person event' button allows users to indicate the exact location of your event. Later on, they will be able to add on an online meeting to the event to make it a hybrid event.

After selecting the type of event, users need to fill the general information related to the event, such as its name, starting and ending date and time and finally a description of what the event consists of. All these information can be updated and modified once the event is created.

In the third step, users must choose the event settings, independently from one another:

- All users can participate. This option allows all users to register for your event. If this option remains deactivated users are creating a private event. Potential attendees will have to be manually invited to event, and only they will be able to participate into the event. This parameter is available whether users are creating events in group or the public space of the LEAP-RE Platform.

From the public space of the LEAP-RE Platform (i.e. the Event directory), activating this button effectively makes the event public. Consequently, any user on the internet, including those that are not registered on the LEAP-RE Platform will be able to join the event, without needing to create an account or download software.

For safety reasons external users cannot join the event without being asked to provide a name and an email address.

- Invite all group members. This option is only available for events created within a group. By toggling this button, event organizers can invite all members of the group to the event at once. Only users being members of the group at the moment the event is created will be invited if this button is toggled on. Users that might join the group after the creation of the event won't be extended the invitation and will only be able to register for the event if the 'All users can participate' button is toggled on.

All settings can be modified in the Event settings panel after the creation of the event, and users can be invited manually to the event.

Last, but not least, event organizers need to indicate the system they want to use for videoconferencing. As established previously, the LEAP-RE Platform integrates a videoconferencing system enabling to host events embedded in the Platform.

Organizers can also opt for using their own system, such as Microsoft Teams, Zoom, GMeet, etc. By toggling the corresponding button, a field appears where they are asked to provide the meeting link.

If organizers selected 'In-person' as the type of event they are organizing, an additional button is available, for indicating that this event does not have an online meeting. By not activating this button, organizers would effectively create a hybrid event.

Users complete the process by clicking on the '*Create this event*' button, consequently creating a event page and the corresponding entry in the Event directory and calendar widgets.

The Event directory, as well as the calendar widgets feature a personalized list of events. For each user of the LEAP-RE Platform, the list of events displayed in the directory and widgets is constrained by the participation and confidentiality rules defined by the organizers. Only private or public events in which the user can participate appear. In the case of events organized in a group, only events organized in groups of which the user is a member will be listed; provided that they are public, or that the user has been specifically invited in the case of a private event.

### **3.5.1.2 Event management, invitation and participation**

Any user who creates a group or is automatically assigned the role of group administrator. After an event is created, any user can be promoted to event administrator, and an event can have as many administrators as necessary.

Regardless of the settings chosen for the events, organizers and administrators have the possibility to manually invite users to register for the event. In the 'Members' tab of the event, users can enter the name the members they would like to invite. Members can be searched by name, organisation, or in some cases groups (for example in the case of a public event created in the public space of the Platform and for which you would like to invite all members of specific groups to participate).

It is also possible to invite external users to the Platform by using their email addresses. These users will receive an invitation by email, directly in their inbox.

As members are added to the invite list, organizers have the possibility to remove specific users, using the designated bin icon. Once the list is complete, invitations are launched by clicking on the '*Invite these users*' button. The process can be repeated as many times as necessary.

Organizers and administrators of events have the possibility to change and update all event settings, including name, description, date and time, privacy and videoconferencing options. They also can cancel the event if needed.

The event page displays key information for invitees, potential participants, and external users in the case of public events.

It features a newsfeed where registered users can publish news and start discussions threads, as well as a '*Files*' tab, where files related to the event can be stored and exchanged.

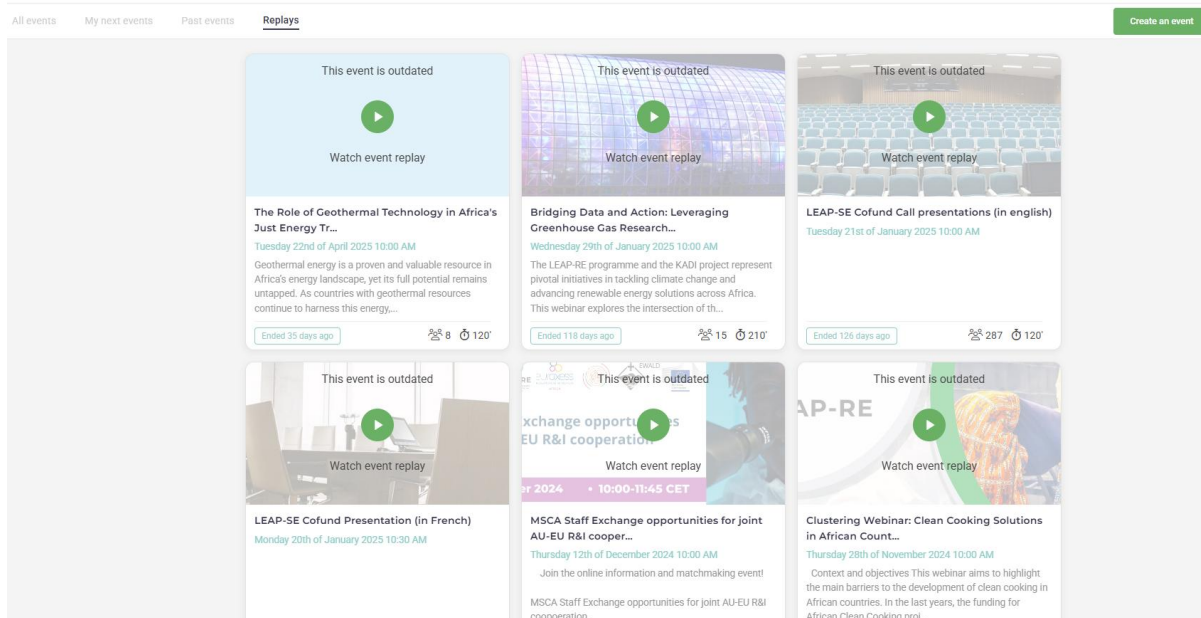
Users have the option to add the event to their digital agenda by clicking the dedicated button of the event page.

By clicking the '*Start your event*' button, organizers can initiate the setting up of the event. This button is only activated as of 30 minutes before the indicated starting time of the event. When using the embedded videoconferencing system, all users named as organizers or administrators of the event are automatically granted moderator rights.

Following the start of the event, organizers can fine tune the event settings depending on their needs and requirements.

For example, organizers can decide participants permissions such as unmuting themselves, starting their video, etc..

Additionally, moderators have the possibility of muting users on a case-by-case basis, asking them unmute themselves if they would like to speak, create and administer breakout rooms, pin a feed to the stage, start and stop event recording. Once a recording stops, the Platform will automatically download the recording and make it available on the event page, as well as the Event directory. If the event is taking place on any other system than Jitsi, these options are set externally and not managed through the LEAP-RE Platform.



**Figure 5: Examples of event replays available on the LEAP-RE Platform**

## 3.6 Project Pages

Project pages are dedicated digital spaces for Pillar 1 projects within the LEAP-RE programme. These pages reflect the structure and content of the "Project Portfolio" section of the LEAP-RE website (leap-re.eu) and offer an interactive format for showcasing project activity.

Each project page presents a summary of the project's objectives, participating organisations, and geographic scope. A key component of these pages is the "Knowledge" tab, which allows project partners to upload documents, reports, and other knowledge outputs associated with their work. Users can follow specific projects, ensuring that updates from them appear in their personalized newsfeeds.

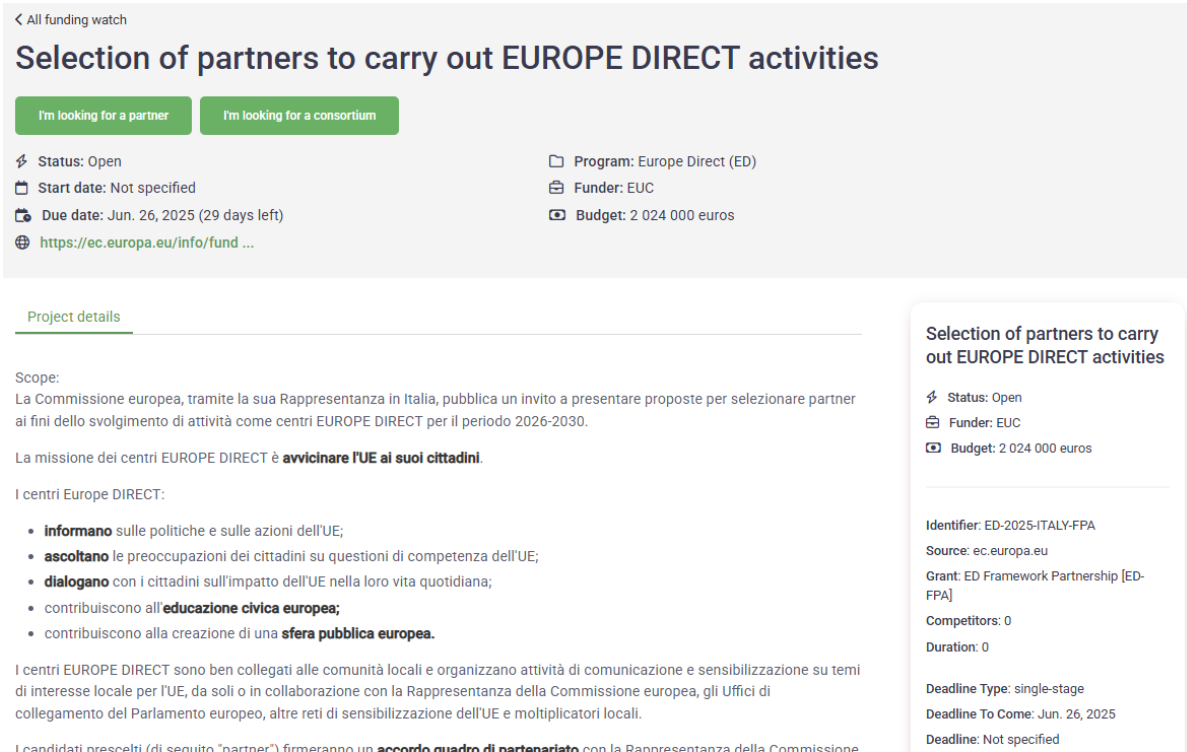
Project pages help consolidate information about each initiative while promoting transparency and community awareness of project progress and outcomes.

## 3.7 Funding Watch

The Funding Watch module provides users with up-to-date information about open calls for funding relevant to renewable energy research and innovation. This tool aggregates opportunities from a range of more than 1000 national and international sources and presents them in the form of structured "funding cards".

Each card includes key information such as the funding body, eligibility requirements, deadlines, topics, and application links. The interface supports filtering by thematic area, region, and other criteria, helping users identify opportunities aligned with their interests and institutional capacities.

By making funding opportunities easily searchable and directly linkable to other platform activities—such as consortium building, project planning, or group discussion—the Funding Watch becomes a practical bridge between research ideas and financial support.



The screenshot displays the 'Selection of partners to carry out EUROPE DIRECT activities' funding opportunity page. At the top, there are two green buttons: 'I'm looking for a partner' and 'I'm looking for a consortium'. Below these, filters are shown: Status: Open, Start date: Not specified, Due date: Jun. 26, 2025 (29 days left), and a link to the funding page. On the right, program details are listed: Program: Europe Direct (ED), Funder: EUC, and Budget: 2 024 000 euros.

The main content area is titled 'Project details' and contains the following text:

**Scope:**  
La Commissione europea, tramite la sua Rappresentanza in Italia, pubblica un invito a presentare proposte per selezionare partner ai fini dello svolgimento di attività come centri EUROPE DIRECT per il periodo 2026-2030.

La missione dei centri EUROPE DIRECT è **avvicinare l'UE ai suoi cittadini**.

I centri Europe DIRECT:

- **informano** sulle politiche e sulle azioni dell'UE;
- **ascoltano** le preoccupazioni dei cittadini su questioni di competenza dell'UE;
- **dialogano** con i cittadini sull'impatto dell'UE nella loro vita quotidiana;
- contribuiscono all'**educazione civica europea**;
- contribuiscono alla creazione di una **sfera pubblica europea**.

I centri EUROPE DIRECT sono ben collegati alle comunità locali e organizzano attività di comunicazione e sensibilizzazione su temi di interesse locale per l'UE, da soli o in collaborazione con la Rappresentanza della Commissione europea, gli Uffici di collegamento del Parlamento europeo, altre reti di sensibilizzazione dell'UE e moltiplicatori locali.

I candidati prescelti (di seguito "partner") firmeranno un **accordo quadro di partenariato** con la Rappresentanza della Commissione.

On the right side, a sidebar provides additional details:

**Selection of partners to carry out EUROPE DIRECT activities**

- Status: Open
- Funder: EUC
- Budget: 2 024 000 euros

---

Identifier: ED-2025-ITALY-FPA  
Source: ec.europa.eu  
Grant: ED Framework Partnership [ED-FPA]  
Competitors: 0  
Duration: 0

Deadline Type: single-stage  
Deadline To Come: Jun. 26, 2025  
Deadline: Not specified

**Figure 6: A page presenting a funding opportunity**

### 3.7.1 Browsing through funding opportunities

When reaching the Funding Watch module of the LEAP-RE Platform, users are presented with a simple, yet structured and user-friendly interface displaying funding opportunities, and various search and filtering mechanisms.

Funding opportunities are displayed in the form of a color-coded list of cards, where color is assigned according to the time remaining before the deadline of the call.

Cards also present users with an overview of the call's key information, such as the date deadline, the funder, and budget.

A filtering panel is available on the left side of the screen, where buttons enable users to refine their search according to status, action grant, funder of the call, program under which it is funded or source. Users can also use the search engine to look for specific keywords.

A button is available to administrators and community members to manually add a call, in the event that it is not listed on the Funding Watch.

When manually adding a call, users are redirected to a form in which they will have to fill all necessary information to properly present the opportunity to the community on the Funding Watch.

Information include name, description, countries eligibility, grant, program, link to the source of the call, deadline, budget and keywords.

### **3.7.2 Indicating that you are interested in a funding opportunity**

Once users have identified a potentially interesting funding opportunity, they can open up the card to have access to all details of the call.

Key information, such as name, status, program, deadline, budget and countries are available on top as well as in vertical panel on the right side of the page.

It also includes a link to the funding source.

On the central part, the call is detailed with all information retrieved from the source it was published in. This can include text and links to documents

One of the most distinctive features of the LEAP-RE's Funding Watch functionality is its seamless integration with the matchmaking module. Users have the option to link a specific funding opportunity to a partner or consortium search, which significantly enhances interconnection and relevance of the LEAP-RE Platform as well as its overall attractiveness.

Specified buttons are available to connect a funding opportunity to a partner or consortium search, enabling project leaders to find partners with specific expertise.

Users have to briefly outline their project and the skills they are looking for in order to apply to this particular funding opportunity. Once the funding link is established, it becomes an integral part of the consortium search, allowing users to understand the financial framework supporting the collaboration, facilitating the connection with interested experts.

Once the form is completed, tabs become available on the opportunity's page where users can retrieve all consortium and partner searches available for this particular call.

This linkage between the Funding Watch and Matchmaking modules is a vital component of the LEAP-RE Platform strategic value. It ensures that potential partners are immediately aware of the financial resources available, allowing them to assess both the feasibility and the ambition of the proposed project. This clear alignment between project goals and funding possibilities helps build consortia that are both thematically coherent and financially supported.

## **3.8 Chat / Instant messaging**

The LEAP-RE Platform integrates a flexible instant messaging feature that facilitates real-time communication between users. The chat tool supports both one-on-one conversations and group discussions, allowing users to engage in dialogue within or across working groups.

Chats can be initiated directly from user profiles, group pages, or consortium searches. Participants can be added dynamically to conversations, and permissions can be set to allow or restrict access to past messages.

A chat icon, always displayed in the navigation bar on top of the page, also allows users to quickly access or initiate chats through a sliding panel. The chat interface can be accessed via a button in the Platform's main menu.

The chat interface also supports document sharing, making it a convenient channel for rapid coordination and information exchange.



This feature enhances the immediacy of collaboration, reducing reliance on external tools and keeping communication within the platform ecosystem.

### 3.9 Bookmarking System

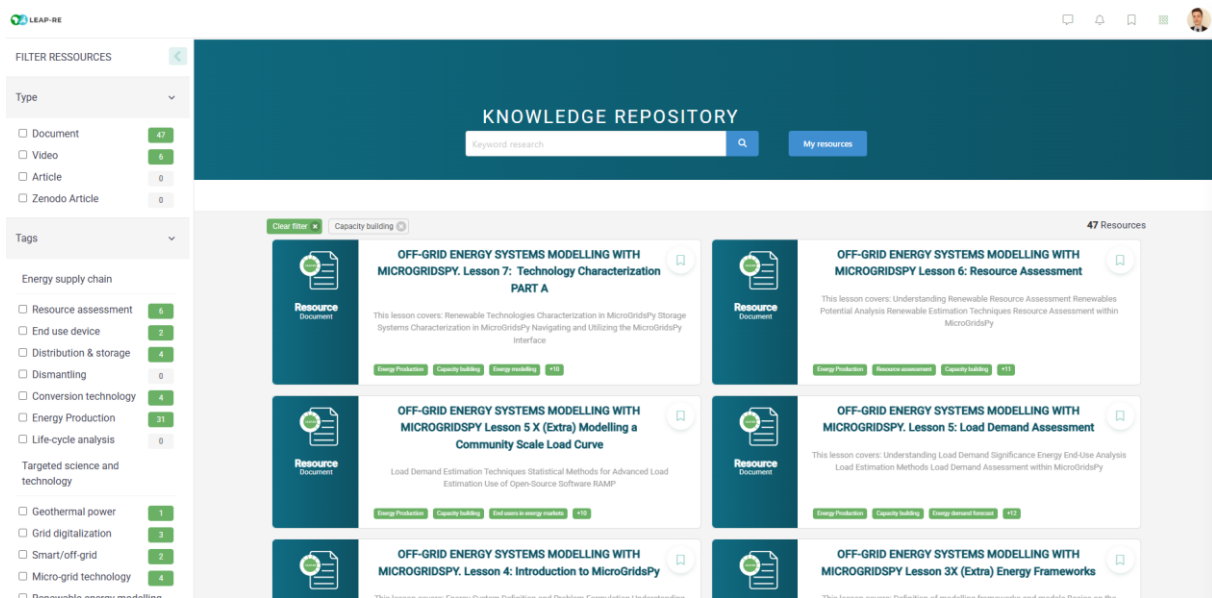
The LEAP-RE Platform's bookmarking system allows users to save content for easy future reference.

Most of the Platform's content - such as posts, documents, knowledge resources, events, groups or chat threads - can be bookmarked by clicking the dedicated icon.

Bookmarked items are stored in a personalized space accessible through the main navigation bar. This space is organized by content type, allowing users to quickly locate saved items using filter buttons. The bookmarking feature supports productivity by enabling users to curate their own collections of relevant materials, conversations, or activities.

## 4. The Knowledge Repository and Zenodo integration

The Knowledge Repository (KR) is one of LEAP-RE Platform's most strategically important features. It serves as a central hub for capturing, organizing, and disseminating knowledge across and beyond the renewable energy community. Publicly accessible without the need to register, the KR was developed to complement scientific publication platforms by offering a broader, community-oriented repository. It aggregates resources not only from LEAP-RE-funded activities and Pillar 1 projects, but also from individual contributors, working groups, and external sources that support the collective knowledge base of the Platform.

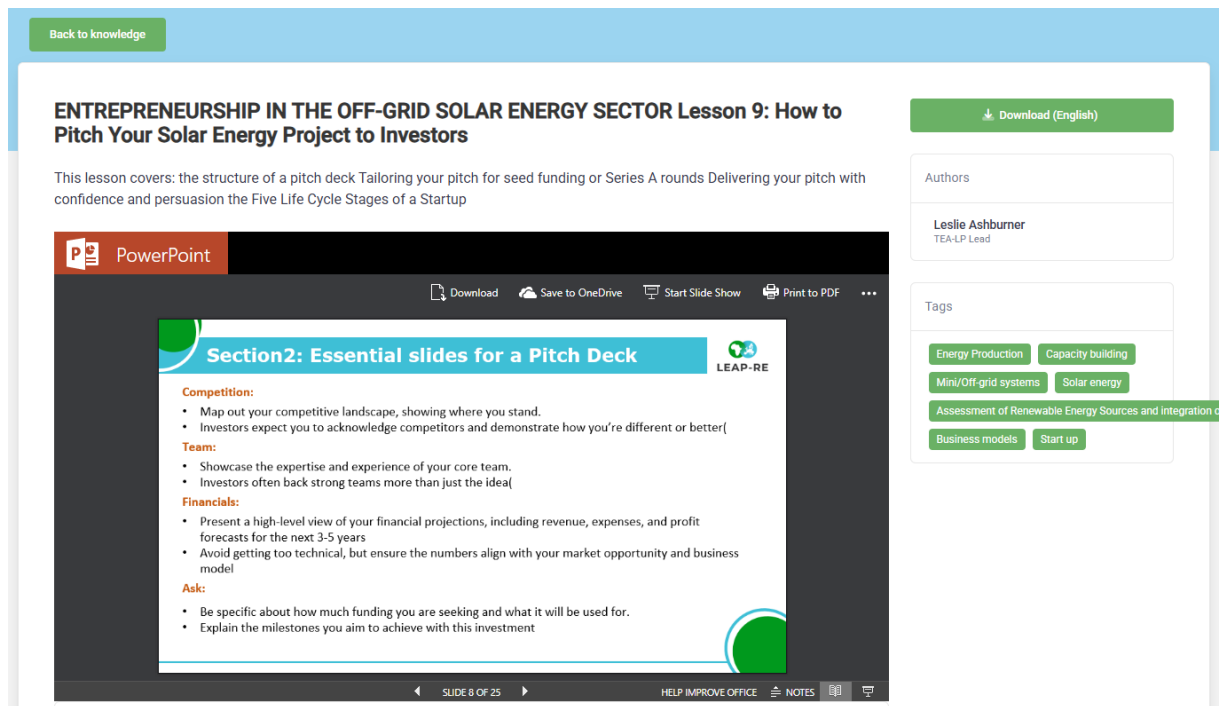


**Figure 7: View of the KR with an active filter 'Capacity Building'**

Users with an account can contribute to the repository by uploading various resource types. These include documents (e.g. PDFs, Word files, PowerPoint presentations), externally hosted videos (embedded via links), and fully formatted articles created directly within the Platform's enriched text editor. The article editor allows contributors to design structured content using text formatting, tables, hyperlinks, and images - providing a flexible publishing environment for content such as case studies, fact sheets, and original insights.

When uploading, users are prompted to categorize their content by resource type and associate it with relevant predefined tags, drawn from a curated list of nearly 130 topics spanning energy systems, technologies, roadmaps, and innovation services.

To ensure relevance and consistency, new tags cannot be created by users. However, contributors are free to select multiple tags from the existing list to describe their content and enhance discoverability. The KR offers users robust filtering options, enabling searches by resource type, tag, or a combination of both. This helps community members locate exactly the type of knowledge they are seeking, whether technical documents, policy resources, or thematic analysis.

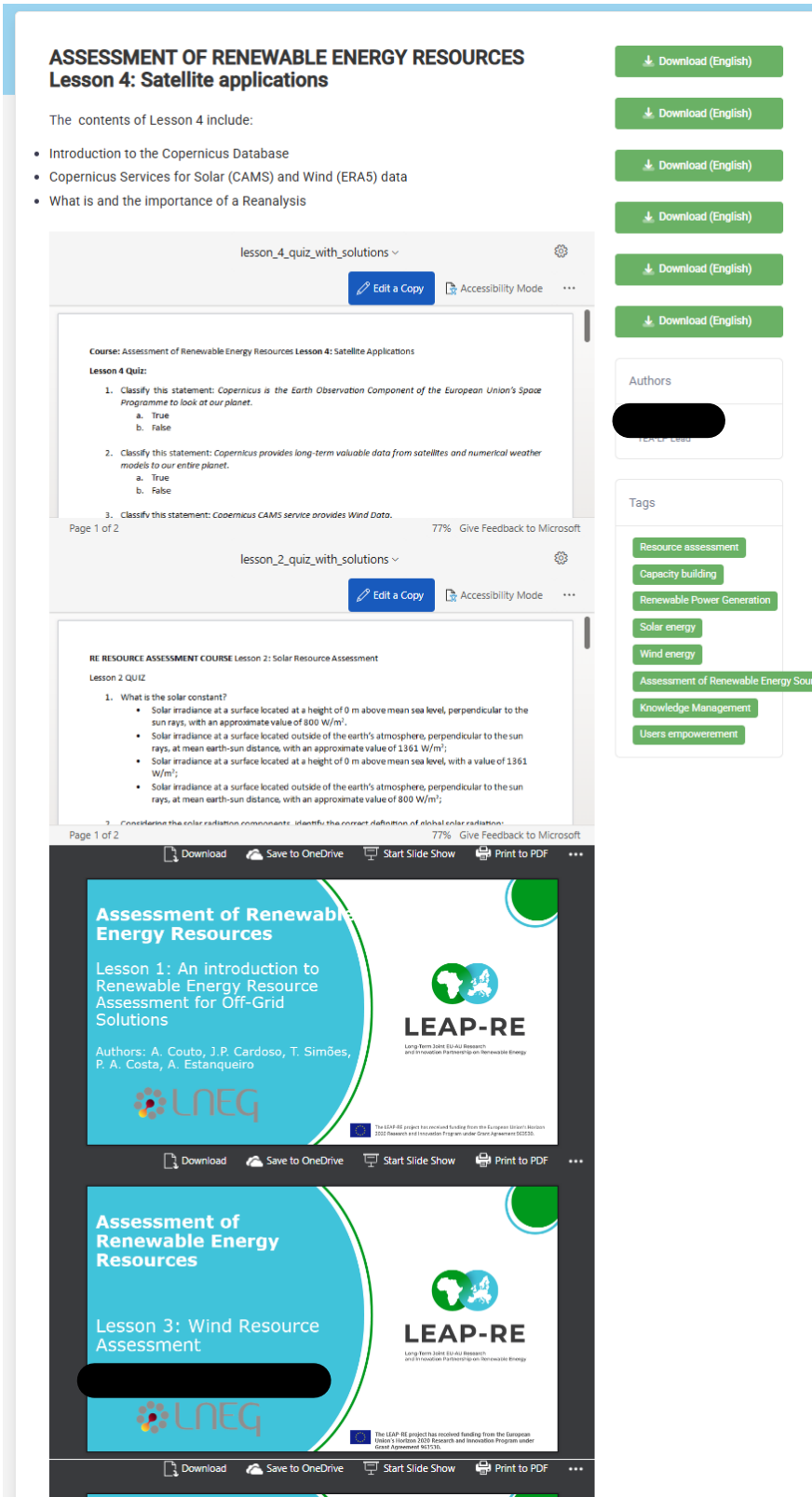


**Figure 8: Training material uploaded on LEAP-RE KR**

From a user experience perspective, the Platform encourages active engagement with the KR through personalized prompts. On the main landing page – the newsfeed, users are presented with a summary of how many views their shared resources have received, accompanied by a shortcut inviting them to continue contributing. Users who have not yet published any content are encouraged to share their expertise and are offered a direct link to begin their first submission. This approach creates a continuous feedback loop, reinforcing visibility and participation.

Published resources always display the names of authors. When contributors have a public profile on the platform, their names are clickable, redirecting users to their personal profile page. This not only fosters attribution and recognition but strengthens professional networking and builds trust in shared content. Users retain full control over their contributions and may update or delete their resources at any time. While the platform does not conduct pre-publication review, Platform Super Admins maintain the right to moderate content and remove materials that are outdated, irrelevant, or inappropriate.





**ASSESSMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES**  
**Lesson 4: Satellite applications**

The contents of Lesson 4 include:

- Introduction to the Copernicus Database
- Copernicus Services for Solar (CAMS) and Wind (ERA5) data
- What is and the importance of a Reanalysis

lesson\_4\_quiz\_with\_solutions

Course: Assessment of Renewable Energy Resources Lesson 4: Satellite Applications

Lesson 4 Quiz:

1. Classify this statement: Copernicus is the Earth Observation Component of the European Union's Space Programme to look at our planet.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. Classify this statement: Copernicus provides long-term valuable data from satellites and numerical weather models to our entire planet.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. Classify this statement: Copernicus CAMS service provides Wind Data.

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RE RESOURCE ASSESSMENT COURSE Lesson 2: Solar Resource Assessment

Lesson 2 QUIZ

1. What is the solar constant?
  - Solar irradiance at a surface located at a height of 0 m above mean sea level, perpendicular to the sun rays, with an approximate value of 800 W/m<sup>2</sup>;
  - Solar irradiance at a surface located outside of the earth's atmosphere, perpendicular to the sun rays, at mean earth-sun distance, with an approximate value of 1361 W/m<sup>2</sup>;
  - Solar irradiance at a surface located at a height of 0 m above mean sea level, with a value of 1361 W/m<sup>2</sup>;
  - Solar irradiance at a surface located outside of the earth's atmosphere, perpendicular to the sun rays, at mean earth-sun distance, with an approximate value of 800 W/m<sup>2</sup>;
2. Consider the solar radiation components. Identify the correct definition of global solar radiation:

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**Assessment of Renewable Energy Resources**

Lesson 1: An introduction to Renewable Energy Resource Assessment for Off-Grid Solutions

Authors: A. Couto, J.P. Cardoso, T. Simões, P. A. Costa, A. Estanqueiro

**LEAP-RE**

Long Term Joint EU-All Research and Innovation Partnership on Renewable Energy

The LEAP-RE project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program under Grant Agreement 963530.

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**Assessment of Renewable Energy Resources**

Lesson 3: Wind Resource Assessment

**LEAP-RE**

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Tags

Resource assessment

Capacity building

Renewable Power Generation

Solar energy

Wind energy

Assessment of Renewable Energy Sources

Knowledge Management

Users empowerment

**Figure 9: Complex resource of multiple documents and types**

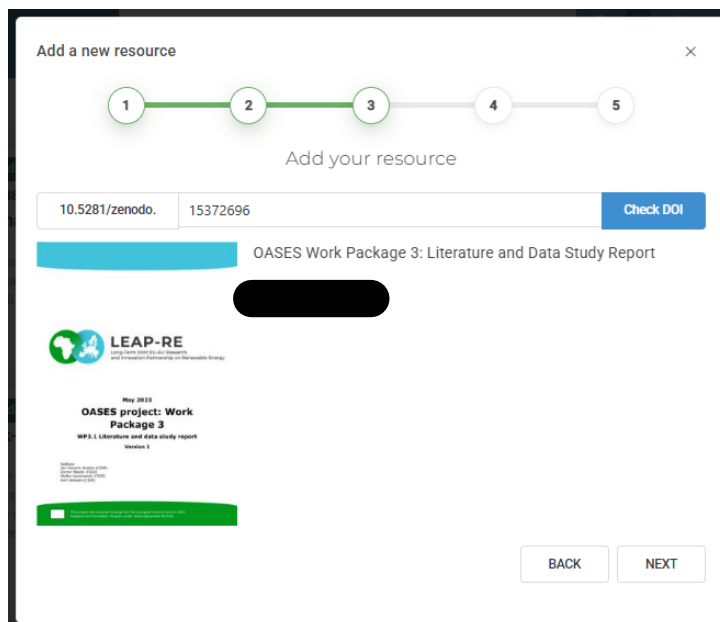
A key enhancement to the Knowledge Repository is its integration with Zenodo, an open-access research repository maintained by CERN. Through a dedicated plugin, users can easily import publications from Zenodo by simply pasting a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) into the submission form. This automatically generates a complete entry in the LEAP-RE KR, including all relevant metadata (title, authors, abstract, and publication link). The only

manual step required is assigning the appropriate LEAP-RE tags. Once published, the imported Zenodo resources display their live performance indicators - such as downloads, views, and version history - directly on the LEAP-RE Platform, giving contributors and readers a clear sense of impact.

This Zenodo integration is unidirectional, from Zenodo to LEAP-RE, and was designed to streamline the inclusion of peer-reviewed content into a broader knowledge-sharing ecosystem. While Zenodo remains the primary home for scientific papers, the LEAP-RE KR serves as a more flexible and inclusive platform where technical notes, project deliverables, policy tools, and even multimedia content can be shared with equal ease.

In addition, the LEAP-RE Zenodo space is prominently linked from the Platform's landing page – the newsfeed, encouraging users to explore curated scientific outputs and further reinforcing the connection between the two systems. Clicking this link redirects users to Zenodo's external interface, offering access to the broader scientific repository while maintaining the contextual value of the LEAP-RE knowledge ecosystem.

Together, the Knowledge Repository and Zenodo integration offer a hybrid solution that supports both community-driven dissemination and scientific publication. This system reinforces the LEAP-RE Platform's role as a living archive of knowledge, designed not only to preserve project outputs but to promote continuous learning, reuse, and collaboration across the renewable energy landscape.



**Figure 10: Example of a Zenodo article being imported into LEAP-RE KR**

## 5. Conclusion

The LEAP-RE Platform brings together a robust suite of features designed to serve the evolving needs of a diverse, international community engaged in renewable energy research, innovation, and implementation. By combining core social networking functions with purpose-built collaboration tools, the platform offers a comprehensive environment for professional interaction, project coordination, and knowledge exchange.

The Platform's modular structure enables flexibility, while its emphasis on user experience ensures inclusivity and ease of adoption, regardless of digital skill level or institutional background.



As user engagement continues to grow, the Platform remains committed to its core principles of openness, usability, and adaptability. With a design rooted in real user needs and a governance model that encourages community input, the LEAP-RE Platform is well positioned to continue supporting effective collaboration and knowledge diffusion across Europe and Africa.