The New Skills Agenda for Europe has launched the **Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills**, which aims at delivering sector-specific skills solutions. The Blueprint is a new framework for strategic cooperation between key stakeholders in a given economic sector.

Energy Intensive Industries sector with a focus on skills to enable and accelerate **take-up of Industrial Symbiosis and Energy Efficiency** has been proposed for the 3rd Wave of Blueprint implementation (2020-2023).

**Energy Intensive Industries** (chemicals, cement, metals, etc.) contribute to around 15% of EU manufacturing added value. They produce an important share of European wealth and provide over 7 million jobs to European citizens. **Industrial symbiosis** refers to the sharing of physical resources (energy, water, residues and recycled materials, etc.) between different industrial processes, industries, and communities (e.g. for district heating) and the sharing of services and infrastructure.

**Transition to circular economy** requires system-redesign, creating the necessity for new thinking and competencies. The shortage of skills, and the consequent need to build up skills capacity in the EU, both for the large-scale deployment of industrial symbiosis and for the improvement of efficiency, has been highlighted in the recent RTD P4P report on "Pathways to sustainable industries".

Stakeholders representing energy intensive industries and circular economy actors strongly argue that an intervention at EU level on skills to enable and accelerate take-up of industrial symbiosis and energy efficiency is paramount to **address the skills shortages** in the sector while empowering EU citizens with the necessary set of tools for the future job profiles.

A call for implementation of Sector Skills Alliance on Industrial Symbiosis and Energy Efficiency is foreseen to be published in **October 2018**.

Given a broad coverage of Energy Intensive industries, project proposals are expected to be covering area(s) such as

- Skills of industrial symbiosis technologies
- Skills of energy efficiency technologies
- Skills of energy auditing, transition and management

*E.g. Skills to develop latest trends in energy efficiency in industry and process intensification, process electrification, digitalisation of industry, renewable heating & cooling, non-conventional energy
sustainablesources enabled processing, identification of non-technological bottlenecks, skills to identify, develop, implement and operate new technologies, skills for decision making, etc.

SPIRE PPP strongly advocates for integration of cross-sectorial aspect in project proposals.

To reserve a time slot for your pitch, please get in contact with A.SPIRE Secretariat at epa@spire2030.eu before 19 October 2018.

More information about the Blueprint for sectoral cooperation on skills can be found here. Erasmus+ Programme Guide on implementation of Sectors Skills Alliances is available at this link.

Preliminary agenda:
- The key concepts of Blueprint for sectoral cooperation on skills. Sector Skills Alliance on Industrial Symbiosis and Energy Efficiency
- Findings of earlier SPIRE projects & sharing good practices
- Sector Skills Alliance supported activities and how to structure project proposals:
  - Defining skills and training provision needs in energy intensive industries
  - Developing and illustrating a sectoral skills strategy and methodology for assessing needs
  - Identifying occupational profiles and needs of new qualifications
  - Developing solutions to promote mobility and the attractiveness of sector
  - Designing long term action plan for a progressive roll-out of project deliverables
  - Delivering EU and/or country level qualitative evidence and quantitative data
  - Demonstrating innovation in vocational education and training, impact that is going beyond a project’s lifetime and a strategic approach
- Pitches of project ideas
- Networking & consortia building activity

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